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30 July 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I write to you with the news that, following an extensive review, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has made the decision to redesign its Religious Education Curriculum. This is an exciting opportunity to connect our students more closely with our rich Catholic faith and traditions in a way that makes learning meaningful and relevant to their lives and their world.

The development of a new curriculum will be based on contemporary research and collaboration involving teachers and leaders in Religious Education from across the diocese. As the new curriculum starts to take shape, the insights and feedback of parents will also be critical. With this in mind, parent forums are planned for 2019.

Trialling of the new Religious Education Curriculum is planned for 2019 with implementation scheduled for 2020. In the meantime, the existing curriculum, 'Sharing our Story' will continue to be used in all Catholic schools in the Diocese.

The Religious Literacy Assessment (RLA) which has previously been conducted in Years 4, 6, 8 and 10, was also reassessed. While recognising that the RLA provided data about students' religious literacy, it has been decided that it will no longer be used or reported on as a measure of achievement across the Diocese. Suitable alternatives for the RLA are currently under consideration.

Our schools are shaped by their Catholic identity and their call to students to live out the example of Christ. Consequently, the teaching of Religious Education will remain the defining feature of our Catholic schools. Religious Education will continue to be reported on in school reports twice a year as part of the regular school reporting process.

Thank you for your continued support of Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta.

Regards

**Gary Borg**  
Director Mission  
Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta