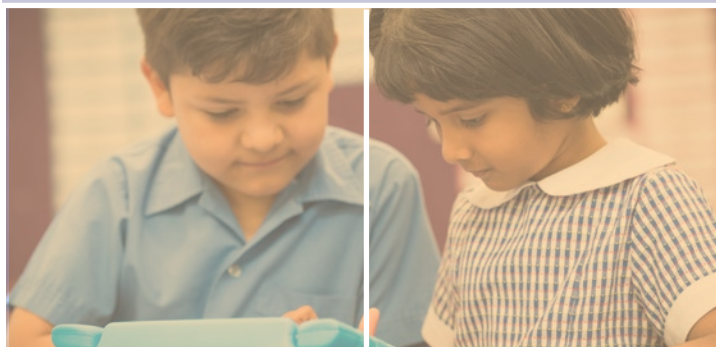
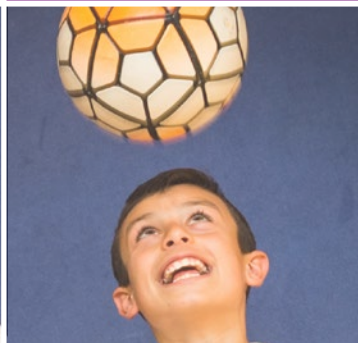


In 2015,  
Catholic school parents paid  
**\$3.3 billion** in fees  
to support their children's  
education



To meet  
growing  
demand,  
**dozens  
of new  
Catholic  
schools**  
are planned  
for the  
**next five  
years**

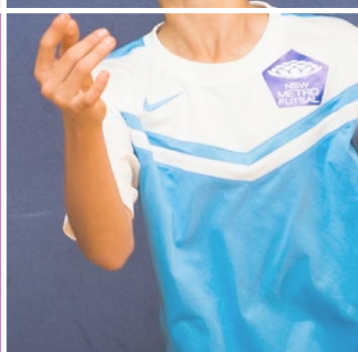
In 2015, governments  
provided **\$7.9 billion**  
**in funding** to support  
students in Catholic schools



In 2016,  
**766,000**  
students  
attended  
**1,732**  
**Catholic  
schools**,  
which employ  
more than  
**91,000**  
staff

Catholic schools have been  
part of Australia's education  
story for

**200** years



**Catholic  
education**  
provides a  
**balanced  
and holistic  
education**

Catholic schools are  
committed to **creating safe  
environments** for all students,  
teachers and families

# 2016

## ANNUAL REPORT



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*The NCEC gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Sydney Catholic Schools for allowing the use of photographs for the cover and throughout this report.*





Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB  
Chairman  
Bishops Commission for Catholic Education  
PO Box R1802  
ROYAL EXCHANGE NSW 1225

Level 3,  
156 Gloucester St,  
Sydney, NSW 2000  
PO Box R1802,  
Royal Exchange,  
NSW 1225

Dear Archbishop Costelloe

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2016 on the work of the National Catholic Education Commission.

2016 was a year of ongoing growth for the Catholic education community in Australia. A number of new schools opened, taking the number of Catholic schools across the country to more than 1,730. As you and many of your brother Bishops have commented, Catholic schools are undoubtedly “a jewel in the crown of the Australian Church”.

Among several high points for the NCEC in 2016 were the five-yearly NCEC Conference in Perth and the Federal Election.

Thanks to the leadership of our colleagues at Catholic Education Western Australia, the Conference attracted a record number of almost 1,400 people from across our vast network of schools and systems. It was truly a celebration of the work being done to support more than 765,000 children in our schools and helped remind those in attendance of the magnitude of the enterprise that is Catholic education in Australia.

We are deeply grateful to CEWA for its commitment of significant time, energy and resources to make the Conference a success.

Falling as it did less than two weeks before the Federal Election, the NCEC Conference also became a focal point for education policy before the country went to the polls. Education Minister Senator Simon Birmingham and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten both came to Perth to address Catholic educators, expressing their gratitude and respect for the work of Catholic schools.

Both Senator Birmingham and Mr Shorten outlined their vision for how their respective parties would support Australian schools and students.

Those visions could be compared with the policy priorities that the NCEC outlined as part of its collaborative work with state and territory Catholic Education Commissions. The NCEC’s advocacy continues to seek better and more secure funding for the vast number of students whose education has been entrusted to Catholic schools.

2016 was also the start of a period of change for the NCEC. Our Executive Director Ross Fox, who helped to grow and shape the work of the new NCEC secretariat since 2013, took up a new challenge – thankfully within the Catholic education family. Ross built the capacity of the NCEC and enhanced its place as a key voice on educational policy in this country.

As I write this, Christian Zahra is about to take up the position as Executive Director. Christian brings his own broad range of skills to the role that will complement Ross’s work, and that of Danielle Cronin, who served as acting executive director for several months during a challenging period while we recruited a new Executive Director.

Pope Francis has spoken of education as a generator of hope for people. “In fact, education gives birth, it helps grow, it’s part of the dynamics of giving life,” he said. That inspiration helps the work of NCEC remain focused on helping our schools and systems offer that hope to the students in their care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Crafter".

The Hon Greg Crafter AO  
Chair  
June 2017



In 2016,  
**766,000** students  
attended **1,732 Catholic**  
**schools**, which employ more  
than **91,000 staff**

vi



# Contents

Letter of transmittal	v
Bishops Commission for Catholic Education	2
Role of the National Catholic Education Commission	3
Membership of the NCEC	4
Membership of the NCEC Secretariat	5
Report on NCEC activities	6
NCEC meetings	6
Major agenda items for the NCEC in 2016	7
Standing committees and working parties	11
Representation on national bodies	12
Summary statistics	16
Financial report for the year ended 31 December 2016	22
Appendices	47
NCEC terms of reference and statutes	48
Directory of Catholic Education Commissions	50



# Bishops Commission for Catholic Education

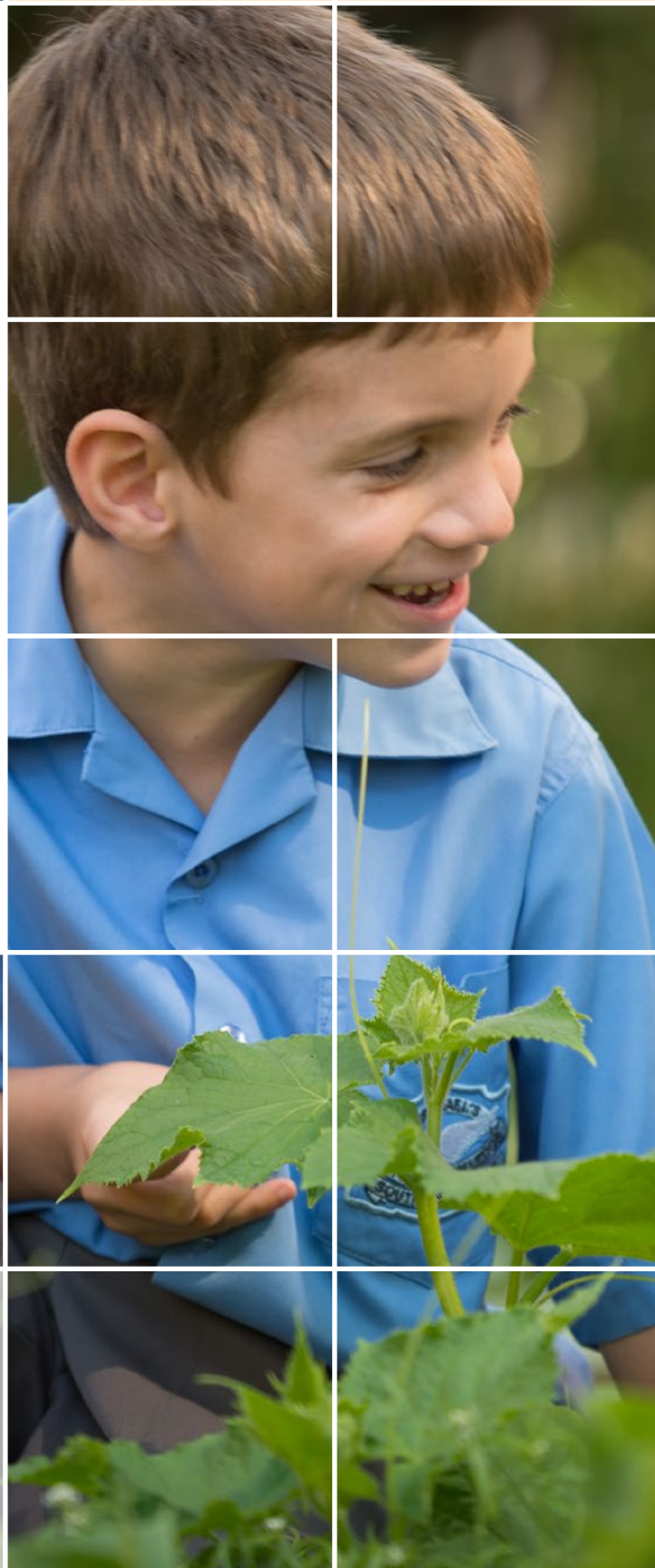
The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) is responsible to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference through the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education (BCCE).

## Members of the BCCE in 2016 were:

- Most Rev. Tim Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth - Chairman
- Most Rev. Mark Edwards OMI, Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne
- Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney
- Most Rev. Gregory O'Kelly SJ, AM, Bishop of Port Pirie

The BCCE met on four occasions in 2016. It reported to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Plenary Meetings in May and November.

As BCCE chairman, Archbishop Costelloe attended meetings of the National Catholic Education Commission as an observer.







## Role of the National Catholic Education Commission

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC or the Commission) is the official body charged by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference with developing, advising, enunciating and acting upon policy at the national level for the Church's work in education. The NCEC is directly responsible to the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education.

The NCEC is the focal point for ongoing discussions and negotiations with the Australian Government and other national bodies involved in education. The Commission is also a national forum for discussions and debate on significant matters of interest and concern to Catholic education in Australia.

### Responsibilities include:

- contributing to the national education policy debate;
- liaison with the Australian Government and other key national educational bodies;
- monitoring trends in educational theory and practice in Australia and overseas;
- consulting, complementing and working with Catholic education in each state and territory;
- identifying and disseminating data relevant to Catholic education;
- monitoring developments in faith formation and religious education; and
- monitoring research in Catholic education.



