



Parent Handbook

Clontarf Aboriginal College

295 Manning Road,
Waterford WA

tel. (08) 9251 0666
fax. (08) 9451 4988

www.admin@clontarf.wa.edu.au
www.clontarf.wa.edu.au

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Kiya Wanjoo Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar.
Hello and welcome to Whadjuk Nyoongar country.

I respectfully acknowledge the past and present traditional owners of this land on which we stand, the Nyoongar people. I acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the education of all students, and people in this country, that we all live in and share together.

Our College offers a range of educational programs providing varied learning opportunities for students from Year 7 to Year 12. We have a proud tradition of cultural, spiritual, academic, and sporting excellence. The pastoral care at the College enables a safe and caring environment where students can confidently grow to achieve their full potential. We believe in our motto 'Learning for Life' as we aim to foster in the students the desire to make a difference in our world.

Our Boarding facility 'Ngulla Mia' provides accommodation for over 100 students and our 'day' student numbers have increased also.

I invite you to browse the pages of our website, which is also available as a mobile phone version. Our website serves as an overview of the excellent opportunities and experiences that are available at our College.

In the spirit and ethos of Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers, I welcome families and the wider community to our College.

Our positive partnerships with our parents/guardians, who are the prime educators of the students, are greatly valued and lead to a collaborative college community.

Enjoy these years as we journey together.



Troy Hayter
Principal

Background and History

Nidja Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar Noonook Nyininy. This is Whadjuk Nyoongar country you are sitting in.

Clontarf Aboriginal College is situated in **Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar**.

Nyoongar* is the general name for Aboriginal people in the south-west of Western Australia. Of the fourteen Nyoongar language groups, the people who live in the Perth region are known as the **Whadjuk** people.

The Whadjuk land south of the Swan River and west of the Canning River to the coast is known as **Bilya** (Beeliar). The land across the Canning River to the Helena River is **Beeloo** land. The Canning River is the border between these two great Whadjuk clans.

It is here at the Canning River that the **Youran** (bobtail lizard) meets the **Nyingarn** (echidna). The Youran is the totem animal for the Bilya people; and the Nyingarn is the totem animal for the Beeloo people.

This area once had an abundance of wildfowl, especially **Moornyi Koolyak** (black swans) and ducks – traditional Nyoongar food. It was an important camping ground where Whadjuk people foraged, fished and hunted. It was here that they gathered to camp under their **Mia Mias** (shelters).

After their arrival in 1829, **Wadjela** (white) colonists quickly took over the Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar and used it for farming.

The Whadjuk people fought a losing battle against this loss of their land. In this early conflict, the Whadjuk people were led by Midgegooroo and his famous son Yagan.

This was a sad story of dispossession which finally left the Whadjuk people without the land on which they depended so much - spiritually as well as materially.

The Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar (Clontarf) site remains of important spiritual and cultural significance for contemporary Whadjuk people.

Clontarf Aboriginal College has taken the **Moornyi Koolyak** – the black swan rising in flight – as the central image in its crest.

This powerful image is a direct link back to the traditional Whadjuk Nyoongar Boodjar on which the College now stands.

* Nyoongar can also be written as Nyungar or Noongar. Nyoongar is the spelling adopted by the Board for the 2005-2008 Strategic Plan.

ORIGINS OF THE NAME ‘CLONTARF’

The name Clontarf refers to a village, now a suburb, to the north of Dublin in Ireland. In 1014, Clontarf became famous throughout Ireland as the place where the Battle of Clontarf was fought. In this battle the local Irish, led by their King Brian Boru, defeated the Viking invaders. This famous battle was a very significant event in Irish history and is celebrated as signifying an end to years of Irish-Viking conflict.

For members of the Clontarf community in Perth, the name Clontarf is associated with positive and powerful feelings: success, overcoming adversity and winning.

CLONTARF ABORIGINAL COLLEGE

Clontarf Aboriginal College is a co-educational Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition located in the Perth suburb of Waterford.

EARLY HISTORY

Clontarf Aboriginal College has its origins in the founding of Clontarf Boys’ Orphanage which was built and conducted by the Irish Christian Brothers. It was originally known as St Joseph’s Boys’ Orphanage. The original building was constructed in 1901. The site was very isolated and it was not until 1927 that Manning Road (originally called Clontarf Road) was constructed.

Clontarf was later known as Clontarf Boys’ Town and became self-sufficient with a productive farm on site. The boys worked on the farm and were also engaged in assisting with much of the building work. The Clontarf chapel, dedicated to St John Bosco, was built in 1941 with the boys supplying much of the labour. During World War II (between 1942-1945) the site was occupied by the Royal Australian Air Force. After the war, Clontarf resumed as a boys’ orphanage.

