

## What kind of school is this?

Aerie College is a Senior High School Boarding College offering SACE progression to VET Diploma with an Adelaide Base campus in Adelaide. We are planning an Adelaide hills farm campus, a Campus in the Riverlands, and a fleet of river houseboats.

Aerie College will provide SACE-VET training at the base campus and in a range of community clubs and care services facilities, in the Adelaide Hills, along the Murray River, and in the Coorong National Park, offering an alternative residential approach to the SACE Certificate and VET training.

The ANCOM Collegiate Community supporting Aerie College plans to establish a series of River Resorts and retirement communities including a fleet of community-owned houseboats. All these facilities will be available for Community Member investment.

This independent SACE-Vocational Community School has been formed by the registered educational charity (ANCOM ON MURRAY Inc.) and managed by a Volunteer Board with a group of highly skilled teachers who recognize that **many young people in the age group 16-24yrs have not found success in the existing school system. Our program is designed to help this group.** We offer full-time supervised residential living and learning for young people, many of who have not found a happy place to live, and are interested in a future in tourism, hospitality, cookery, adventure leadership, care services and horticulture/gardening.

The student residence provides a secure home for many of these students. It has a minor separation in place of home and work that reduces costs of travel and time. Students live a balanced life within a very supportive collegiate community without the need to travel great distances between home and school.

In effect, our developing Collegiate Community is managed as a large family-style business where everyone is part of the business, and, as a collegiate community family, we all help each other.

## Where are the planned Community Campuses?

Aerie Campuses are in Metropolitan Adelaide, at an Adelaide hills wilderness farm property, at a beautiful property in the Riverland, on a fleet of Murray River cruise boats, and a cruise boat accessing the Coorong National Park wilderness from Goolwa.

We are negotiating with Community Clubs and Care Facilities to create access agreements to provide teaching/training services within. We are selecting them specifically for the type of activities provided by the club or facility where specific study/training focus can be directed at the purpose of that facility.

As our Community services training grows we expect to open our Community Owned holiday resort properties, especially along the Murray River as the college expands into Vocational Training to Diploma level. We will create lease/hosted campuses at these holiday resorts, some with care services business as part of their operations.

## **Why use supervised river cruise boats as School Camps?**

Aerie College sees great benefit in developing small supportive groups of young people in a community living space. A very safe and secure form of group accommodation is very difficult to find along the river so Houseboats are the answer for security and student mobility.

The very popular large River Murray houseboats provide the ideal venue for such a residence. Each one of them is mobile and can be located in various river communities where the School Lease/hosted communities are located. They have the added benefit of being able to park on the riverbank reserve rent-free with a small change of location every 20 days. The community riverboat service facilities are all free. In effect, the Aerie Houseboats will be river nomads following the "work opportunities" (Education)

## **Why the name Aerie and who can enrol?**

**An Aerie is an eagle's nest.** Eagles are magnificent birds that live and hunt for their food high above the other birds. They are selective hunters. They only take sufficient living food for their immediate needs. The Aerie is a nest built high away from danger, where the adult eagles look after their young. Our staff are like eagles, and our campuses are like aeries. All our staff are experienced high flyers in their careers, taking only what they need for living and taking good care of their young.

**Any "Good Person" can enrol.** We know many young people, for many reasons, have not found success among the common birds in the traditional high school. We can help them strengthen their wings for a strong and successful flight path outside of the common flock.

Any person who wants to be like the eagle can join us. We help them fly high on a different path, taking only what they need from others, and caring for their family. We need to be sure applicants are good people before we accept you into our collegiate family.

We have a 10-week introduction period to be sure of this before we offer full membership.

## **What will it cost to attend an Aerie College Campus?**

ANCOM Collegiate Community is an Educational Charity. We will keep costs as low as possible. We will seek every grant possible and actively attract philanthropic gifts to assist our Community Services.

