



## Australian Province of the Society of Jesus

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25 May 2018

Dear members of the Saint Ignatius College, Adelaide community,

Last October, I announced a new governance model for Jesuit Colleges in Australia. These changes came into effect for Saint Aloysius' College and Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview in New South Wales from November 2017 and for Xavier College in Melbourne and Redfern Jarjum College in Sydney in March 2018. It is planned to introduce these changes at Saint Ignatius' College, Adelaide in South Australia in July 2018.

Under these changes each College adopts a governance model that is consistent with those used successfully by the majority of independent Catholic schools, as well as most independent schools in Australia.

Significant discussions have taken place in recent years about the governance of our Colleges. Following this consultation, and grounded in a desire to assure the future of our education mission in Australia, the decision has been made to transition each College's current governance arrangements to an incorporated College Board.

Some of the key features of this transition include the following:

- The current Chairs of each College and many of the members of the College councils have generously agreed to become the inaugural Chairs and Directors of the new College Boards;
- The change will be largely business as usual for staff, whose contract, duties, employment conditions, and continuity of service will not change; their employment will transfer to the new incorporated entity; and
- Parents, students and families will see no change.

The new model provides clearer governance and accountability in all areas, including education programs, financial management and employment conditions. Importantly, the Jesuit ethos and Ignatian values in education continue to be at the core of who we are and what we do. Operationally, the new model will result in little change to what the College community experiences on a day-to-day basis.

As part of the new model, and after consultation with each of the current College Chairs, Rectors and Principals, I established a new entity, Jesuit Education Australia (JEA) in October 2017. JEA provides oversight and strategic direction to the educational ministry within our Province. I missioned Fr Tom Renshaw SJ to be the inaugural Chair of JEA. In addition to Tom, the other directors are Fr Bill Uren SJ, Mr Don Pasquariello, Ms Danielle Cronin and Fr Robert Davoren SJ. Ms Jennie Hickey is the Executive Officer of JEA.

Under the new structure, the Principal and Rector will report to the new College Board, and the Board will report to JEA which in turn will report to the Provincial. These new structures and governing documents have been approved by the Jesuit Curia based in Rome.

These changes are an important step in assuring the highest standards of governance within our educational ministry, standards that are responsive, transparent and respectful of the principle of subsidiarity and our Jesuit tradition.

Yours sincerely,

Rev Fr Brian F McCoy SJ  
Provincial

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