



DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

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Media Release

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Catholic Schools Office welcomes the launch of the 2010 *My School 2.0* website

The Catholic Schools Office has today welcomed the launch of the *My School 2.0* website for 2010 providing details of the 56 schools which operate in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

For the first time, the recurrent income and capital expenditure of each school was included in the *My School* website along with results from the national literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) tests.

Director of Schools Ray Collins said the findings reinforced to parents, students and their families that Catholic Schools are great value for money, given the average per student income for Catholic Schools is less than government and independent schools.

“Catholic Schools provide a high quality of education to 17,500 students in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle who continue to excel both academically and in the sporting and creative fields,” said Director of Schools Ray Collins.

“The data collected on the *My School* website clearly confirms that Catholic Schools do not receive more funds from Commonwealth and State Governments than State schools. In an attempt to keep costs of schooling as low as possible for parents, the Diocese endeavours to keep its school fees low whilst still providing high-quality education supported by quality facilities and learning environments,” he said.

The National Catholic Education Commission today noted that the financial data on the website and the Australian Government current Review of Funding for Schooling will help clarify the facts about the amount of government funding received by Catholic Schools.

While Catholic Schools in the Diocese have been economically effective at supporting students and their families, Ray Collins said good financial management should not come at the cost of less State and Commonwealth funding in the future.

“Catholic Schools still need ongoing financial support from both the State and Commonwealth governments to ensure the continuity of the high-quality Catholic education that our students and parents have come to expect,” he said.

For more information and interviews with Director of Catholic Schools, Ray Collins, please contact Communications Manager for the Catholic Schools Office Emma Blackford on 0419 263 901.