



Dear Parents / Guardians

As families may be aware, 2021 has marked the 50th year since Catholic schools across the four Dioceses of Western Australia came together to form a state-wide system of schools. While Newman College has remained a Marist Brothers school and has continued to observe the Marist charism and operating principles, the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia has represented Newman College as its governing authority and has maintained its registration as a Catholic school with the Department of Education.

Over the past few years, as the education landscape has continued to evolve, the Marist Brothers have considered the best way to continue to govern its school so that Marist education continues to flourish across Australia. As a result, the Brothers have determined to set up a company limited by guarantee as proprietor and governing authority of the 12 schools of which the Brothers are currently proprietors. This company will be called Marist Schools Australia Limited (MSA Ltd). As part of this change MSA Ltd has worked closely with Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) to clarify its responsibility as a governing authority and proprietor of Newman College.

Having considered a range of complexities that apply to the registration of non-government schools in Western Australia, MSA Ltd, in consultation with the Provincial Council of the Marist Brothers has made the decision to align the governance of Newman College with the other 11 Colleges that will be governed by MSA Ltd.

As a result, MSA Ltd has informed the Minister for Education that Newman College will exit the CEWA system as defined in the Education Act as the governing authority for Catholic School Registration.

Approval is being sought through the Non-Government Schools division of the Department of Education for registration to be transferred from Catholic Education Western Australia to MSA Ltd, with the request being reviewed after 1 January 2022.

While this will mean that governance and professional services, other than in Religious Education, currently provided by CEWA, will be accessed through MSA Ltd, there is no anticipated change to the education programs that the College provides, nor should it affect the day to day experience for students in our College or result in any abnormal increase in school fees.

Given the transfer of registration is in progress, MSA Ltd is continuing to work with CEWA through the transfer process and to confirm what programs and professional services will be extended to Newman College under future agreements.

I look forward to providing families with more details when new arrangements are in place.

Yours sincerely

John Finneran
PRINCIPAL

8 December 2021

Challenge — Collaborate — Create — Celebrate