**Students or families can Rent or Own a safe place to sleep and call our community home. Investing in our Community Loans is better than renting a student bed.**

Renting is more expensive than owning the license over time. Student beds are in shared cabins. At the end of your stay with ANCOM, you can sell your Loan Licence bed to other incoming students. If you look after your bed space and room well, you should be able to get all your investment back

**Food and general living costs - A large family does not pay others to do family work. Students, as part of the Community Family, do the housework, cooking and property maintenance. You learn skills as you do the work.**

Bulk purchase savings reduce our general living costs to within the limits of the youth and living-away-from-home allowance. Everyone helps with house chores, the preparation, and the service of food as part of your training. You will help in the operation of the resort business to reduce your living costs. Like a large family, we will all operate the large tourist resort and care services business. Your time helping can pay your fees. If you are not prepared to help with your time, you will be asked to pay for the time of other students to do your share of the work. This is all part of your business studies.

**School fees will be similar to other independent schools - We expect to advertise these on this website before the enrolment date.** Government grants will contribute to the costs of your basic schoolwork and teacher's salaries. The cost of learning in a Government classroom box, now recognized as a dangerous COVID area, is low compared with the cost of our outdoor and real skills learning so our "School" fees may be higher than a classroom school. We will keep the costs as low as possible in keeping with the best practical adventure skills learning. We actively encourage sponsorship and scholarships to assist worthy students.

**You can earn money while at college. We will help you find casual paid work.** We will establish an employment agency within the college to assist our students to find some outside paid casual work. As you develop your skills, you can build your own business to take elsewhere. We will help you build your business.

**You learn how to make money by providing high-quality services. This is what our living and learnings are all about.** Hospitality and care services are not just jobs, they are a way of life, if done well, you will be well rewarded, sometimes with money, sometimes just to feel good. **High-quality, friendly service is well rewarded.**

**What will happen if I don't do what I am reasonably asked?**

We are eagles. We all do what needs to be done. Every person has the right to set their flight path. If you do not like being an eagle then you have the right to leave us. Just tell the principal and leave.

**What is it like living and learning at Aerie College?**

Learning time at Aerie College is "all the time". You will be learning to live a well-balanced life of work time, playtime, and sleep time as in a large family. (About 8 work hours, +8 play, +8 sleep per day + one rest day each week). The maintenance of an activity log, with photos of activities, is part of your regular learning and reporting tasks. Some normal living and scheduled study tasks need to be done at certain fixed times. Other tasks are to be done in flexible time. Time is also needed simply for enjoyment and pleasure. Good sleep time is essential for good health. You learn about your circadian rhythm and hormonal rhythms.

Time is very valuable. We do not waste it. You must keep your time management responsibilities punctual. A little early for every commitment is good. Even one minute late for a group event is bad. Think of the total time wasted while others wait for you.

## **Can I get qualifications, like SACE, Certificates, Diploma or degree?**

**YES.** Part of your work is planning your flight path and the things you will need to know, and the skills you need to practice to find success on your journey. Pieces of paper, like the SACE, Certificates, Diploma or Degree are simply signs you can show to other people about your flight path successes.

**You will know in yourself what your successes have been. That is important.**

You need to know what you are good at and can be confident in doing. There is no limit to your flight path.

## **How long can I stay with the Aerie Collegiate Community?**

**As long as you want or need it, we hope as a member for life.**

By joining Aerie College you will be joining a Collegiate Community. You will meet and make good friends. You can remain a member of the Collegiate community for life. You can come in and leave when you want or need. Aerie Community will become your home base for support when and if you need it. Some colleges call this "alumni" meaning a common group of people who have been and remain part of a learning team.

We ask that you give your full-time commitment to your time with us. Work hard, play hard and sleep well. The student leaders of the community will let you know if you are not "Giving your fair share".

The saying "Shape up or ship out" will apply at Aerie College.

If you do not feel comfortable confronting people, the college "Colored E-Card system" will let you know how your flight path is building in the eyes of the other students and teachers. Beware the Red E-Card.

You are free to leave our community at any time. We hope you will remain a sponsor member of our collegiate community. There will come a time when you will feel that you can give something back to the community to help other young people who are like what you were when you entered the community. Gratitude, Compassion, Humility and Philanthropy are traits of a good person.