**Catholic  
education** provides a  
**balanced and holistic  
education**

# Membership of the NCEC

4



**The Hon  
Greg Crafter AO**  
Chair



**Dr Tim McDonald**  
Deputy Chair, NCEC;  
Executive Director,  
Catholic Education  
Western Australia

**Mr Michael Avery**  
Director of Catholic  
Education, Diocese of  
Darwin



**Ms Ann Bliss**  
Executive Director,  
Federation of Catholic  
School Parent  
Communities (SA)  
(until June 2016)



**Mrs Carmel Nash**  
Executive Director,  
Federation of Parents and  
Friends Queensland (from  
October 2016)



**Prof Greg Craven**  
President and  
Vice Chancellor,  
Australian Catholic  
University

**Dr Brian Croke**  
Executive Director, Catholic  
Education Commission NSW



**Sr Elizabeth Dodds RSC**  
Ministry and Governance  
Consultant

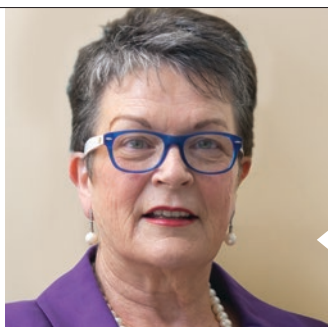


**Mr Stephen Elder**  
Executive Director,  
Catholic Education  
Commission of Victoria



**Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI**  
Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne





**Ms Helen O'Brien**  
Director, Catholic  
Education South Australia

**Mrs Moira Najdecki**  
Director of Catholic  
Education, Archdiocese of  
Canberra & Goulburn

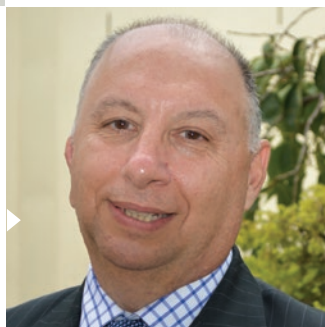


**Sr Catherine Slattery SGS**  
Director of Mission  
Integration,  
Good Samaritan Education



**Mr Ross Fox**  
Executive Director  
NCEC

**Mr John Mula**  
Director, Tasmanian  
Catholic Education Office



**Most Rev Greg O'Kelly SJ**  
Bishop of Port Pirie

**Dr Lee-Anne Perry**  
Executive Director,  
Queensland Catholic  
Education Commission



## Membership of the NCEC Secretariat

**Mr Ross Fox**  
Executive Director  
*(until November 2016)*

**Ms Danielle Cronin**  
Deputy Director; Acting  
Executive Director *(from  
November 2016)*

**Mr John McGrath**  
Senior Education Officer – Faith  
Formation & Religious Education

**Ms Wendy Stamp**  
Executive Officer

**Mr Andrew Mellas**  
Policy Advisor

**Ms Michelle Fitzgerald**  
Senior Policy Officer  
*part-time(Canberra)*

**Dr Darian Naidoo**  
Data and Policy Analyst  
*(until October 2016)*

**Mr Brett Furby**  
Data and Policy Analyst  
*(from September 2016)*

**Mr Gavin Abraham**  
Communications Manager

**Ms Donna Drakeford**  
Executive Assistant  
*(until October 2016)*

**Ms Terri Bichard**  
Executive Assistant  
*(from November 2016)*

**Ms Chris Hayes**  
Admin and Events Officer

# Report on NCEC activities

## NCEC Meetings

**C220** 4 February 2016  
Lancefield, VIC

**C221** 9 March 2016  
Canberra

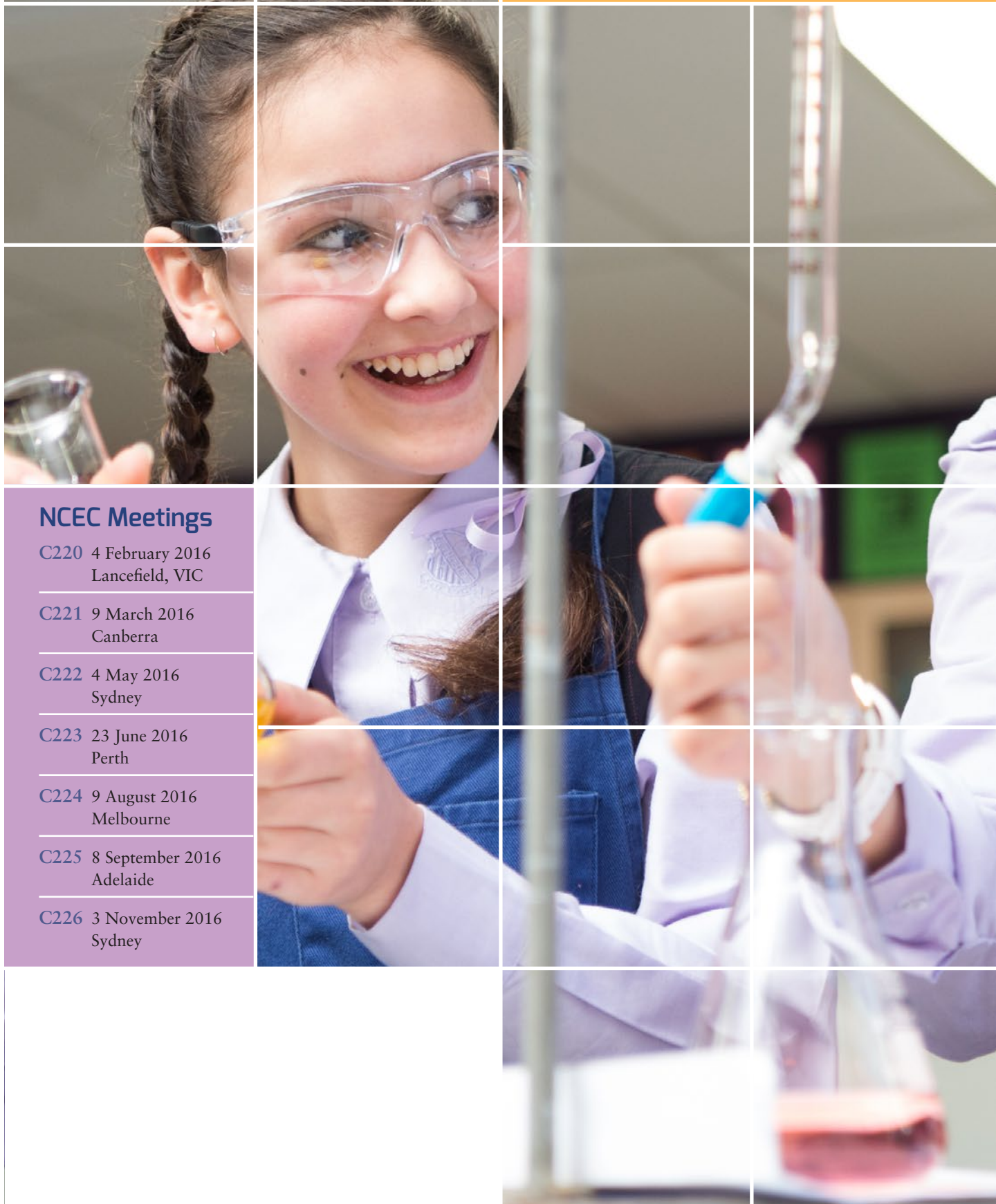
**C222** 4 May 2016  
Sydney

**C223** 23 June 2016  
Perth

**C224** 9 August 2016  
Melbourne

**C225** 8 September 2016  
Adelaide

**C226** 3 November 2016  
Sydney







## Major agenda items for the NCEC in 2016

### Federal Budget 2016-17

The NCEC used its Pre-Budget Submission before the Commonwealth 2016-17 Budget to underline the key priorities facing Catholic education. Those issues were: Funding indexation that provides certainty and keeps paces with schools costs; Capital funding to support Catholic schools' ability to meet growing demand for places; Needs-based funding that reflects the profiles of Catholic schools and students; and Sufficient funding to support the education of students with disability. Following the subsequent Budget, the NCEC welcomed funding certainty for Catholic schools until the end of 2020, after the Coalition Government adopted an indexation rate that better reflects the cost of education than its previous policy of increasing school funding at the rate of the consumer price index. The Government's *Quality Schools, Quality Outcomes* policy, announced in the days before the Federal Budget, outlined a range of other measures to support education in Australia.

### *Your Child. Our Future* policy

In January 2016, the Australian Labor Party announced its plan to support Australian education through its *Your Child. Our Future* policy. The policy would see a future Labor Government restore the levels of funding it had pledged to deliver while in Government following the *Review of Funding for Schooling*, often referred to as the Gonski Review. The NCEC welcomed the commitment

to funding that would keep pace with increases in school costs and support the ongoing provision of high-quality education in Australian schools, including Catholic schools.

### Inquiry into Educational Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students

Following a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs, the NCEC gave evidence at a public hearing in Sydney. Representatives from the Catholic education systems in the Northern Territory, Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia joined NCEC executive director Ross Fox at the hearing, explaining the significant role of Catholic schools in supporting the education of Indigenous students.

### Productivity Commission Review into Evidence Base for Education

The NCEC, after consulting with state and territory Catholic Education Commissions, made a submission to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into the National Education Evidence Base. Catholic education welcomed a commitment to the use of data to inform education policy, saying that such data must be robust, high-quality and have practical relevance.

The NCEC submission said data should be collected to drive educational outcomes and not be collected simply for the sake of gathering more data. The use of an

evidence base in other policy areas, such as health and social welfare, was cited as possible models for how schools, systems and governments can better harness data to support education.

#### NCEC Conference 2016

Almost 1,400 people from Catholic schools, systems and commissions gathered in Perth for the 2016 NCEC Conference, focusing on the theme of “Faith to Lead. Lead to Faith”. Speakers from across Australia and overseas reflected on how that theme can imbue the work of Catholic schools in Australia today and into the future.

The NCEC is deeply indebted to the work of Catholic Education

Western Australia, which oversaw the planning of the Conference and dedicated significant time and resources into its hosting. In addition to educators, the Conference also saw Minister for Education and Training Senator Simon Birmingham and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten address delegates in the lead-up to the 2016 Federal Election.

#### Federal Election 2016

The NCEC worked closely with state and territory Catholic Education Commissions in anticipation of the 2016 Federal Election to inform and engage families and school communities on issues of importance to Catholic education. The Funding Communications Working Group was established to support the preparation of policy-focused material that would supplement work undertaken by

Catholic education in formulating key messages ahead of the election. The NCEC’s advocacy on sustainable and certain funding, capital funding to provide school places, support for students with disability and support for religious freedom were key priorities. The NCEC wrote to the Australian Labor Party and the Coalition to seek answers to questions of importance for Catholic schools and systems. Those responses were provided to families and school communities to ensure they understood how each of the major parties would support education generally and Catholic education specifically.



