

14 February 2018

To Parishioners of Our Lady of the Way Parish North Sydney, Parents and Staff of St Mary's Catholic Primary School North Sydney, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Mosman, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School Clifton Gardens, St Michael's Catholic Primary School Lane Cove and Marist College North Shore.

INVESTIGATION OF AN EDUCATIONAL PRECINCT KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 12 WITH ON-SITE OUT-OF-HOURS CARE AT NORTH SYDNEY

REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parishioners, Staff, Parents and Carers,

I am writing today to inform you of the outcomes of the series of initial consultations, symposia and survey conducted within the North Sydney, Mosman, Lane Cove and Clifton Gardens communities across October 2017.

The strategy was developed by the North Sydney Steering Committee to meet the commitment made by the Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools, Dr Dan White to maintain communication and engagement with the Catholic community in the Eastern Region of Sydney Catholic Schools, regarding a proposal to explore the establishment of a Kindergarten to Year 12 Educational Precinct with an on-site preschool development on the North Sydney site occupied by the Parish of Our Lady of the Way, St Mary's Catholic Primary School North Sydney, Marist College North Shore and the Jacaranda Pre-school.

At the outset, I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to all who contributed to this first phase of the Community Consultation Strategy through your attendance at the parent symposia, engagement with the staff forums, and returning the survey. Information provided through these consultations is vital in informing the work of the North Sydney Steering Committee.

MATTERS YOU IDENTIFIED AT THE PARENT SYMPOSIA, STAFF FORUMS AND SURVEY

1. Liking the possible introduction of co-education Kindergarten to Year 6 and Year 7 to Year 12 while needing to know more about the specifics of any proposed model
2. Questions about the size of the school and enrolment pathways
3. Features of new facilities and inter-related concerns about the size of the current site
4. Support for a 'one-stop shop' for families seeking a Catholic education for their sons and daughters
5. Liking the seamless transition for students' learning across the stages of schooling with enhanced educational opportunities – curriculum, Innovation and student-centred pedagogy

6. Strengthening the Catholic identity and charisms of the schools in an educational precinct model
7. Strengthened links between schools and the parish
8. Funding and affordability.

No decisions have been made as yet about specifics of any aspect of an educational precinct at North Sydney. I am, however, able to advise you of the following:

- The Curriculum Sub-committee of the North Sydney Steering Committee is investigating curriculum models of educational precincts in other jurisdictions
- A Project Management Firm is investigating the potential of the North Sydney site as an educational precinct; this work provides a picture of the facilities the site could accommodate and an estimate of the enrolment capacity of the site.

Both these groups will advise the Steering Committee of progress early in 2018.

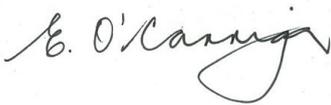
Sydney Catholic Schools has responsibility for funding development of school infrastructure and maintaining affordability for families seeking an education for their children in a systemic Catholic school, in the Archdiocese of Sydney. The two schools on the North Sydney site will continue to be systemic Catholic schools under the jurisdiction of Sydney Catholic Schools.

Sydney Catholic Schools has extensive experience in delivering contemporary models of education in high-quality buildings and infrastructure supported by new educational partnerships. Since the mid 1980s, a number of school amalgamations and restructures across the Archdiocese continue to deliver outstanding educational outcomes.

Finally, I thank Mr Tony Duncan, Ms Beverly Coffey and Father Andrew Bullen SJ for their leadership and unflinching support for this exciting proposal in Catholic education.

I assure you of our ongoing communication with you and will seek to convene a symposia during Term 2.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth O'Carrigan

REGIONAL DIRECTOR - Eastern Region