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## **Education Minister's focus on school improvement is on target says Catholic sector**

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) said the Minister for Education and Youth Alan Tudge's MP speech to the Menzies Research Centre today, which outlines his focus on improving Australia's educational performance, is on target.

NCEC executive director Jacinta Collins said the Catholic sector has developed its own set of national priorities to support the continual improvement of educational outcomes for all students in its 1,751 schools. In Australia, Catholic schools educate one in five (768,000) students.

"We are heavily focused on working with government and other educational bodies, like ACARA, to identify evidence-based practice to support quality learning and teaching across our schools," Jacinta said.

"Our strategic priorities, which outline a plan for the next three years, are also focused on responding to the needs of our families by ensuring school choice and greater accessibility to Catholic schools in areas of need."

"In our bicentenary year, it's important that Catholic education looks forward with a continuous focus on delivering excellence in education," Ms Collins said.

"Our theme, 'faith in the future' speaks, not only to our mission of forming young people of faith, but ensuring we enable our students to have access to the best educational opportunities for their future."

The National Catholic Education Commission's strategic priorities (2021-2023) are available via [www.ncec.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ncec.catholic.edu.au).