In 1961 the function of Clontarf was extended and it operated as a general school enrolling day and boarding pupils. For a few years enrolments rose steadily until 1964 when over 300 students were enrolled. Numbers then fell away dramatically and Clontarf was eventually closed as a school.

Clontarf was, after this, used as a special treatment centre for a small number of boys with behavioural problems. But this proved to be too costly and the institution eventually closed in December 1983.

ESTABLISHMENT OF CLONTARF ABORIGINAL COLLEGE

Clontarf re-opened at the beginning of Term 1, 1986 as Clontarf Aboriginal Education and Training College. In the early days enrolment numbers were small and the College struggled to attract and retain students.

In January 2000, the Clontarf Football Academy was established on the Clontarf site. The partnership between the Academy and the College has proved to be highly successful, and the name Clontarf is now widely known around Australia.

This partnership model between the College and the Football Academy has been followed by the successful establishment of a Girls’ Academy for netball and basketball.

OWNERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

The land Clontarf Aboriginal College stands on (as well as the land on which the other Aboriginal agencies on site are located) was owned by the Christian Brothers. Since the end of 1993, the Brothers have actively planned to hand over the site to Aboriginal people. The Brothers gifted the land to the Indigenous Land Corporation in January 2013.

The College is governed by a representative Board of Management which is responsible to the Archbishop of Perth through the Director of Catholic Education of Western Australia.

The day-to-day running of Clontarf Aboriginal College, including the employment of all staff and the enrolment of students, is the responsibility of the Principal.

CREST

The crest was designed by key people involved with the planning and opening of the College. These included Judi Butters who did a significant amount of the early research for the College, Tania Bin Baka (then Thorne) who was receptionist/secretary and book-keeper and Donella Brown who became the College's second Principal.



At the centre of the crest is the **Moornyi Koolyak** (the Black Swan) preparing for flight. Black swans were an abundant source of food for traditional Whadjup people in this area.

The swan also reflects the river environment and swans are often seen on the Clontarf bay on the river at the back of the College.

The **Moornyi Koolyak** represents the opportunity for students to 'rise up' and fly into their future lives.

Leading from the central swan motif are four paths. These are the different pathways open to young Aboriginal men and women as they leave the College.

The footprints moving outwards along the tracks from the central swan image represent the future journeys of these young students.

The footsteps indicate that the College is truly about 'Learning for Life'. The knowledge and skills gained at Clontarf will be those that will assist students during their life-long learning.

In another sense, the paths leading from the College will always be there for the College to continue supporting young Aboriginal people as they take the steps along their life journey.

Surrounding the central swan and the pathways are three circles in the Aboriginal colours.

Clontarf Aboriginal College is a place of learning and understanding that respects Aboriginal culture and spirituality and encourages students to reach their dreams.

Clontarf Aboriginal College Prayer

Loving God,

Bless the traditional owners of this land, the Noongar people.

Thank you for our friends and families.

Thank you for the opportunities that Clontarf Aboriginal
College provides us.

We pray that the students here can always be proud of who they are.

Please help them make the right choices and keep
them safe from harm.

Help us to be like Edmund Rice, the founder of
the Christian Brothers.

He spent his life helping others by empowering
them through education.

May our College Houses remind us of the example set by our Elders and unite us in strength.

Bless the Christian Brothers who continue to help people
all over the world.

Bless the people of different cultures who gather at Clontarf to
teach and learn.

Help us to accept each other and to be proud of our diversity.

We pray for the past, present and future leaders of our communities.

We ask this through Jesus our brother and friend.

Amen

Mission, Vision and Values

MISSION

As a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition Clontarf Aboriginal College is a place of learning and understanding that respects Aboriginal culture and spirituality and encourages students to reach their dreams.

VISION

That Clontarf Aboriginal College

- Assists its students to be confident and creative persons with a high degree of self-worth
- Promotes pride in and in-depth understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Islander identity, culture and spirituality
- Develops a core curriculum particularly suited to the needs of its Aboriginal students
- Develops a culture of excellence in all areas of school life
- Be a pre-eminent Catholic Aboriginal College in Australia

VALUES

Clontarf Aboriginal College promotes the following core values:

- Respect for self, others and the environment
- Learning
- Aboriginal Spirituality
- Community
- Self-discipline

Contacts

Clontarf Aboriginal College
295 Manning Road, Waterford WA
Locked Bag 5, Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983
Telephone: (08) 9251 0666
Facsimile: (08) 9451 4988
Email: www.admin@clontarf.wa.edu.au
Web: www.clontarf.wa.edu.au



