



St Edward's College
Malta

Transition to Co-Ed Frequently Asked Questions



As we transition from an all-boys school to a co-educational environment, we understand that there may be questions and concerns from students, parents, staff, and the broader community. Below are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) that aim to provide clarity about the upcoming changes.

Q1

Why is the College transitioning from a largely all-boys school to a co-ed model?

The College aims to create a more inclusive environment that reflects the diversity of our community and better prepares students for society. This decision aligns with our commitment to providing quality education and promoting equal opportunities for all students. By welcoming students of all genders, we aim to foster an environment that reflects the diversity and inclusivity of society, better preparing our students for the real world. Co-education also promotes a collaborative learning environment, enriches social development, and enhances the academic experience for everyone.

Q2

When will the transition to co-education take place?

The transition will take place over the course of the next academic year 2025 and will happen incrementally. That means that the College will become fully co-ed when the students currently in KG2 reach Year 11. This phased approach allows students to grow together, ensuring a gentle transition.

Q3

How will the changeover be made?

The transition to Co-Ed will happen incrementally. The students will grow up together in co-ed classrooms. Boys who are currently in single-gender classrooms will not be affected. In this way, the transition will be smooth and will not affect the performance of the students in any way. Going forward, new students will be accepted according to the status of the class: boys only in single-gender classes and boys and girls in co-ed classes.



Q4

How will the school ensure a smooth transition for students?

We are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for all students. This will include:

- **Orientation Programs:**
Special sessions for staff to help them adjust to the co-ed environment.
- **Support Systems:**
Additional counselling services to support social and emotional adjustment.
- **Workshops and Training:**
For staff to foster an inclusive and respectful environment.



Q5

Will the College change its mission or values with this transition?

No, the College's mission and values remain unchanged. Our focus continues to be on 'creating good and exemplary citizens', academic excellence, character development, and fostering a supportive learning environment, while embracing inclusivity.



Q6

How will the school ensure that the values of respect and equality are embedded in the school culture?

Respect and equality, as enshrined in the College motto VIRTUS ET HONOR (Strength and Honour) will remain central to our school culture. This will be reinforced through:

- **Curriculum Integration:** Lessons on social responsibility, empathy, and mutual respect.
- **Student leadership opportunities** focused on promoting inclusivity and equality.
- **Regular workshops and activities** that celebrate diversity and encourage positive interactions among all students.

Q7

How will the school maintain its identity and traditions during the transition?

While we are embracing the future and the benefits of a co-educational environment, we will continue to uphold the core values and traditions that have defined our school. We will integrate these traditions into our new co-ed framework, ensuring that the essence of our community remains intact.



Q8

Will the curriculum change with the introduction of co-education?

The core academic curriculum will remain the same. However, with the introduction of co-education, we will, over time, have opportunities to enhance our programs with a broader range of perspectives, experiences, and learning opportunities. There may also be space for more electives and extracurricular activities to support a diverse student body.

Q9

What impact will this have on sports teams and extracurricular activities?

We believe the transition will offer new opportunities for collaboration and participation in sports and extracurricular activities. Gender-diverse teams will encourage teamwork, mutual respect, and leadership skills. We will carefully manage this integration to ensure that all students - regardless of gender - have equal opportunities to participate and excel.

Q10

How will the school maintain its identity and traditions during the transition?

The school is committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful environment for all students. This includes:

- Continued implementation of anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies.
- Offering training for staff to promote equality and mutual respect.
- Encouraging open communication and providing support services to help any student who feels uncomfortable or marginalised.



Q11

How will the transition be implemented in terms of facilities and resources?

The College is committed to ensuring that all facilities and resources are adequately prepared for a co-educational environment. This includes reviewing and enhancing amenities, classroom settings, and support services to accommodate the needs of all students. This may include improvements to restroom facilities, locker rooms, and other spaces to ensure that they are inclusive and accessible. We will communicate any changes as they occur.

Q12

What measures will be taken to maintain the current academic standards and culture?

The College will continue to uphold its rigorous academic standards and culture. We will ensure that our curriculum and extracurricular activities are designed to benefit all students, fostering collaboration and respect among peers.



Q13

Will there be separate classes for boys and girls, or will they learn together?

The College plans to adopt a co-educational approach where boys and girls will learn together, promoting inclusivity and diversity in the classroom.



QI4

How will this change impact current students, particularly the boys?

Current students will continue to receive the same high-quality education and support. The incremental introduction of girls will provide an opportunity for all students to develop their social skills in a co-educational environment. We anticipate that students will experience both challenges and opportunities for personal growth, but these will happen gradually and incrementally. We are prepared to offer counselling and mentorship programs to help students navigate these changes, develop positive relationships, and build respect across gender lines.

QI5

What opportunities will be available for girls in the new program?

All students will have access to the same academic programs, extracurricular activities, and support services as their male counterparts. We aim to create an enriching environment for all students.

QI6

How will the College communicate with parents about this transition?

The College will provide regular updates through announcements, parent meetings, and information sessions. We encourage parents to ask questions and participate in discussions to help us navigate this transition effectively.



Q17

Will there be any changes to the school uniform or dress code?

We are reviewing our current uniform policy to ensure that it is inclusive, comfortable, and suitable for all students. If there are any changes, we will communicate them well in advance. We are committed to ensuring that all students feel confident and respected in their attire.

Q18

How can parents get involved in supporting the transition?

Parents are essential partners in this transition. There will be opportunities for parents to attend informational sessions, participate in focus groups, and provide feedback during the process. We encourage open dialogue between parents and the school to ensure that the needs of all students are met.



Q19

What will the admissions process look like moving forward?

Our admissions process will now be open to all students, regardless of gender starting at Year 1. New admissions to the classes will be according to whether the class is single-gender or co-ed. We are committed to ensuring a fair and transparent process that considers the academic and personal qualities of each applicant.



Q20

Who can I contact if I have further questions or concerns?

For any further inquiries, please feel free to reach out to the College administration. We are here to address any concerns you may have regarding this important change.

Q21

How will the transition to co-education be communicated to prospective parents and students?

The College will include detailed information in our marketing materials, such as the prospectus and website, as well as during open days and school tours. This will ensure prospective parents and students are fully informed about the co-educational environment and our plans for the future.

Q22

Will there be changes to student support services with the transition?

Yes, we are enhancing our student support services to cater to the diverse needs of a co-educational student body. This includes more counselling, peer mentoring programs, and training for staff to address issues specific to co-education.



Q23

What steps are being taken to prevent gender-related conflicts or bullying?

The College is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment. We will implement targeted programs to promote mutual respect, educate students about gender sensitivity, and address any incidents of bullying promptly.

Q24

Will the transition impact the school fees?

The transition to co-education is not expected to result in an increase in school fees. However, any adjustments related to facilities or resources will be communicated well in advance.

Q25

How will the school ensure fair representation of girls in leadership roles and extracurricular activities?

We are committed to creating opportunities for all students, regardless of gender. This includes equal representation in student councils, sports teams, and other leadership or extracurricular opportunities.

Q26

What happens if a student or parent is uncomfortable with the transition?

We understand that change can be challenging. Counselling services and open communication channels will be available to address concerns and provide support during the transition.



Q27

How will the school monitor and evaluate the success of the transition?

The College will establish a monitoring framework to gather feedback from students, parents, and staff. Regular evaluations will help us identify and address any challenges and ensure the transition meets the needs of the community.



We are excited about this new chapter in our school's history and are confident that this transition will create a vibrant, dynamic, and supportive environment for all our students. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

