

Media Statement

1 March 2023



**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION**
COMMISSION OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INAUGURAL MOU BETWEEN WA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TO BENEFIT FAMILIES

Catholic Education WA has signed a new memorandum of understanding, 'In Communion and Mission' (ICM), with the Bishops of WA and eight other governing bodies of the 163 Catholic schools operating in Western Australia.

The collaboration established through the ICM is a Catholic Education first and will help to ensure a strong, united voice for Catholic education in our state. It comes following extensive consultation in 2022 to reaffirm both cooperation and a united commitment to the delivery of a quality, Christ-centred and child-focused education for families who choose a Catholic school.

Parties to the agreement have committed to work proactively and cooperatively to realise the vision of Catholic education to be Christ-centred and child-focused through shared goals and actions.

Ms Eva Skira AM, Chair of the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia (CECWA) said:

'In initiating this Agreement, CEWA hopes to build on the rich history and vision of the Bishops of Western Australia, Religious Orders, and laity to further a shared mission for Catholic education in Western Australia, ensuring our schools continue to offer educational choice for WA families who seek a Catholic education for their child.'

'I am excited by the opportunity these closer ties present to our organisations. I look forward to working together, and building on our strong partnership for the benefit of current and future generations of Catholic school students.'

Signatories to the ICM include Catholic Education Western Australia, the Archbishop of Perth, Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB DD, Bishop of Bunbury, Most Rev Gerard Holohan DD, Bishop of Geraldton and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Broome, Most Rev Michael Morrissey DD, along with Edmund Rice Education Australia Ltd, John XXIII College Council Incorporated, Loreto Ministries Ltd, Marist Schools Australia Ltd, Mercy Education Ltd, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Norbertine Canons Incorporated, and The Order of the Servants of Mary Incorporated (Servite Order).

The ICM operates in alignment with the Bishops' Mandate for Catholic Education.

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Note for Editors

The ICM is available [here](#).

The Bishops' Mandate can be viewed [here](#).