ABSTUDY Ask to speak to the Aboriginal Liaison Officer – Jill Hill



Attendance Ask to speak to the Attendance Officer – Robyn Stephen



Boarding in Perth Ask to speak to the Head of Boarding – David Moore



Boarding Reception Ask to speak to Boarding Administrator – Loretta Moody



Enrolments Ask to speak to the Enrolment Officer – Trudy Holmes



Fees Ask to speak to the Business & Finance Manager – Pam Hodges



Football Academy Ask to speak to the Academy Director – Daniel Southern



Girls' Academy Ask to speak to Academy Program Manager – Desiree Delcours



General query Ask to speak to the Receptionist – Dale Lamb



Social Worker Ask to speak to Social Workers – Debbie Petterlin or Jess Pintabona



Work placement Ask to speak to VET and Careers Coordinator – Anne Oliver

Student Progress Ask to speak to the relevant House Coordinator

HOUSE COORDINATORS



Chris Reddy
House Waterford
Maali



Jennie Morley
House Westcourt
Yonga



Dean Campbell
House Sion
Yelka

HEADS OF LEARNING AREAS

Mathematics



Chris Reddy

English



Jennie Morley

Religion



Nik Martinskis

Physical Ed



Robert Thomson

Art



Gina Harcourt

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Troy Hayter
Principal



Jim Lawson
Deputy Principal;
Pastoral &
Community



Justine Cole
Deputy Principal;
Teaching &
Learning



Chris Reddy
House
Coordinator



Jennie Morley
House
Coordinator



Dean Campbell
House
Coordinator



Jill Hill
Aboriginal Liaison
Officer

COLLEGE BOARD

Chairperson Ben Wyatt, MLA (Member for Victoria Park)

Treasurer Roger Walsh (Former Team Leader, Resources Team, Catholic Education Office, WA)
Br. Pat Kelly (WA Cluster Leader, Christian Brothers' Oceania Province)
Norman Brahim (Team Leader, Aboriginal Education, Catholic Education Office, WA)
Lennett Sandy (Indigenous Employment Consultant WA/SA, Australia Post)
Wayne Bull (Principal, La Salle College)
Associate Professor Simon Forrest (Elder in Residence, Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin University)

GECKOS TEAM

The GECKOS (Growing Enriched Cultural Knowledge in Our Schools) team within Clontarf assists and maintains the important focus on Aboriginal Education. The members of this team bring expertise and passion towards outstanding outcomes in this area. This is done through meetings and a collaborative approach. The team aims to support the staff and students with the integration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Culture to our programs and everyday business life at Clontarf. Students, families, friends and community members are encouraged to contact the team to share any ideas, resources and knowledge.



Kavilyn Fisher



Troy Hayter



Jill Hill



Clare Pigram



Nik Martinskis



Robyn Stephen



Sharleen Gray



Dustin Pickett



Michael Bailey

What We Offer

As well as English and Mathematics the students participate in compulsory Literacy sessions each morning. Small group and 1:1 tuition is also provided for students in need. These support sessions are also available through our Numeracy program.

The students participate in the regular subjects through the Australian Curriculum, but are offered other learning opportunities such as:

- Driver Education Training
- Obtaining a Skipper's Ticket through our Outdoor Education Program
- The achievement of certificates through our Trade Training Centre
- Participation in traineeships and work placement through our Careers and Vet Programs
- Participation in classes for tertiary entrance
- A Doctor and Nurse attend the College on Mondays and Thursdays. The health service is free of charge with services billed to Medicare; however, this can only be done if the College has the students' Medicare number, so please remember to complete this information on the College enrolment form.

PARENT/GUARDIAN – TEACHER INTERVIEWS

You will receive regular contact from teachers. Phone calls are made during Term One.

FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Boys wishing to enrol with the Football Academy can do so by enrolling through the College.

The Clontarf Football Academy focuses on

- Improving discipline;
- life skills; and
- self-esteem of young Aboriginal boys

The Foundation rewards students with camps and tours throughout the year. To keep their position in the Academy students need to show good attitude and commitment towards the education programme, school activities and football training.

The Foundation will then facilitate the transition from school to training and/or employment.

GIRLS' ACADEMY

The Clontarf Girls' Academy is a unique program developed for young Aboriginal girls aged from 12-18 years from the Perth metropolitan area as well as remote areas. Girls need to be enrolled at the College to be able to enrol at the Girls' Academy.

