



**CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



**Their Future  
Our Calling**



# Foreword

From the early years through to Year 12, Catholic schools partner with parents as the first educators of their children to deliver diverse and engaging learning pathways. Our schools, colleges and early years learning facilities form a community of Christ-centred and child-focused learning, enabling each child to recognise and explore their unique potential.

Central to this is an imperative that Catholic schools and centres keep pace with the learning needs of our diverse population now and in the future. This



includes a clear focus on providing accessible and affordable education for all WA families who choose Catholic education.

With 162 schools and colleges across Western Australia, from Kununurra in the Kimberley region to Albany and Esperance on the south coast, and inland to Kalgoorlie, Catholic schools provide families with the opportunity to choose the learning environment best suited to their child.

To ensure that Catholic Education Western Australia remains a sustainable system of schools, we need to consider our changing educational landscape and consider how we continue to provide all students with equitable access to the best learning environments.

It is our hope that by working collaboratively with the Catholic Church, Government, parents and our communities, we can provide certainty and continue to contribute to a stronger WA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr Debra Sayce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Dr Debra Sayce  
Executive Director

# Planning for the future

By 2026, more than 16,000 additional students are expected to seek enrolment at Catholic schools in WA.

Ensuring parents continue to have freedom to choose the learning environment best suited to their child is central to Catholic Education Western Australia's priorities for the future.

We'll achieve this by:

- ensuring Catholic schools continue to be free to operate in accordance with the Catholic faith
- collaborating with Federal and State governments to ensure funding for Catholic schools keeps pace with the schooling needs of WA's diverse population now and in the future
- providing parental choice to accessible and affordable education for all Western Australian families

As a system, we will continue to engage with communities and seek certainty from Federal and State governments in five key priority areas.

1

Capital funding to meet schooling needs of WA's diverse population and provide educational choice for families.

**Families in Catholic schools make an enormous contribution to school infrastructure**

2016 per student contribution (\$)

Catholic school families – \$1,396

Federal Government – \$115

State Government – \$44

2

Ongoing cross-sectoral collaboration to address the 'on the ground' needs of students with disability.



3

Funding towards operating costs of boarding colleges for Aboriginal students ensuring equitable access and participation in Catholic education.

As of August 2018, CEWA had;

**759** Boarders  
**8** Boarding school facilities  
**36.9%** of all boarders are **Aboriginal**

4

Support for small, rural and remote school communities through a review of the size loading in the *Australian Education Act 2013* to accurately reflect fixed operational costs of small schools.

More than

**40%** of Australia's Catholic schools are located outside major metropolitan areas.  
In many remote Indigenous communities a Catholic school is the only local school.

5

Ongoing commitment to early years education in schools through the Universal Access Funding Scheme.



# Contributing to stronger WA communities

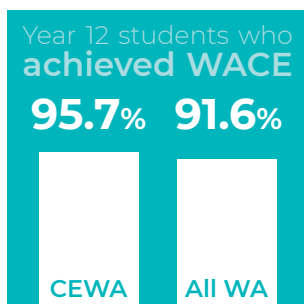
CEWA is committed to delivering a Catholic education that supports students in their spiritual, intellectual, social and emotional, physical and creative development. Our students' results in NAPLAN show significant year-on-year improvement, consistently achieving better results than the state and national cohorts.

Our colleges are among the top Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) performing schools in the State and cater for all students, whether they are aspiring to undertake university or further training, or entering the workforce.

In 2018, 4724 students achieved their WACE at CEWA colleges with 12 students awarded with School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) General Exhibition, VET (Vocational Education and Training) Exhibition and Subject Exhibition awards.

Many of our students achieved an ATAR ranking of 95 or higher, and students completing less than four ATAR courses achieved 2632 VET qualifications (Certificate II or higher since Year 10). CEWA students' median ATAR was 82.75 in 2018, compared with the State median of 81.80.

