



8 August 2017

Dear members of the Mt Barker and Hills community

St Francis de Sales College, Mount Barker, has today announced developments that will include the building of a new Community Sports Centre, a new Primary School and a Catholic Early Learning Centre.

Bruno Vieceli, Interim Director of Catholic Education, writes: "This is a significant development and demonstrates Catholic Education's commitment to providing quality Catholic education in the Adelaide Hills."

Representing a total investment of over \$27 million, this capital development is one of the most significant ever undertaken by Catholic Education South Australia, and will provide improved opportunities for families of our region to continue living and learning locally in our Hills community, knowing that the education provided is supported by outstanding facilities and progressive approaches to learning.

Community Sports Centre

The Community Sports Centre is now in the final detailed design phase, commencing construction towards the end of this year and opening in the second half of 2018. This four court \$9.5 million project, significant both for our College and the local community, will be unparalleled in size and scope for school based facilities in South Australia, meeting all the requirements for competition to international standard as required by the Federation of International Basketball Associations. The facility will greatly support and allow the growth of the College's Basketball and Soccer Academies.

Beyond our College, this facility is greatly anticipated by our local community, as evidenced by the excitement of the Eastern Hills Basketball Association and the Eastern Mavericks Basketball Club to establish their home bases in our facility. The College looks forward to the opportunity to engage in discussions with other community organisations who may also be interested in utilising the facility.

The great benefit of this project to the broader Mount Barker and Hills community is reflected in financial support committed by the Mount Barker District Council and the SA Government's Office for Sport and Recreation. We acknowledge and appreciate that both these organisations share our vision for this centre being a focal point for community indoor sport in Mount Barker and surrounds.

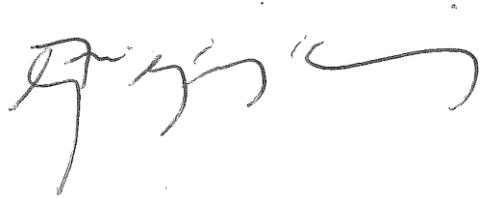


Primary School and Catholic Early Learning Centre

The plans to completely replace our existing R-6 primary school and build a state of the art facility to challenge and extend students in their learning, is one that is going to provide incredible new opportunities for the young people currently in, and soon to join, our junior school community. This build will be designed prioritising spaces that inspire children and develop a sense of joy and wonder in their learning - spaces that promote collaboration and foster interdependence between learners.

Construction is scheduled to commence in Term 3, 2018 and for the new primary school to open in the second half of 2019. We are working with representatives of the Archdiocese of Adelaide to incorporate a Catholic Early Learning Centre into the design of the new junior school, in the expectation that this can be delivered as part of the Stage 1 development. This will see our College able to support the outstanding work currently being undertaken in the kindergartens our families are currently engaging for their preschool age children.

St Francis de Sales College looks forward to ensuring this redevelopment provides every educational opportunity to our current and future students and families.



Gavin McGlaughlin
Principal



St Francis de Sales College is a R - 12 Catholic Co-educational College in the Adelaide Hills

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