To meet growing demand,  
dozens of new Catholic  
schools are planned for  
the next five years



### Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

The Truth, Justice and Healing Council was established to coordinate the Catholic Church's response to the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse. The National Catholic Education Commission liaised with the Truth, Justice and Healing Council on issues related to Catholic education during 2016 and will continue to work with the Council as the work of the Royal Commission continues.

### Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

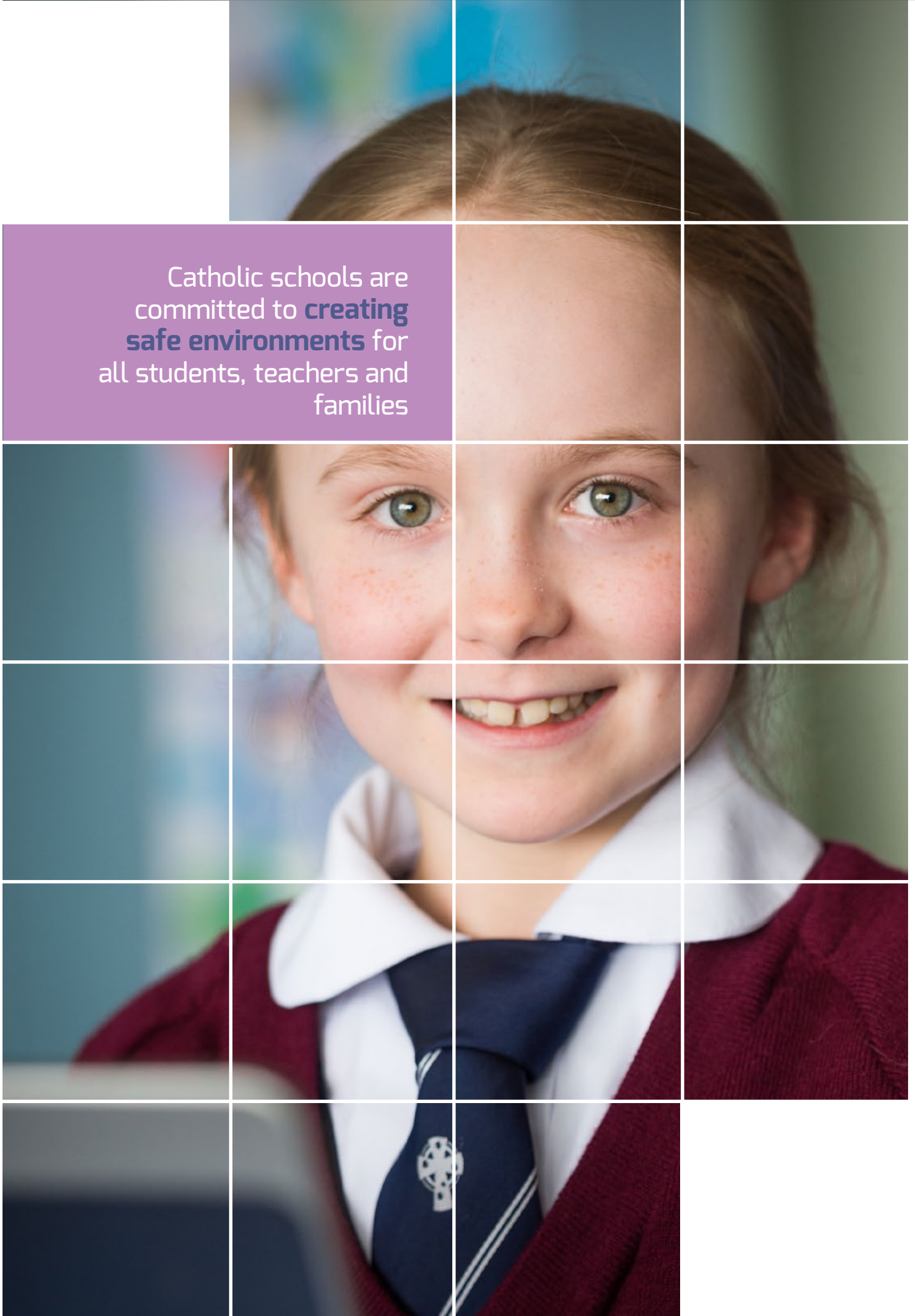
The release of the 2015 PISA results showed that Australian Catholic schools continue to perform well in relation to high-performing countries, but declining results being seen locally and internationally are a cause for concern. PISA assesses the performance of 15-year-old students in maths, reading and science. Analysis of the PISA data found that Australian Catholic school students perform better than students in South Korea, Norway, New Zealand, Japan and Great Britain in some or all of the test domains. But international trends showing declining results were observed in Australian schools, including Catholic schools.

### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data for Students with Disability (NCCD)

The NCEC urged Minister for Education and Training Senator Simon Birmingham and other educational leaders to proceed with caution on the use of the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data to inform funding decisions for students with disability. While Catholic education believes there is a strong case for a consistent approach to supporting the education of students with disability, the NCEC agrees that the data is currently not robust enough to be used as the sole determinant of funding for students with disability.



Catholic schools are  
committed to **creating  
safe environments** for  
all students, teachers and  
families





# Standing Committees and Working Parties

## Operations Standing Committee

Ross Fox – Chair  
Michael Avery  
Brian Croke  
Stephen Elder  
Tim McDonald  
John Mula  
Moira Najdecki  
Helen O'Brien  
Lee-Anne Perry

## Finance, Audit and Risk Standing Committee

Stephen Elder – Chair  
Greg Crafter  
Ross Fox  
Moira Najdecki  
Helen O'Brien  
Danielle Cronin – executive officer

## Strategy and Policy Standing Committee

Ross Fox – Chair  
Pam Betts  
Greg Crafter  
Professor Greg Craven  
Stephen Elder  
Mark Tannock  
Wendy Stamp – executive officer

## Faith Formation and Religious Education Standing Committee

Sr Elizabeth Dodds RSC – Chair  
Laura Avery (NT)  
Audrey Brown (VIC)  
Mark Elliott (QLD)  
Sandra Harvey (TAS)  
Patrick McGrath (ACT)  
Debra Sayce (WA)  
Ian Smith (NSW) – until August 2016  
Anthony Cleary (NSW) – from November 2016  
Michael Vial (SA)  
Siobhan Allen  
Monica Dutton  
Professor Br David Hall FMS  
Martin Scroope  
John McGrath – executive officer

## Data Strategy Working Party

Brian Croke (NSW) – Chair  
Danielle Cronin (NCEC)  
John Hills (TAS)  
Jeremy Howley (NT)  
Malcolm McDougall (QLD)  
Ray Moritz (SA)  
Reuben Norris (WA)  
Anna Rados (VIC)  
Crichton Smith (NSW)  
Tim Smith (ACT)  
Darian Naidoo (NCEC) – executive officer

## Funding Analysis Expert Group

Ross Fox (NCEC) – Chair  
Cyrus Li (QLD)  
Malcolm McDougall (QLD)  
Bruce Phillips (VIC)  
Darian Naidoo (NCEC) – executive officer

## Funding Communications Working Group

Danielle Cronin (NCEC) – Chair  
Monica Conway (SA)  
Jim Hanna (NSW)  
Trish Miller (WA) – until January 2016  
Ed Simons (WA) – from March 2016  
John Mula (TAS)  
Carmel Nash (Catholic School Parents Australia)  
Michael Pountney (VIC)  
Tim Smith (ACT)  
Chris Woolley (QLD)  
Gavin Abraham (NCEC) – executive officer

## Online Assessment Working Group

Liam Garvey (QLD) – Chair  
Gavin Abraham (NCEC)  
Christine Butterworth (TAS)  
Danielle Cronin (NCEC)  
Karen Ferrante (NSW)  
Michael Haigh (VIC)  
Jeremy Howley (NT)  
Ray Moritz (SA)  
Rosalie Nott (NSW)  
Greg Parrish (CEnet)  
Philip Pettit (ACT)  
Jane Slattery (QLD)  
Pina Tarricone (WA)  
Wendy Stamp (NCEC) – executive officer

# Representation on national bodies

12

The Commission recognises the significance of NCEC representation on national education bodies and appreciates the time and effort expended by its many nominated representatives.

During 2016, the following officers represented NCEC on committees and working parties or as contact persons for the Catholic sector in various national education policy areas and projects. To inform their national representative work, these representatives often establish contact networks with colleagues with relevant responsibilities and expertise throughout Australian Catholic education. The NCEC also acknowledges the contributions these contact network officers make to the development of national policy.

## Key to representative's employers

BCE	Brisbane Catholic Education
CECNSW	Catholic Education Commission New South Wales
CEO	Catholic Education Office
CE CG	Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CEM	Catholic Education Melbourne
CEO NT	Catholic Education Office, Northern Territory
CEO TAS	Catholic Education Office, Tasmania
CEWA	Catholic Education Western Australia
CESA	Catholic Education South Australia
CSO	Catholic Schools Office
NCEC	National Catholic Education Commission
QCEC	Queensland Catholic Education Commission

## Acronym list for National Bodies

ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics

ACARA – Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

ACECQA – Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority

ACNC – Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

AESOC – Australian Education Senior Officials Committee

AEF – Asia Education Foundation

AGDET – Australian Government Department of Education and Training

DSG – Data Strategy Group

ESA – Education Services Australia

JWG – Joint Working Group

SPG – Schools Policy Group



National Body	Committee	NCEC Representative	Organisation
ABS	National School Statistics Collection Working Group	Mr Ray Moritz	CESA
ACARA	Board	Dr Tim McDonald	CEWA
ACARA	F-12 Curriculum Reference Group	Ms Mandy Anderson	QCEC
ACARA	Finance Data Working Group	Mr David Wilkes	CEM
ACARA	Marker Quality Team: NAPLAN Writing	Ms Karen Ferrante	CECNSW
ACARA	NAP Communications Group	Mr Liam Garvey	QCEC
ACARA	NAP ICT Literacy Working Group	Mr Liam Garvey	QCEC
ACARA	National Assessment, Data, Analysis and Reporting Reference Group (NADAR)	Ms Rosalie Nott	CECNSW
ACARA	National Testing Working Group	Ms Karen Ferrante	CECNSW
ACARA	Student Attendance Data Working Group (NADAR Sub-Group)	Ms Rosalie Nott	CECNSW
ACARA	Students with Disability Advisory Group	Ms Geraldine Gray	CECNSW
ACECQA	Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority forum	Ms Jane Slattery	QCEC
ACNC	ACNC Sector User Group	Ms Danielle Cronin	NCEC
AEF	Asia Education Foundation Board	Ms Helen O'Brien	CESA
AESOC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Advisory Group (Member)	Ms Delsie Lillyst	CEM
AESOC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Advisory Group (Member)	Ms Sharon Cooke	CSO Armidale
AESOC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Advisory Group (Observer)	Dr Roma Aloisi	CESA
AESOC	Copyright Advisory Group	Mr Ian Baker	CECNSW
AESOC	Data Strategy Group (Member)	Ms Danielle Cronin	NCEC
AESOC	Data Strategy Group (Alternate Member)	Dr Brian Croke	CECNSW
AESOC DSG	Early Childhood Data Strategy Sub-Group	Mr Crichton Smith	CECNSW
AESOC DSG	English Language Proficiency Working Group	Ms Maryanne Fleming	BCE
AESOC DSG	Measurement of Student Wellbeing and Engagement Working Group	Mr Peter Grace	CECNSW
AESOC DSG	National Government School Finances Statistics Group	Dr Darian Naidoo	NCEC
AESOC DSG	National School Interoperability Sub-Group (NSIP)	Mr Michael Haigh	CEM
AESOC	Education Chief Information Officers Group	Mr Michael Haigh	CEM
AESOC	Online Assessment Working Group (OAWG)	Mr Liam Garvey	QCEC
AESOC OAWG	NAPLAN Online Project Managers Working Group	Mr Liam Garvey	QCEC

National Body	Committee	NCEC Representative	Organisation
AESOC	Schools Policy Group (Member)	Mr Ross Fox Ms Danielle Cronin	NCEC (until November) NCEC (from November)
AESOC	Schools Policy Group (Alternate Member)	Dr Lee-Anne Perry	QCEC
AESOC SPG	Countering Violent Extremism	Dr Lina di Paolo Mr Tony McArthur Mr John Percy Ms Mandy Anderson Mr Frank Caristo	CEM CECNSW QCEC QCEC Cerdon College, CEO Parramatta
AESOC SPG	Reducing Violence against Women and Children project	Ms Mandy Anderson	QCEC
AESOC SPG	Respectful Relationships	Mr John Percy	QCEC
AESOC SPG	Safe and Supportive School Communities	Mr Dennis Torpy	CEM
AESOC SPG	Schools Vocational Learning and Training Working Group	Mr Bob Knight	QCEC
AGDET	Coding across the Curriculum	Ms Robyn Finch	Rockhampton CEO
AGDET	International Assessments Joint National Advisory Committee	Ms Rosalie Nott	CECNSW
AGDET	Mathematics by Inquiry Stakeholder Reference Group	Ms Valerie Everist	CEM
AGDET	OECD 2018 Teaching and Learning International Survey National Advisory Committee	Mr John Percy	QCEC
AGDET	Students at Risk of Radicalisation Project	Dr Lina di Paolo	CEM
Education Council	Joint Working Group on Students with Disability (Member)	Ms Danielle Cronin	NCEC
Education Council	Joint Working Group on Students with Disability (Alternate Member)	Mr Tim Smith	CE CG
Education Council	Joint Working Group Quality Assurance Sub-Group	Ms Judy Connell	CEM
ESA	Board member	Dr Brian Croke Mr John Mula	CECNSW (until August) CEO TAS (from November)
ESA	edu.au Domain Administration Committee	Mr Michael Haigh	CEM
ESA	My Future Working Group	Mr Gerard Delaney	CECNSW
ESA	National Online Learning Advisory Group	Mr Michael Haigh Dr Phil Pettit	CEM CE CG
ESA	Expert Group in Managing Student Identity	Mr Greg Parrish	CEnet



# Summary Statistics

15

In 2015, governments  
provided **\$7.9 billion**  
**in funding** to support  
students in Catholic schools

# Summary Statistics

16

Summary statistics data are from the NCEC Australian Catholic Education Statistics database and the Australian Government Department of Education and Training Annual School Census and Financial Questionnaire.

Funding and expenditure data is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority and the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

*Note that totals may vary to the sum of the parts due to rounding.*

Catholic schools in Australia, 2016	2016	% of schools	Change from 2015
Primary schools	1,247	72	14
Secondary schools	341	20	-8
Combined primary/secondary	133	8	-4
Special	11	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>

Students in Australian Catholic schools, 2016	Students	% of students	Change from 2015
Primary students	404,268	53	924
Secondary students	361,395	47	605
<b>Total</b>	<b>765,663</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,529</b>

Specific student groups in Australian Catholic schools, 2016	Students	% of students	Change from 2015
Students with disabilities	35,803	4.7	1,159
Indigenous students	21,798	2.8	903
Full fee-paying overseas students	1,434	0.2	206
Boarding students (54 boarding schools)	5,783	0.8	-284

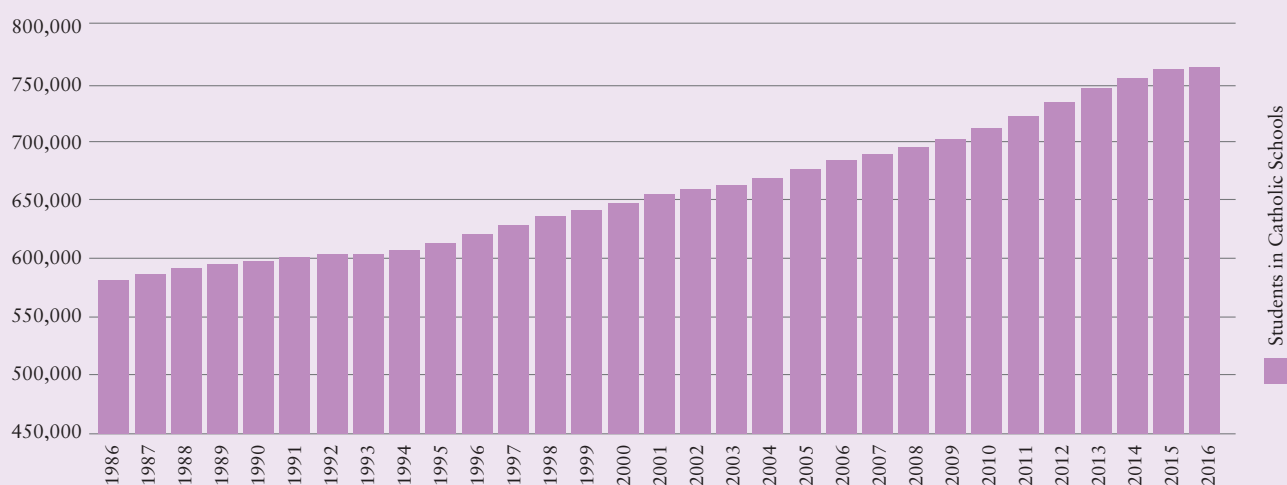
*Unless otherwise stated, statistics relate to systemic and non-systemic Catholic schools. Combined schools have students in both primary and secondary year levels.*

## Enrolment trends in Australian Catholic schools

### Student enrolments

There were 765,663 students in Australian Catholic schools in 2016. From 2015 to 2016, the number grew by 1,529.

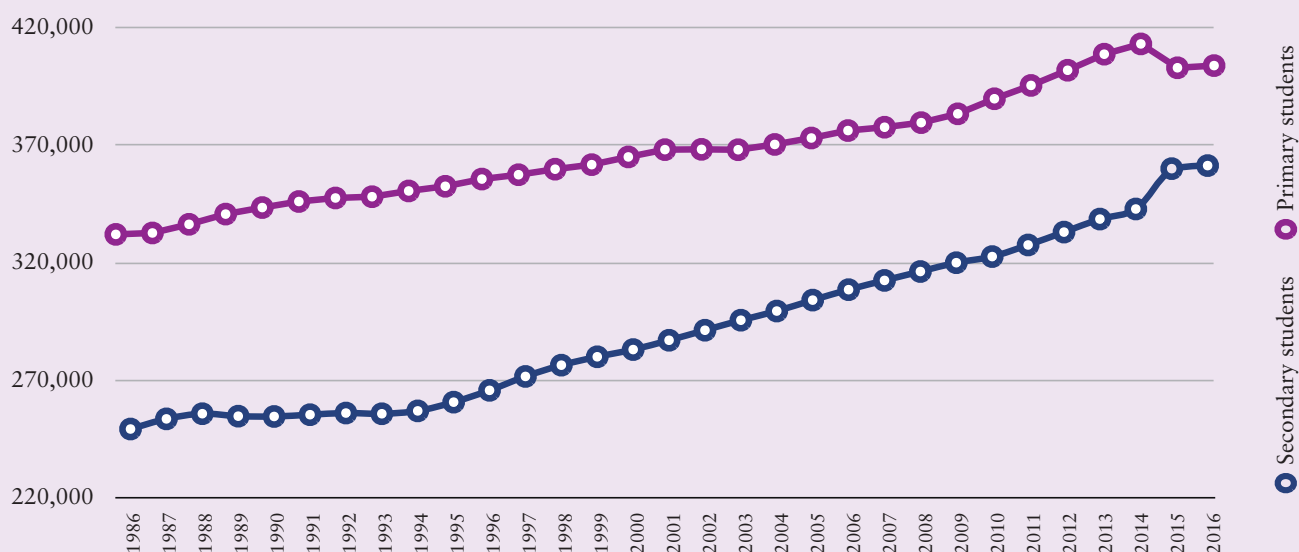
**Graph 1: Students in Catholic schools, Australia, 1986-2016**



### Student enrolment growth

Total enrolments continue to increase in Australian Catholic schools. In 2016, enrolments grew more slowly than in previous years. In 2015, because of a change in the grade classification of primary schools in some states, primary enrolments fell while secondary enrolments increased. Since 1985, 62 per cent of the growth in Catholic school enrolments has been in secondary students, which have increased by 118,413, while primary enrolments have increased by 72,245.

**Graph 2: Students in Catholic schools, Primary and Secondary, Australia, 1986-2016**



\* Differences in primary and secondary students from 2014-2015, in part, reflect changing definitions of primary and secondary students in Western Australia and Queensland.



