



**To: Diocesan Parish and School Community Members**

**Re: Establishment of the Catholic Education Council (CEC) Diocese of Wagga Wagga**

**Date: 3 November 2020**

Dear Friends

I am writing to Parish and School community members to advise you that I am in the final processes of establishing the Catholic Education Council for the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. This body will assist me to fulfil my role, responsibilities and mission regarding the ministry of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

The Catholic Education Council (CEC) will steward the mission of Catholic education by providing oversight, insight and foresight. In accord with its Constitution, the Catholic Education Council will be a decision-making body and, in stipulated areas, provide advice and recommendations to the Bishop of Wagga Wagga. This body is to ensure confidence and transparency as we provide the very best possible Catholic education for our students and families.

I have been meeting with the Establishment Group since September to prepare for the initial meeting of the CEC on 1 March 2021. Preparations are now in place to call for nominations to the Council according to the Membership Profile from the Constitution. Members of Parish and School communities across the Wagga Wagga Diocese, with the commitment and skills to serve on the CEC, are invited to complete the Expression of Interest Form. I expect to be able to appoint members by mid-December.

The Establishment Group of the CEC will provide a report to the Parish and School Communities in mid-December. The Council will commence its full operation on 1 March 2021 in Wagga Wagga but will be moving around the Diocese for its meetings each term in various school communities.

I look forward to the growth and development of the CEC as it stewards Catholic education and works with CEDWW and schools to provide the best education for our young people.

Yours in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate.

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI  
Bishop of Wagga Wagga

**Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI, Bishop of Wagga Wagga**

♦ 205 Tarcutta Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 ♦ P O Box 473, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 ♦ Ph: 02 69370003 ♦ Email: [bishop@wagga.catholic.org.au](mailto:bishop@wagga.catholic.org.au)

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## MEMBERSHIP OF THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION COUNCIL DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Bishop has established the Catholic Education Council Diocese of Wagga Wagga, to be known as the **Catholic Education Council (CEC)**, to assist him to fulfil his role, responsibilities and mission regarding the ministry of Catholic Education. The CEC has a delegated authority to make decisions for Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga (CEDWW) as set out in its Constitution (*available on the Diocese of Wagga Wagga website: [www.wagga.catholic.org.au](http://www.wagga.catholic.org.au)*). The Council will commence its full operation on 1 March 2021.

The Bishop is seeking members fulfilling the following profile and criteria:

- At least one CEC member is to be a priest of the diocese appointed by the Bishop (Episcopal Vicar for Education);
- A Primary and a Secondary Principal;
- Two parents of students in Diocesan Schools engaged with School Boards;
- A person with skills, qualifications and experience in Finance, Audit, Risk & Compliance (who will act as Chair of the CEC Finance, Audit, Risk CEC Committee);
- An educational leader with broad experience in school education, external to the Diocese (who will act as Chair of the CEC Education & Pastoral Wellbeing CEC Committee);
- A person, either lay or religious, with knowledge, expertise and experience in the areas of Mission, Theology and/or Religious Education (who will act as Chair of the Catholic Identity & Mission CEC Committee);
- A person with experience in Human Resources and Workforce Planning who will Chair the People and Culture CEC Committee; and
- Legal Expertise (see Section 5.4 Constitution)

### TIME COMMITMENT

The Catholic Education Council (CEC) will meet at least four (4) times per year coinciding with each school term. Members will be required to engage in Meeting Pre-Reading and may also be called upon to chair CEC Permanent Committees which will meet each Term for approximately 1.5 hours and with the facility for Zoom Meetings. Meetings will be convened during the day to enable greater participation and the opportunity to meet in schools across the Diocese. Expenses incurred in fulfilling membership of the CEC including travel costs at the ATO rate of 0.72c per kilometre for return travel between home and the meeting venue and any accommodation expenses. Meetings for 2021 are:

TERM	DATE	MEETING TIMES	FOCUS	VENUE
1	March 1	9 – 4pm	Induction Program	Wagga
	March 2	9 – 4pm	CEC Meeting	Wagga
2	June 8	9 – 4pm	CEC Meeting	TBC
3	August 30	9 – 4pm	CEC Planning Meeting	TBC
	August 31	9 – 4pm	CEC Meeting	
4	November 17	5pm	Mass followed by Dinner	Corowa Region
	November 18	9 – 4pm	CEC Meeting	

**APPLICATION:**

Interested persons are requested to complete the following Expression of Interest Form:

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Employment:** (Please append a detailed Resume)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Explain why you are interested in serving on the Catholic Education Council or its Committees, including the particular membership criteria you fulfil:** *(further detail can be appended)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Referee Names & Contact Details** (Professional, Character & Parish Priest Referees)

**Category:**                      **Name:**                      **Contact Details:**

1. Parish Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Professional Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Character Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email completed forms to Karen Williams, Manager Chancery Services, by 19 November 2020: [williamsk@wagga.catholic.org.au](mailto:williamsk@wagga.catholic.org.au)

An **Appointments Sub-Committee of the CEC**, comprising the Establishment Group Chair, the Episcopal Vicar for Education (a Priest) and the Manager of Chancery Services, will consider the Expressions of Interest and make recommendations to the Bishop who makes the final decision and appointment. Applicants will be contacted about the progress of their Expression of Interest.

**Announcement of Catholic Education Council Membership by Bishop Edwards OMI is expected in mid- December 2020.**



4 September 2020

To All Priests and Parish Communities

I am writing to advise that I have decided that a Catholic Education Council (CEC) be established with the authority to make decisions for Catholic Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. This body will assist me to fulfil my role, responsibilities and mission regarding the ministry of Catholic Education. It will steward the mission of Catholic education by providing oversight, insight and foresight.

In accord with its Constitution, the Catholic Education Council will be a decision-making body and, in stipulated areas, provide advice and recommendations to the Bishop of Wagga Wagga. This body is to ensure confidence and transparency as we provide the very best possible Catholic education for our students and families.

The Catholic Education Council will take responsibility for the governance of CEDWW from the Interim Management Committee on our Lady's birthday, Tuesday September 8th. I have appointed Philomena (Phil) Billington as Chair in the inaugural phase. Phil brings strong faith commitment and the significant senior experience of having been a Director of Catholic Education who worked closely with a Governing Body and a School leader. She is currently the Deputy President of the Council of Edmund Rice Education Australia which operates 55 schools across Australia and the inaugural Chair of the National Committee for Religious Institute and Ministerial PJP School Authorities Australia.

Phil will oversee the establishment of the Council in the latter part of 2020. It is anticipated that nominations for non ex-officio members will proceed in February. The CEC will provide quarterly communication updates to parish and school communities across the Diocese.

I look forward to the growth and development of the CEC as it stewards Catholic education and works with CEDWW and schools to provide the best education for our young people.

Yours in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI  
Bishop of Wagga Wagga

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