The program focuses on

- Mentoring and personal support – to assist students through their education and beyond graduation
- Work placement and work readiness – that leads to traineeships and employment
- Sports and extra-curricular activities – regional and interstate basketball and netball competitions, fitness programs, cultural excursions, sporting carnivals and specialised coaching

Enrolment

HOW TO ENROL YOUR CHILD INTO THE COLLEGE

Enrolment forms are available by phoning or visiting the College, or on our website. It is important to fill in all the information on the enrolment forms, as the application process will be slowed down considerably unless the College has all the necessary details, which should also include a copy of the student's most recent school report.

HOW TO APPLY TO BOARD AT 'NGULLA MIA'

The enrolment forms are included in the Enrolment package. Ngulla Mia is on the College premises and offers boarding facilities for both males and females.

It is important to apply for the ABSTUDY Living Away from Home Allowance Grant (Form 'b') from Centrelink at the same time that you lodge the application forms for enrolment.

Please note that your child/children will not be able to board if;

- the ABSTUDY Living Away from Home Allowance Grant is not accepted; or
- you are not able to pay the board and resource costs yourself

HOW TO GET TRANSPORT TO PERTH

For students living in regional and remote areas of Western Australia and the Northern Territory, where it is necessary to travel by bus, train or plane to Perth, may be eligible for financial assistance through ABSTUDY.

HOW TO APPLY FOR ABSTUDY

ABSTUDY claim forms are available from Centrelink.

There are two main ABSTUDY claim forms

- ABSTUDY Schooling A claim (Form a) for school students under 16 years old who are not going to be boarding away from home. The person who is caring for the student should complete the form.
- ABSTUDY claim (Form b) for secondary school boarding students and students 16 years old or over.

Transport and Fees

STUDENT TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

The Public Transport Authority (PTA) issues a student concession card called a Student SmartRider. Applications for a Student SmartRider can be made through the College and a Student SmartRider card will be issued to students free of charge. You will need to fill in a permission and registration slip and return it to the College.

Please note students need to 'top-up' the value of the Student SmartRider. This can be done at railway stations or newsagencies displaying the SmartRider logo. It can also be done 'on-line'.

COLLEGE FEES

Day School Tuition

\$330.00 per term (\$1320.00 per annum)

Family discounts on tuition fee

2nd student in family 20%

3rd student in family 30%

4th student in family Nil fees

Clontarf Boarding Fees

Under 16yrs old \$4600.00 per term

Over 16yrs old \$5815.00 per term

Abstudy support may be available

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

We ask that all students wear the College uniform at all times.

Uniforms can be purchased from the Receptionist prior to the student commencing. Payments can be made with cash or via EFTPOS.

Every day Wear

College Polo Shirt \$35.00 each

College Girls Business Shirt \$25.00 each

College Black Shorts \$25.00 each

College Training Singlet \$20.00 each

Winter Wear

College Tracksuit Jacket \$65.00 each

College Tracksuit Pants \$35.00 each

Optional Wear

College Cap \$10.00 each

Sporting/Cultural Events

College House Shirt \$15.00 each

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR CLOSED IN SHOES, NO THONGS ALLOWED.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

2 x Blue or Black Pens

1 x Student Bag or Backpack

1 x Ruler

1 x Large Pencil Case

2 x Lead Pencils

1 x Eraser

1 x Sharpener

Processes and Procedures

MEDICATION

The College staff are not permitted to give out medicine such as paracetamol and aspirin to students unless the College has written permission from the student's parent/guardian.

Also parents/guardians are responsible for the supply of any medication. The medication needs to be labelled with the student's name and dosage required. It will then be carefully stored for the student's use.

CANTEEN

Lunch orders should be lodged in the student's Homeroom by 9:00am. To place a lunch order, the student will be given a paper bag in Homeroom to write his/her name, lunch order and House number on. Day students pay for their lunches at the Canteen when they pick them up at the start of the lunch break.

MOBILE PHONES/PERSONAL STEREO (IPODS ETC)

Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones or personal stereos (iPods) to school. Where it is necessary to have a mobile phone at school, students must understand that they must be turned off during the school day and stored in their schoolbags. The College takes no responsibility for the loss of mobile phones and or personal stereos (iPods).

BEING ON TIME

Students should arrive at school by **8:30am** and are expected to be seated in their Homerooms by **8:45am**. Should a student arrive late, they are required to sign a late note in the Reception Office prior to heading to class.

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS WHO WILL BE ABSENT

If a student is going to be absent for any reason, please notify the College as soon as possible either by phone or email:

Tel: (08) 9251 0666

Email: attendance@clontarf.wa.edu.au

Thank you for your interest in Clontarf Aboriginal College.