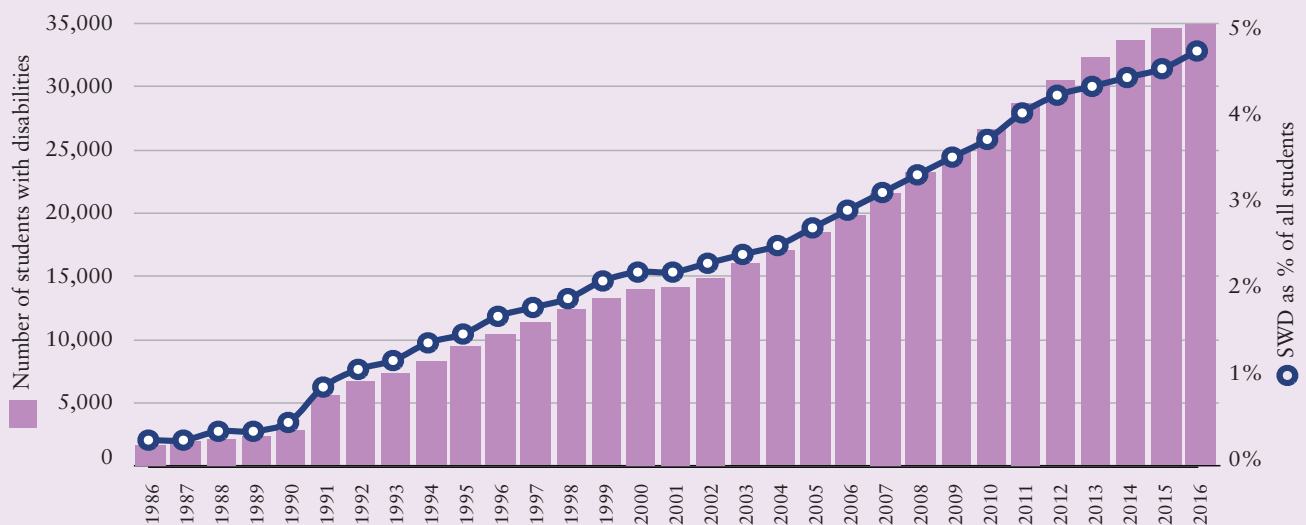
# Summary Statistics

18

## Students with disabilities

In 2016, there were 35,803 students with disabilities in Catholic schools, an increase of 1,159 from the previous year. Students with disabilities now represent 4.7 per cent of students in Catholic schools.

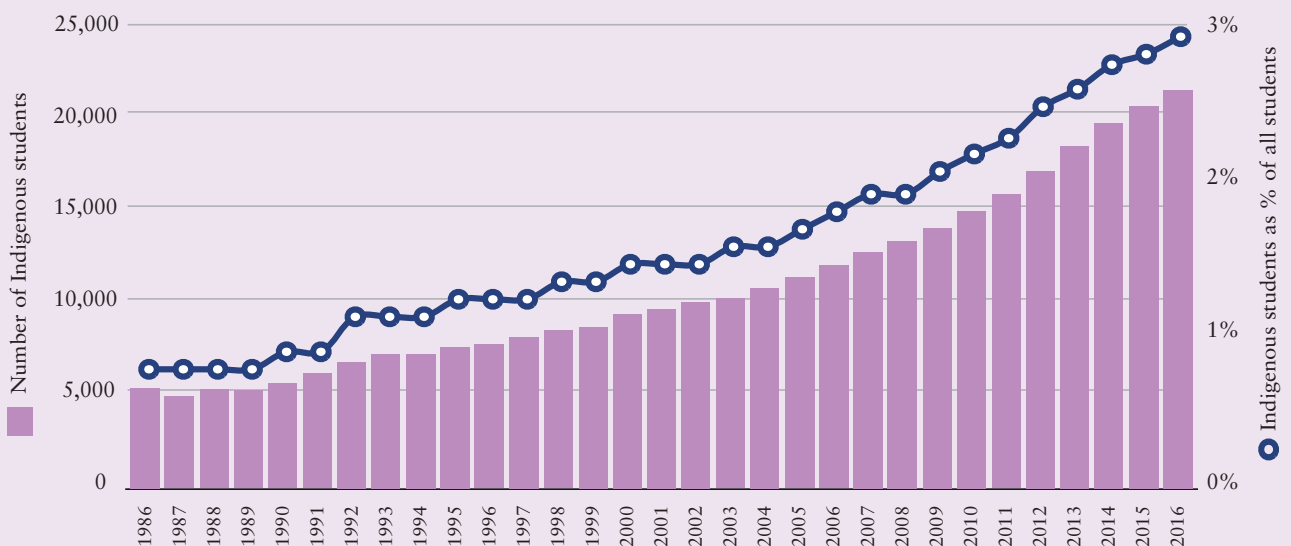
**Graph 3: Students with disabilities in Catholic schools, Australia, 1986-2016**



## Indigenous students

There were 21,798 Indigenous students in Catholic schools in 2016, which represented 2.8 per cent of all students. This was an increase of 903 students from the previous year.

**Graph 4: Indigenous students in Catholic schools, Australia, 1986-2016**



Staff (full-time equivalent) in Australian Catholic schools, 2016	2016	% of staff	Change from 2015
Teachers (including Principals)	53,059	71	1,064
Non-teaching staff	21,418	29	798
<b>Total staff (full-time equivalent)</b>	<b>74,478</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,864</b>

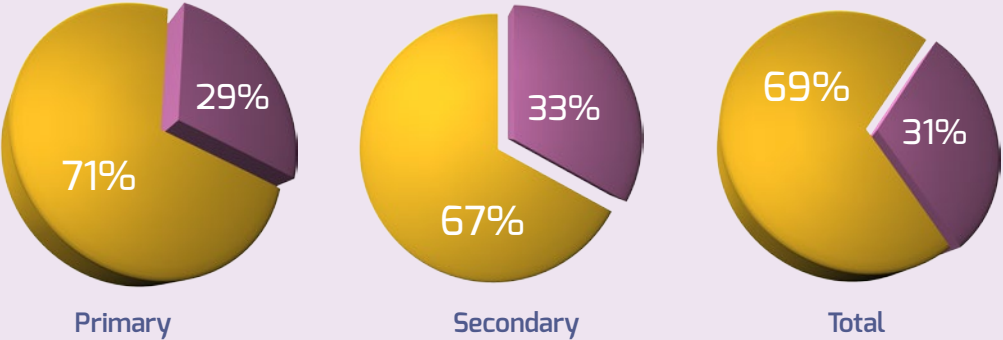
Teachers (including Principals, full-time equivalent), 2016	Teaching staff	% of teachers	Change from 2015
Primary	24,325	46	548
Secondary	28,583	54	511
Special	152	<1	5
Female	37,439	71	894
Male	15,620	29	170
Primary teachers			
Female	20,293	83	515
Male	4,032	17	33
Secondary teachers			
Female	17,030	60	382
Male	11,552	40	130
Special school teachers			
Female	116	76	-3
Male	36	24	7

Student/staff ratios (full-time equivalent), 2016*		
	Primary	Secondary
Student / teaching staff	16.6	12.6
Student / total staff	12.1	8.8

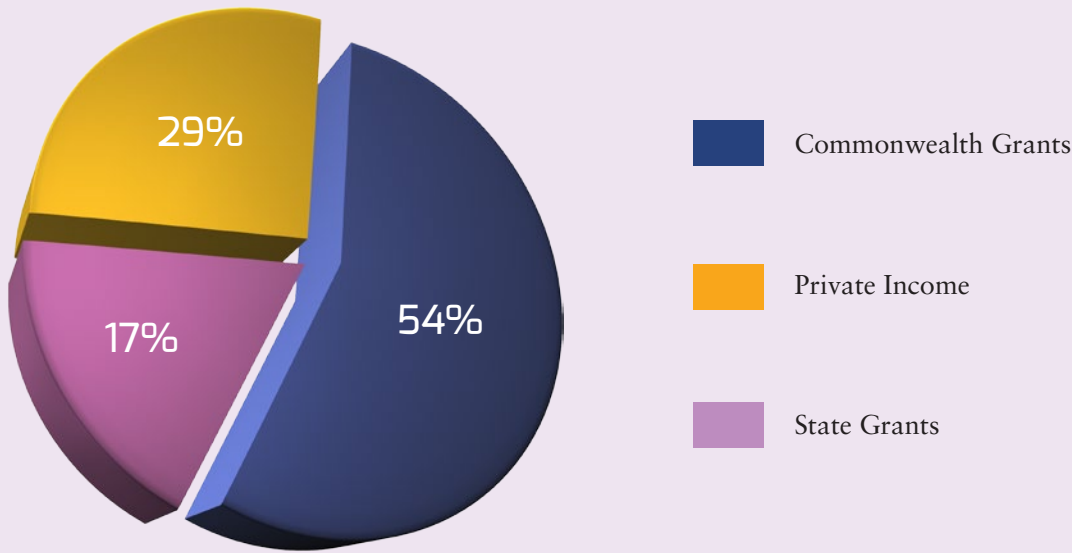
\*Calculation does not include students and teachers in special schools

# Summary Statistics

Percentage of Catholic and Other-than-Catholic Primary and Secondary Students



Sources of funding, 2015 (Calendar year)





## Summary statistics

### Income and expenditure (\$ per student), 2015

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar. Totals may vary to the sum of the parts due to rounding. Total Net Recurrent Income is the sum of all government and private income minus deductions (deductions not reported).

#### Catholic primary schools

	AUST
Commonwealth Government Recurrent	7,372
State Government Recurrent	2,245
Private Fees and Charges	1,708
Other Private Income	456
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,781</b>
<b>Net Recurrent Income</b>	<b>11,231</b>
Recurrent expenditure	10,511
Capital expenditure	1,083
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>11,594</b>
Loans at the start of the year	2,125
Loans at the end of the year	2,200
<b>Annual movement in borrowing</b>	<b>75</b>

#### Catholic secondary schools

	AUST
Commonwealth Government Recurrent	8,735
State Government Recurrent	2,623
Private Fees and Charges	4,999
Other Private Income	650
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>17,007</b>
<b>Net Recurrent Income</b>	<b>15,640</b>
Recurrent expenditure	14,711
Capital expenditure	2,507
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>17,219</b>
Loans at the start of the year	4,098
Loans at the end of the year	4,409
<b>Annual movement in borrowing</b>	<b>311</b>

#### Catholic combined schools

	AUST
Commonwealth Government Recurrent	7,679
State Government Recurrent	2,638
Private Fees and Charges	6,862
Other Private Income	922
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,102</b>
<b>Net Recurrent Income</b>	<b>16,333</b>
Recurrent expenditure	15,840
Capital expenditure	2,644
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>18,484</b>
Loans at the start of the year	5,237
Loans at the end of the year	5,214
<b>Annual movement in borrowing</b>	<b>-22</b>

#### All Catholic schools

	AUST
Commonwealth Government Recurrent	7,958
State Government Recurrent	2,468
Private Fees and Charges	3,744
Other Private Income	613
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14,784</b>
<b>Net Recurrent Income</b>	<b>13,736</b>
Recurrent expenditure	12,930
Capital expenditure	1,864
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>14,794</b>
Loans at the start of the year	3,360
Loans at the end of the year	3,507
<b>Annual movement in borrowing</b>	<b>146</b>

# Financial Report

for the Year Ended 31  
December 2016











# National Catholic Education Commission's Financial Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) submits their financial report for the year ended 31 December 2016.

