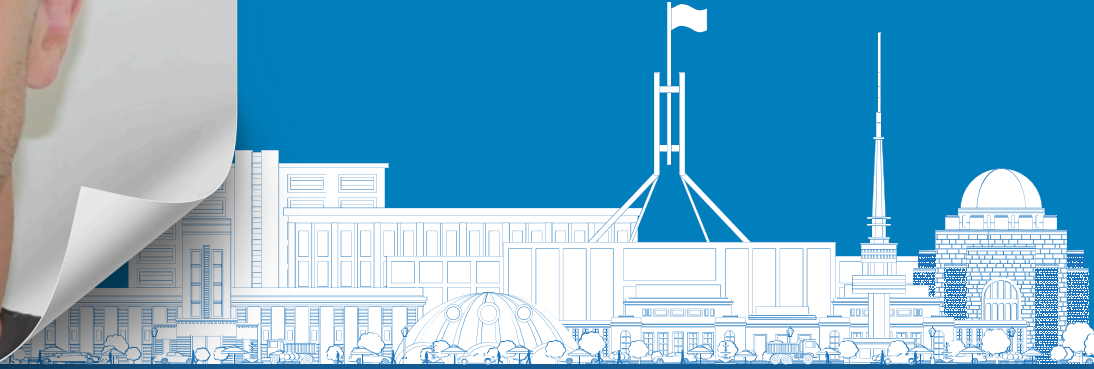




Building tomorrow's minds :

On the shoulders of teaching giants in the bush capital



Rourke is a teacher that students will always remember.

Rourke is a teacher of Outdoor Education, Exercise Science and Sports Development (Rugby League) classes this year at Erindale College. Rourke is also a Pastoral Care Co-ordinator and leads wellbeing programs for students. Rourke has positively impacted the ACT community by fostering our young champions of tomorrow.

One standout example of Rourke's influence is his work with a Year 10 student in the Talented Sports Program with a passion for Rugby League. Rourke has fostered a strong sense of self-efficacy in this student this year. Rourke has provided opportunities for his sporting endeavours, yet also supported him to develop as a learner at school, and a leader on the sporting field in his community.

Rourke has played a pivotal role in teaching attributes to him, such as how to work with others, seeking challenge and remaining determined. Family and friends have shared positive feedback on this student's journey and development as a young leader this year - they have witnessed his growth at school, and how he has applied these leadership skills to his local sporting club.

Beyond academic and athletic achievements, Rourke fosters a deep sense of belonging among his students. His commitment to providing high-quality enrichment activities, such as a challenging snow sport outdoor education trip, has been instrumental in developing resilience and courage in his students. One student's heartfelt words at the end of the excursion, *"I will remember this trip forever,"* capture the profound and lasting influence Rourke has on his students.

Mr Rourke O'Sullivan
Erindale College
Wanniassa

