



## Emmanuel College Inc., Victoria

### About us

We are a large, regional, co-educational, year 7-12 Catholic secondary college located across three campuses at Warrnambool, Victoria. Warrnambool is approximately 250km west of Melbourne, at the end of the Great Ocean Road in Victoria's southern district.

### Our approach

We have made some fundamental shifts in our pedagogical approach to teaching English over the past seven years.

One key initiative has been the introduction of journal writing from years 7–10. This regular lesson focuses on experimental writing and encourages students to make mistakes and enjoy the process. While journaling is not assessed, students are given the opportunity to use work from their journals for assessment purposes at key points down the track.

We believe journaling fosters engagement, excitement and frees our students' ability to express themselves. We felt our curriculum contained too much summative assessment before the program was introduced and it has rekindled our teacher's passion for teaching.

We have a silent reading system that supports our writing goals. Decoding language when reading helps our students 'get a feel' for what good writing looks like and the more they read, the better their writing becomes. It is a process of osmosis.

We have a well-established scaffold in place for teaching analytical and argumentative writing. We use the TEEL system (topic sentence, explanation, evidence, and link), invest in English staff TEEL teaching skills, and are very consistent in our messaging to the teaching team and in delivery. Teachers model the process to students, and conference with students whenever possible, giving feedback on areas of improvement. We also cross-mark at all year levels to ensure feedback is consistent.

We have a rubric system that is identical across all year levels, which sets out a clear criterion for evaluation, and standardises our messaging as well.

### Our profile

ENROLMENTS **1,199** LBOTE **5%** INDIGENOUS **1%** ICSEA **1038**