## Commission members

The NCEC is appointed by the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education. The NCEC consists of 16 members representing various aspects of Catholic education.

## Principal activities

The dominant activity of the NCEC during 2016 was policy development, analysis, advocacy, and development of the relationship between Catholic education and the Australian Government. This included collaboration with state and territory Catholic education commissions and advocacy in relation to the Australian Government school funding arrangements under the Australian Education Act. In 2016 the Department of Education and Training initiated a review of the main accountability to Australian Government, the Financial Questionnaire. A Senior Education Officer, Faith Formation and Religious Education was employed and the NCEC Standing Committee for Faith Formation and Religious Education initiated. Significant effort was put into analysis of future school funding policy options for state and territory Catholic education commissions.

## Operating result

There was a net operating surplus of \$143,391 for 2016 (2015: \$87,077).

Signed on behalf of the NCEC.



The Hon Greg Crafter AO  
Chair



Danielle Cronin  
Acting Executive Director

2 May 2017





In 2015, Catholic school  
parents paid  
**\$3.3 billion**  
in fees to support their  
children's education





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## Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Members of the National Catholic Education Commission

In relation to our audit of the financial report of the National Catholic Education Commission for the financial year ended 31 December 2016, and in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 60-C of the *Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012*, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012* or any applicable code of professional conduct.

Ernst & Young

Anthony Ewan  
Partner

2 May 2017

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

28

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue	2	4,318,108	2,808,459
Employee expenses		(1,706,512)	(1,642,129)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3	(76,864)	(83,355)
Rent expense		(140,354)	(144,608)
NCEC Conference and meeting expenses		(1,834,646)	(451,682)
Outsourcing expenses		(37,500)	(55,864)
Office and other expenses		(116,952)	(131,613)
Funding research projects		(261,889)	(212,131)
Profit for the year		143,391	87,077
Other comprehensive income		–	–
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>143,391</b>	<b>87,077</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,817,287	1,928,895
Trade and other receivables	5	208,274	71,038
Other financial assets	6	1,227,249	1,200,000
Other current assets	7	43,405	72,047
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>3,296,216</b>	<b>3,271,980</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	156,382	216,148
Intangible assets	9	14,215	22,025
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>170,597</b>	<b>238,173</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>3,466,813</b>	<b>3,510,153</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	412,679	607,026
Provisions	11	235,304	216,607
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>647,983</b>	<b>823,633</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	11	44,258	55,339
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>692,241</b>	<b>878,972</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>2,774,572</b>	<b>2,631,181</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		1,413,881	1,515,331
Reserves		1,360,691	1,115,850
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>2,774,572</b>	<b>2,631,181</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



## Statement of Changes in Equity

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

30

	Retained Earnings \$	General Reserve \$	TOTAL \$
Balance at 1 January 2015	1,428,254	1,115,850	2,544,104
Comprehensive Income for the period	87,077	–	87,077
Balance at 31 December 2015	1,515,331	1,115,850	2,631,181
Transfers for 2016	(244,841)	244,841	–
Balance after transfers	1,270,490	1,360,691	2,631,181
Comprehensive Income for the period	143,391	–	143,391
Balance at 31 December 2016	1,413,881	1,360,691	2,774,572

## Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from subsidies and other income		2,741,892	2,770,047
Interest received		52,138	34,690
GST collected/(remitted) from/(to) the ATO		(1,481)	12,306
Payments to employees and suppliers		(2,681,584)	(2,504,088)
Net cash provided by operating activities		110,965	312,955
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(9,288)	(5,885)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from related party		2,277,982	2,270,488
Repayment to related party		(2,464,018)	(2,191,964)
Net (decrease)increase in current account		(186,036)	78,524
Net cash from investing and financing activities		(195,324)	72,639
Net (decrease)increase in cash held		(84,359)	385,594
Cash at beginning of the financial year		3,128,895	2,743,301
Cash at end of the financial year	4	3,044,536	3,128,895

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

32

## Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The NCEC is an unincorporated body of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) reporting through the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education (BCCE) and was established in 1974. It is not incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001. As a not-for-profit entity the NCEC is registered with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission*.

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements Tier 2 and the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the Commission have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. The accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the statements are as follows:

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 30 March 2017 by the Commissioners.

### Accounting Policies

#### a. Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised, as the Commission is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

#### b. Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement value.

Inventories acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration are valued at the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition.

#### c. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost and are depreciated over their useful lives on either a straight-line or basis diminishing value basis. Depreciation commences from the time the asset is available for its intended use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Plant and Equipment	10 – 67%
Leasehold Improvements	20%

Property, plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis, less depreciation and impairment losses.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised immediately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### d. Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset (but not the legal ownership) are transferred to the entity, are classified as finance leases.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the entity will obtain ownership of the asset.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as expenses on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

## e. Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and investments are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset (or group of related assets) is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and the present value of the asset's future cash flows discounted at the expected rate of return. If the estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of a class of asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

## f. Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the Commission's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs.

Contributions are made by the Commission to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as an expense when incurred.

## g. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

## h. Revenue

Revenue from the Bishops Conference Subsidy and Project income is recognised when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

## i. Economic Dependency

The Commission is dependent upon the financial support of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the Commission has no reason to believe the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will not continue to support the Commission.

## j. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables stated are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

## k. Intangibles

Software and websites are recorded at cost. Software and websites have a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Software has an estimated useful life of three years and websites three to five years. It is assessed annually for impairment.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

34

## l. Trade and Other Payables

Trade payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the company that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. They are recognised at their transaction price. Trade payables are subject to normal credit terms (30–60 days) and do not bear interest.

## m. Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by accounting standards or as a result of changes in accounting policy.

## n. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from state and territory Catholic Education Commissions. Receivables expected to be collected within twelve months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

## o. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

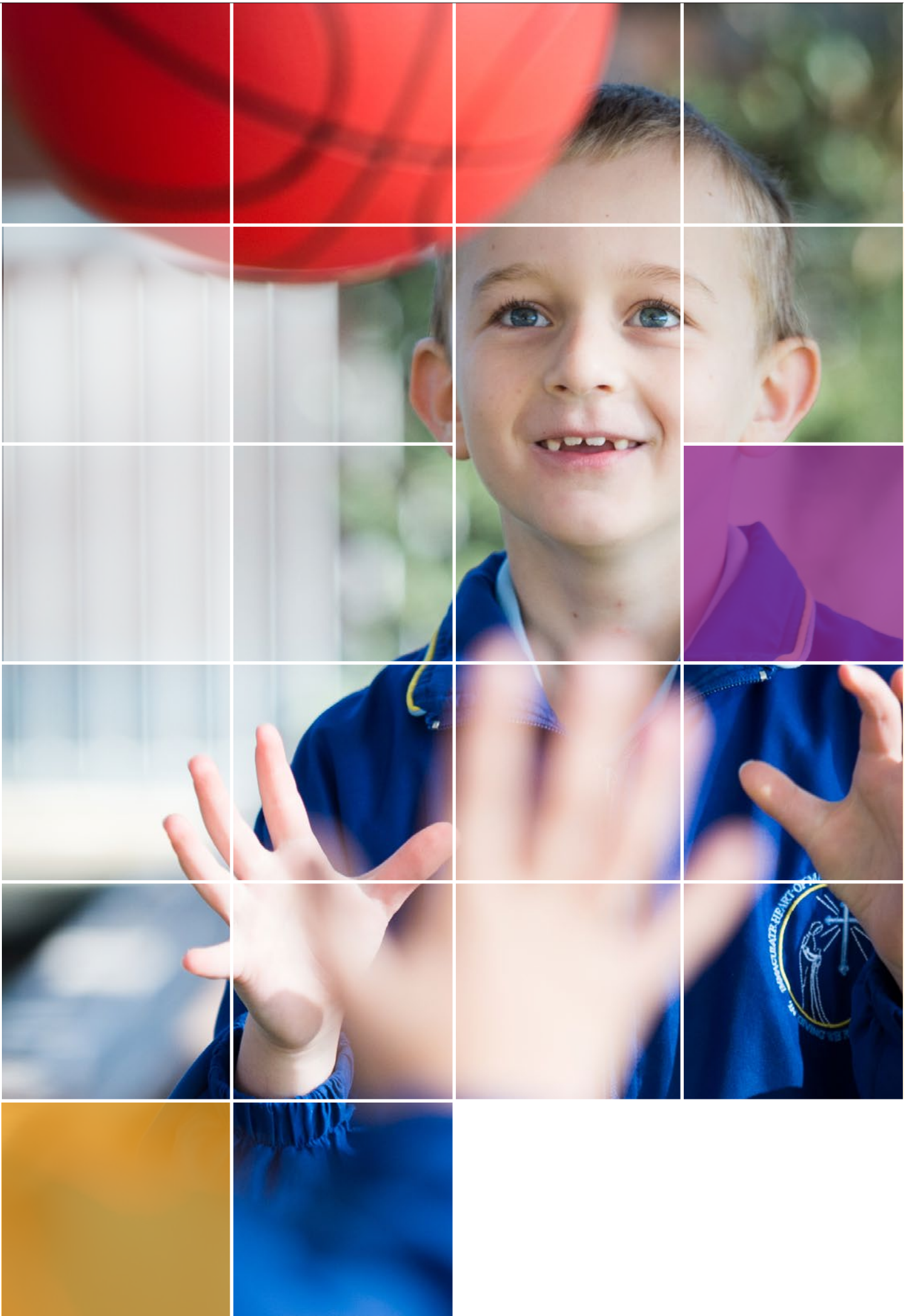
The Commission evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Commission.

### *Impairment*

The Commission assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Commission that may lead to impairment of assets. Should an impairment exist, the determination of the recoverable amount of the asset may require incorporation of a number of key estimates. No impairment indicators were present at 31 December 2016.

## p. Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued but not yet effective

The Australian Accounting Standards Board has issued new and amended accounting standards and interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. It is anticipated that the new requirements will have no material impact on future reporting periods.





# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

36

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>Note 2: Revenue</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
- Bishops conference subsidy	2,740,369	2,568,000
- Bishops reserve	–	200,000
	<u>2,740,369</u>	<u>2,768,000</u>
<b>Other Income</b>		
- Interest received	57,369	38,412
- NCEC 2016 Conference Income	<u>1,518,848</u>	<u>–</u>
- Other	<u>1,522</u>	<u>2,047</u>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>4,318,108</u>	<u>2,808,459</u>

## Note 3: Profit

<b>a. Expenses:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	<u>76,864</u>	<u>83,355</u>
Auditor remuneration		
- audit services	9,000	8,500
- other services	2,309	4,000
<b>Total auditor remuneration</b>	<u>11,309</u>	<u>12,500</u>

## Note 4: Cash and cash equivalents

Cash with Diocesan Development Fund	1,817,283	1,928,882
Cash on hand	4	13
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>1,817,287</u>	<u>1,928,895</u>

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are made up as follows:

Cash with Diocesan Development Fund and on hand	1,817,287	1,928,895
Term Deposit	1,227,249	1,200,000
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents as per Statement of Cash Flows</b>	<u>3,044,536</u>	<u>3,128,895</u>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

37

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Note 5: Trade and other receivables</b>		
CURRENT		
Trade debtors	185,383	49,627
GST receivable	22,891	21,411
	<u>208,274</u>	<u>71,038</u>
<b>Note 6: Other financial assets</b>		
Unsecured		
Term Deposit	<u>1,227,249</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>
<b>Note 7: Other current assets</b>		
Prepayments	<u>43,405</u>	<u>72,047</u>
<b>Note 8: Property, plant and equipment</b>		
Plant and Equipment – at cost	136,778	127,490
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(89,940)</u>	<u>(63,233)</u>
	<u>46,838</u>	<u>64,257</u>
Leasehold Improvements – at cost	211,735	211,735
Less accumulated amortisation	<u>(102,190)</u>	<u>(59,844)</u>
	<u>109,545</u>	<u>151,891</u>
Total plant, equipment and leasehold improvements	<u>156,383</u>	<u>216,148</u>
<b>Note 9: Intangible assets</b>		
Computer Software – at cost	207,743	207,743
Less accumulated amortisation	<u>(193,528)</u>	<u>(185,718)</u>
Net carrying value	<u>14,215</u>	<u>22,025</u>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

38

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Note 10: Trade and other payables</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Current Account – Catholic Education Commission, NSW	335,680	521,717
Accrued expenses	9,000	8,500
Trade creditors	21,658	8,646
PAYG payable	31,707	49,530
Employee benefits	14,634	18,633
	<u>412,679</u>	<u>607,026</u>

The Current Account – Catholic Education Commission, NSW is an interest-free related party balance, payable on issue of an invoice.

## Note 11: Provison

<b>CURRENT</b>		
Annual Leave	63,119	94,060
Long Service Leave	172,185	122,547
	<u>235,304</u>	<u>216,607</u>
<b>NON CURRENT</b>		
Long Service Leave	<u>44,258</u>	<u>55,339</u>

## Note 12: Events after Balance Sheet Date

There have been no events subsequent to reporting date, which require disclosure in the financial statements.

## Note 13: Capital Management

The Commission controls the capital of the NCEC to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund operations. The Commission is responsible to form the overall risk management strategy which includes a risk management policy and framework and policies covering investment, reserves and financial delegations.

The Commission's capital consists of financial liabilities, supported by financial assets.

The Commission effectively manages the Commission's capital by assessing the Commission's financial risks and responding to changes in these risks and in the market. These responses may include the consideration of debt levels.

The Commission does not have a formal policy on capital management and gearing ratios.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

39

## Note 14: Capital and Leasing Commitments

### Operating Lease Commitments

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Payable – minimum lease payments		
- not later than 1 year	153,907	148,158
- later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	188,548	342,455
	<u>342,455</u>	<u>490,613</u>

- a. The property lease commitments are non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements with a five year term. The NCEC has two 5 year extensions available should they wish to extend the initial 5 year term. Increases in lease commitments may occur in line with the consumer price index (CPI).
- b. The operating lease includes a rental agreement for a photocopier. It is a 5 year lease.

## Note 15: Reserves

### a. General Reserve \$885,691

These funds are to be used for organisational capacity building such as staff development, research and other projects. This will allow NCEC the flexibility to move promptly to deal with any emergency or rapidly emerging policy issues.

### b. Employee Entitlements Reserve \$300,000

These funds are to be used for future liability with respect to employee entitlements such as annual and other leave.

### c. Capital Replacement Reserve \$75,000

These funds are to be used for the replacement and modernisation of office equipment and systems.

### d. National Conference Reserve \$100,000

These funds will provide seed funding for the quinquennial NCEC Conference.

## Note 16: Contingent Liabilities and Assets

At the date of this report, there were no contingent liabilities or assets.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

40

## Note 17: Commission Details

The office of the Commission is:

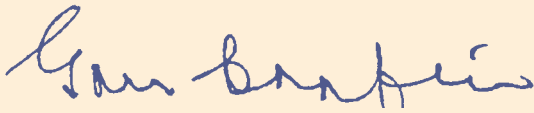
Level 3, 156 Gloucester Street  
Sydney, NSW 2000

## National Catholic Education Commission Declaration by Commissioners

In the Commissioners opinion:

- (a) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the National Catholic Education Commission is able to pay all its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- (b) The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.



.....  
The Hon Greg Crafter AO, Chair, NCEC



.....  
Mr Stephen Elder, Chair, NCEC Finance Audit and Risk Standing Committee



.....  
Mrs Danielle Cronin, Acting Executive Director, NCEC

Dated this **2nd** day of **May** 2017





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## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of the National Catholic Education Commission

### Report on the Financial Report

#### 1.1 Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the National Catholic Education Commission (Commission), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2016, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the members declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Commission is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Commission's financial position as at 31 December 2016 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### 1.2 Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Commission in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### 1.3 Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the members' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### 1.4 Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The members are responsible for the other information. The other information is the members' report accompanying the financial report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### 1.5 Responsibilities of the Members for the Financial Report

The members of the Commission are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The members' responsibility also includes such internal control as the members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the members are responsible for assessing the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members either intend to liquidate the Commission or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### 1.6 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.



44

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Commission to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We communicate with the members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ernst &amp; Young

Anthony Ewan  
Partner  
CANBERRA

2 May 2017



## Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Bishops conference subsidy	2,740,369	2,568,000
Bishops NCEC Reserve	–	200,000
NCEC 2016 Conference Income	1,518,848	–
Interest	57,369	38,412
Other	1,522	2,047
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,318,108</b>	<b>2,808,459</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Annual Leave	93,448	59,374
Audit and accounting fees	11,309	12,500
Bookkeeping	37,500	51,435
Books, periodicals and subscriptions	13,943	11,978
Cleaning	3,004	4,943
Copying and printing	28,613	26,885
Depreciation	76,864	83,355
Electricity	4,164	6,224
Equipment	1,836	8,764
Gifts	2,532	3,035
ICT Support	5,120	11,542
IT Consultants	6,776	6,863
Indoor Plant Hire	4,549	856
Insurance	5,081	6,797
Legal Costs	–	4,429
Long Service Leave	38,557	43,538
Meetings	404,758	451,682
NCEC 2016 Conference expenses	1,429,888	–
Postage and freight	4,432	4,270
Projects	261,889	212,131
Rent	140,354	144,608
Repairs and maintenance	3,765	1,660
Security Shredding and Archiving	5,038	4,634
Superannuation	134,047	127,821
Telecommunications	16,650	20,083
Other expenses	141	579
Wages	1,440,459	1,411,396
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>4,174,717</b>	<b>2,721,382</b>
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>143,391</b>	<b>87,077</b>



# Appendices



# Appendices

## A. NCEC terms of reference and statutes

### Terms of Reference

1. The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) is commissioned by and responsible to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) through the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education (BCCE) for developing, enunciating and implementing policy at the national level for the Church's work in Catholic schools.
2. Education in Catholic schools shall be the major focus of the NCEC's deliberations and work. NCEC shall maintain active links with other vital aspects of the Church's educational endeavour, particularly in relation to Catholic children attending state and independent schools, and Catholic tertiary education.
3. In fulfilment of its commission from ACBC, NCEC shall:
  - 3.1 give systematic witness to a commitment to Christ and to the truths and values of his Gospel and his Church within contemporary ecclesial, educational, social and political milieux;
  - 3.2 develop and articulate a rationale for the continuing contribution of Catholic schools to the common good, and for the special nature and mission of Catholic schools;
  - 3.3 develop and articulate a rationale for the rights of Catholic parents and their children attending Catholic schools to a just allocation of public monies from the Commonwealth and State Governments to fund their education and to maximise access to Catholic schools by Catholic families;
  - 3.4 build on and enhance the work of State/Territory Catholic Education Commissions, and diocesan and religious order structures and services in Catholic schools, particularly in the areas of Faith Formation and Religious Education, ensuring at all times that the principle of subsidiarity is given proper precedence;
  - 3.5 work to extend, enhance and consolidate collaboration at the national level to enable the Church to respond effectively to emerging national school policies and trends: recurrent, capital and special purpose funding; curriculum (including Religious Education); accountability and governance; school quality; school effectiveness and efficiency; early childhood education; teacher training; teaching and learning standards;
  - 3.6 work towards developing and sustaining a national policy consensus that will promote the most effective application and use of all resources devoted to Catholic school education in Australia;
  - 3.7 monitor trends in educational theory and practice, national and international, and ensure that a Catholic position is declared on issues which are raised or should be raised in the public forum;
  - 3.8 negotiate on behalf of ACBC and BCCE with national political authorities and government instrumentalities;
  - 3.9 collaborate with other national bodies associated with school education;
  - 3.10 act as an organ of communication at the national level on matters pertaining to Catholic schools;
  - 3.11 assemble, maintain, utilise and disseminate data relevant to Catholic schools;
  - 3.12 undertake, support or commission appropriate educational research, particularly through service arrangements with State Catholic Education Offices;
  - 3.13 establish liaison with international educational bodies, Catholic and other, and with experts in education and related fields of potential value to Australian Catholic schools; and
  - 3.14 perform other tasks as requested by BCCE.

### Statutes

#### The Commission

1. The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) is commissioned by and responsible to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) through the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education (BCCE).
2. NCEC shall carry out its functions within the Terms of Reference established or amended by ACBC, and in accordance with these Statutes.
3. NCEC shall report regularly to ACBC through BCCE.
4. NCEC shall consist of sixteen (16) Commissioners. The appointments to be:
  - (a) Presiding honorary Chair
  - (b) Executive Director
  - (c) Two (2) Bishops
  - (d) Eight (8) Chief Executives of State/Territory Catholic Education Commissions, ex officio



- (e) A Congregational member selected by BCCE from three (3) nominations forwarded by Catholic Religious Australia
  - (f) A parent selected by BCCE from a nomination forwarded by each State/Territory based parent organisation
  - (g) Two (2) community members appointed by BCCE.
5. The Chair and the Executive Director shall be appointed by ACBC.
  6. The Executive Director shall be the official spokesperson for NCEC.
  7. Membership of NCEC shall ordinarily be for a period of four (4) years.
  8. Retiring members may be re-appointed, but no member shall serve more than eight (8) consecutive years unless he/she be the Chief Executive Officer of a State or Territory Catholic Education Commission.
  9. Substitutes for members at NCEC meetings shall not be accepted.
  10. Where a member is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of NCEC without reasonable cause, his/her membership shall be deemed to have lapsed and another person shall be appointed.
  11. In the event of a member of NCEC relinquishing membership for any reason, another person shall be appointed by BCCE to complete the unexpired term in accordance with 4 above.
  12. NCEC shall have a Deputy Chair elected by and from the members of the Commission. The appointment shall be for the term of the Commission.

