

NEiTA 2009 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

State and Territory Award Recipient



Emma Marshall

Bachelor of Education (Science and Religious Education)
Marist Sisters' College, Woolwich, New South Wales
Nominated by: Parents and Friends Committee

Responsibilities: House Coordinator, Religious Education and Science teacher • Category: Secondary • Years teaching: 15 years • Years at this school/centre: 15 years • School type: Catholic • Town/Suburb: Woolwich • State: New South Wales • Postcode: 2110

Why teaching?

What maintains my enthusiasm for teaching is seeing that I can make a difference in the girls' lives. Seeing the girls realise that they can succeed regardless of their academic ability, and watching their self-esteem grow, continues to motivate me on a daily basis. In particular, I enjoy working with girls who, for many reasons, struggle academically or socially.

I also work collaboratively with other incredible staff who inspire me with the care and concern they show for the girls. I consider myself very fortunate to have a Principal like Sr Fidelis McTeigue who encourages ongoing teacher education and provides unfailing pastoral support of her staff.

Making a difference through Marist Education

Marist Sisters' College is located on the Woolwich Peninsula and is a Catholic, all girls' college encompassing years 7-12. It is owned and operated by the Marist Sisters, and the current enrolment is more than 900 girls. Emma Marshall teaches Science and Religious Education, as well as being in charge of pastoral care. Emma's classes are inspiring, motivating and challenging. She recognises the importance of different learning styles and is supportive of every girl. Emma's classroom is a dynamic educational environment that engages the girls in reflective learning and inspires high expectations.

Emma tailors an individual learning program for each of her students. Periodically during the year, each student completes Emma's education goal self-assessment plan. Each student lists her education aims and what she believes are her learning strengths and weaknesses. Students keep the plans in their workbooks and refer to them regularly to guide their learning throughout the year. Parents are also asked to contribute to the plans, and this encourages a partnership between teacher, student and parents.

Emma's methods engage her students and help them to feel pride in their achievements, especially when they reach their individual goals. The confidence that Emma has engendered in her students has led to them obtaining outstanding grades and academic results. There has been a marked increase in the number of girls choosing to study Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Emma has held extra voluntary Science course lessons during lunchtimes, and on most days, attendance is between 90-100 per cent.

Emma is a committed and dedicated teacher with 15 years' teaching experience at Marist Sisters' College. She genuinely cares for her students, and helps to organise learning activities that will stimulate and engage them.

Emma helps each student to recognise their strengths and find their place in the world. She prepares and encourages students to contribute and make a difference to the community.

Contact details:

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