CEWA schools represented  
**30%**  
of the first 50  
schools in WACE  
achievement



**2,042**  
Year 12 students completed  
**Certificate II**  
or higher since year 10



# Catholic schools – partners in WA's future

Catholic Education Western Australia is the second largest education provider in the State with approximately 76,000 students and 15,000 staff across 162 schools and colleges.

We aim to provide an affordable and accessible education to all families seeking a Catholic education for their child. Our schools encourage students to think independently, to collaborate and innovate, and to develop skills and knowledge to prepare them for our ever-changing world.

## Excellence in education

Catholic schools are centres of academic excellence; our schools and colleges enable students to gain confidence in their abilities and to achieve their unique potential.

## Grow, belong and be safe

Our schools are inclusive and supportive learning environments. We welcome students from diverse cultural, social and emotional backgrounds.

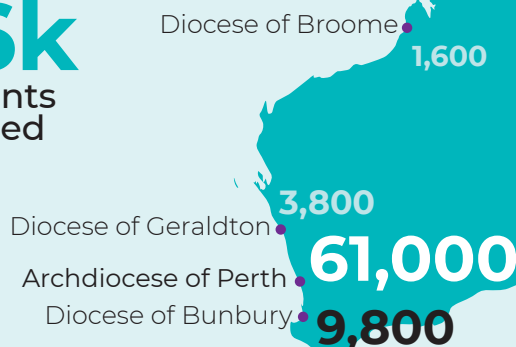
## Focus on affordability

In acknowledging the challenges facing some families, Catholic schools minimise school fees by offering financial support to those in need. We provide sibling discounts, scholarships and reduced rates for families on Health Care Cards and for families experiencing financial hardship.

## Diversity in learning

Catholic schools promote education for all – celebrating the diversity and achievements of every student, their unique skills, and their full potential.

More than  
**76k**  
students  
enrolled



**162**  
Schools

**110** Primary  
**52** Secondary or Composite  
**23** Special Education Support Centres  
**5** Curriculum & Re-engagement  
**1** Intensive English Centre

**90**  
Early Learning Centres

**90** 3-year-old Kindergartens  
**60** Schools with Outside School Hours Care  
**3** Schools with long day care services

**15.3%**  
of WA Primary school students

**19.4%**  
of WA Secondary school students

**2,920** K-Y12  
Aboriginal students

**2,467** K-Y12  
Students with disability



# Key initiatives

CEWA has a number of key initiatives that align with our strategic directions to provide the best possible learning environments.

Launched in 2018, our *Child Safe Framework* consists of nine elements that together help children and young people in our schools, colleges and learning centres to be and feel safe. The elements are based on contemporary research and recognised best practices and support our school communities in maintaining child-safe cultures founded on healthy and respectful relationships.

*Transforming Lives: Strategy 2025* aims to improve both the educational outcomes achieved by Aboriginal students in our schools, and the success of our schools in strengthening relationships with and serving their local Aboriginal communities.

CEWA's digital transformation project LEADing Lights, which began in 2017, is bringing best-in-class digital tools along with improved internet connectivity to Catholic schools right across the State. The project is enabling our educators to realise our *Vision for Learning* by providing students, staff and parents with new ways to learn, teach, collaborate and administer.

Launched in 2019, *Vision for Learning* is a pedagogical resource for all Catholic schools and care services in Western Australia. It provides a research and theoretical background to improving student outcomes in the form of the Global Knowledge Consensus, Five Teacher Practices and Professional Learning Community structures that contribute to quality Catholic education. The *Vision for Learning* has been developed through research, system projects and pilot programs, as well as through the experience of other international and national education systems. It supports the transformation journey of young people and ensures that along with strong academic skills, children and young adults will be able to collaborate, innovate, create, appreciate and think critically within a Catholic world view in order to be a positive influence on a rapidly changing and increasingly secular world.



The vocation of teachers and educators plays an important role in bringing this vision to life as it demands all in Catholic education to develop in their personal relationship with Christ and in their professional knowledge and skills.

The *Vision for Learning* is aligned to the domains of CECWA's *Strategic Directions 2019-2021* and the CEWA Quality Catholic Schooling Tool.