## Meetings

13. NCEC shall hold at least eight (8) ordinary meetings each calendar year.
14. Extraordinary meetings of NCEC shall be called by the Chair, either at his/her own discretion, or on the request of at least six (6) members. In the latter case, the meeting shall be held within one month of receipt of the request. A quorum for extraordinary meetings shall consist of half the members of NCEC plus one.
15. All discussions at NCEC meetings shall be confidential and governed by the usual rules of debate. All members, including the Chair, have a deliberative vote, and the Chair shall also have a casting vote.

16. The minutes of NCEC and its Standing Committees shall be provided to BCCE.
17. The Executive Officer for Faith Formation and Religious Education to be in attendance at Commission meetings.

## Committees

18. NCEC shall establish a Standing Committee for Faith Formation and Religious Education. The Standing Committee will be chaired by the Executive Officer for Faith Formation and Religious Education. Members of the Committee will be appointed by BCCE.
19. NCEC may establish other Standing Committees as necessary. NCEC may also establish ad hoc Working Parties.
20. All Standing Committees, either standing or ad hoc, will have approved Terms of Reference and membership, including a defined period of membership.
21. The Executive Director shall be ex officio a member of all Committees and Working Parties established by NCEC.

## Finance

22. NCEC shall submit an annual budget for approval by ACBC. It shall also annually submit to ACBC an audited financial statement. Financial statements shall be reviewed regularly by NCEC.
23. Costs of the NCEC Secretariat, NCEC travel, accommodation and other approved expenses incurred in the work of NCEC or its committees will be met from the approved budget.
24. NCEC is authorised to enter into service agreements for general operational expenditures, and to sign contracts for other services within its approved budget.

## Dissolution

25. NCEC may be dissolved by a resolution of ACBC. In such circumstance, its records and assets will automatically transfer to ACBC.

# Directory of Catholic Education Commissions

50

## National Catholic Education Commission

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
Level 3 156 Gloucester Street Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 8229 0800	PO Box R1802 Royal Exchange NSW 1225
	<a href="http://www.ncec.catholic.edu.au">www.ncec.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Australian Capital Territory

### Catholic Education Commission Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
52-54 Franklin Street Manuka ACT 2603 Tel: (02) 6234 5455	PO Box 3317 Manuka ACT 2603
	<a href="http://www.cg.catholic.edu.au">www.cg.catholic.edu.au</a>

## New South Wales

### Catholic Education Commission NSW

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9287 1555	PO Box 20768 World Square NSW 2002
	<a href="http://www.cccnsw.catholic.edu.au">www.cccnsw.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Northern Territory

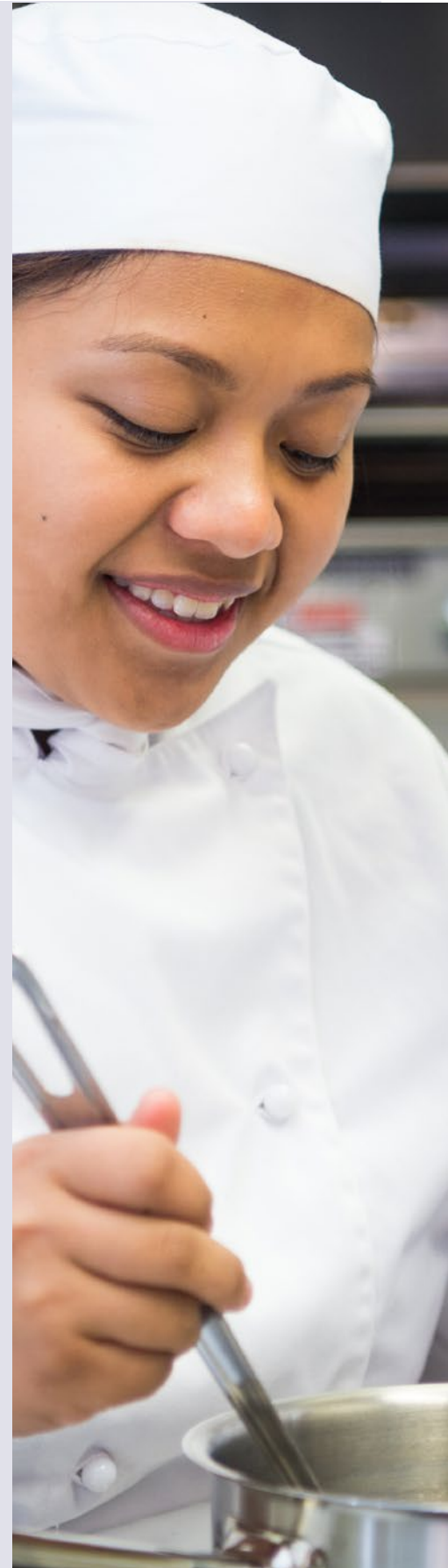
### Catholic Education Council of the Northern Territory

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
17 Beaton Road Berrimah NT 0828 Tel: (08) 8984 1400	PO Box 219 Berrimah NT 0828
	<a href="http://www.ceont.catholic.edu.au">www.ceont.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Queensland

### Queensland Catholic Education Commission

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
Level 1 143 Edward Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Tel: (07) 3316 5800	GPO Box 2441 Brisbane QLD 4001
	<a href="http://www.qcec.catholic.edu.au">www.qcec.catholic.edu.au</a>





## South Australia

### South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
116 George Street Thebarton SA 5031 Tel: (08) 8301 6600	PO Box 179 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031
	<a href="http://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au">www.cesa.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Tasmania

### Tasmanian Catholic Education Commission

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
5 Emmett Place New Town TAS 7008 Tel: (03) 6210 8888	PO Box 102 North Hobart TAS 7002
	<a href="http://www.catholic.tas.edu.au">www.catholic.tas.edu.au</a>

## Victoria

### Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
228 Victoria Parade East Melbourne VIC 3002 Tel: (03) 9267 0228	PO Box 3 East Melbourne VIC 3002
	<a href="http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au">www.cecv.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Western Australia

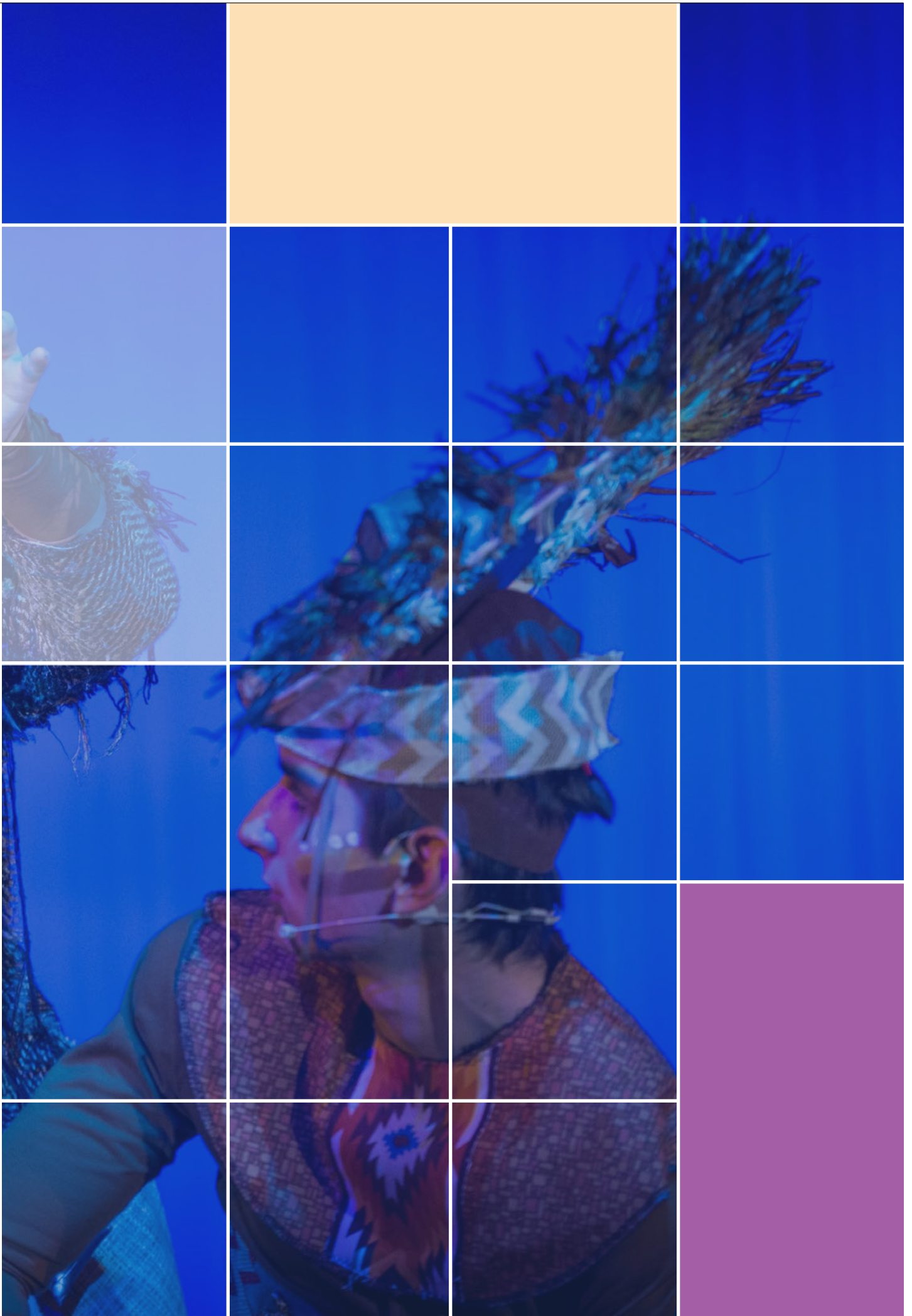
### Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia

<i>Office address</i>	<i>Postal address</i>
50 Ruislip Street Leederville WA 6007 Tel: (08) 6380 5200	PO Box 198 Leederville WA 6903
	<a href="http://www.ceo.wa.edu.au">www.ceo.wa.edu.au</a>











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