## **Is there a student uniform?**

**There is no uniform for the first 10 weeks of the induction program at Aerie College.** This is time for you to look at our community learning and living lifestyle. We look at you to consider your eagle potential (good person). Then you and the founding master will decide if you "stay or leave".

**YES staying - - - IF you survive the first 10 weeks of incubation and you are invited to join, you graduate with your feathers, and you then have the right to wear a uniform. It sends a message. "This is not just me. We are all of us."**

Most strong teams wear a uniform to show that they are a formidable group. Think of sports teams. You will be part of a unique team, capable of great things. A smart uniform is a sign that you are more than a single person and that your group can get good things done.

**At your Fully Fledged Eagle graduation (SACE completion),** you are presented with your **SACE Certificate** and a **Standing Eagle, Lapel Pin**, which you can display with pride. This can stay with you for life. Yes, your certificate is paper to hang on the wall. Both are signs of what you have achieved.

You may like to proceed to VET training with us to gain your **Eagle-in-flight, Lapel pin at your Diploma Graduation**, a real leader in your field and ready to take flight.

## **My life is a big mess now. Can Aerie College help me?**

**YES. We welcome all potential eagles to try our lifestyle** no matter what your life is like now. You are likely a potentially good person because you are still alive, so it can only get better. We will find out in your incubation program on "Imagination".

Our Collegiate community is very supportive. No matter what your problems are, our team can and will help you BUT you must also help yourself by "going with the flow".

There is no value in fighting what we do to help you. You must go through our 10-week induction program. We are unable to help people who will not change.

You may not like what we ask you to do BUT just play the game with us with your best abilities showing during your induction time. Then we all win.

## What about my baby?

**Your baby or young child is welcome, assuming you aspire to be an Eagle parent.** Eagle parents are incredibly good at getting things done.

OK. The baby may have been a mistake but you must make the best of it.

A baby can be one of the great joys of life or it can be a burden. It depends on your point of view. Your first 10 weeks of Aerie College incubation, with your baby, will tell us if you will be able to become an Eagle Mother or Father. Being an eagle parent is not easy. Being two parents happy together can be fun. We can help you through the tough times to build a happy and lasting buddy team for a happy future.

We recognize that one of the child's parents may just not care. If it is just you and baby, it will be a tough gig, but there will be plenty of uncles, aunties, and even Grandees around to help. We are a big family and family members all look after each other. You just have to show us who you are during the first 10 weeks. Then you chat with Capt. Bouc about the "Stay" or "Leave" decision.

## What is the deal if I get hot angry and cause trouble?

**A display of hot uncontrolled anger is embarrassing.** We all get angry sometimes. We must learn to control it. Hot uncontrolled anger is not good. Go outside. Take deep breaths. Calm down. Then come back in quietly, in control and talk, don't shout.

**Carry cold anger. Don't just let it go.** Keep it for when you can use it well. There must have been a good reason for your anger. Go back and talk it out when you have control of your fury. We will teach you the skills needed.

**Cold, controlled fury is powerful. Use it with care.** It is all part of learning and we are all together to help each other. Grace Tame, Australian of the year, used cold fury well with the Prime Minister.

If you do not like what we do, you cause conflict with our people, or you get very hot angry, **you must talk** with each other **to resolve the conflict.** Words fly with the wind. Once said they fly away. Cold fury is usually well remembered but is gone with the wind and you are unable to read it to bring it back. - - - **Do not write it down.**

**Your Academy masters can mediate to help you if you ask.**

If you want your messages to be remembered, we use E-cards.

**Be careful what you write in emails.** Think before you write. Review before you send.

**Perhaps it is better to talk after all.** Think about how to make your words as a sh - - sandwich if you decide to write them down. We will help you build these skills which are sometimes essential in business.

**Your Academy Masters must receive a copy of all these emails** so they can help solve problems before they get too bad. You should not ignore any e-cards that come to you. A response is always required. Resolving conflict is one of our learning tasks.