

Choice and Affordability Fund

2023 Annual Report - Trustees for Catholic
Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and
Goulburn



NGRB Ongoing Compliance Declaration

Section 92 of the *Australian Education Act 2013* (the Act) outlines the basic requirements for approval of a non-government representative body for a non-government school.

As such, the Department of Education is seeking confirmation that the Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn complies with the legislative requirements in relation to monitoring the body's compliance with the Act.

Confirmation you continue to meet basic requirements for approval

Body corporate

The Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is registered with the ACNC (ABN 47 824 127 996) and continues to meet the requirements for registration as required by the ACNC.

Not-for-profit (NFP)

The Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn meets the requirements as a not-for-profit entity as the organisations assets and income of the organisation are applied solely to further the advancement of education or incidental to this purpose and that no portion of these have been distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as genuine compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Catholic Education Office. The Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn continue to comply with the six ACNC governance standards

Financial viability

The operational status of the Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn continue to be managed appropriately and within the risk management and other financial policies of the organisation. No matter as outlined under Section 27 of the *Education Regulations 2023* have been identified as an issue for the Catholic Education Office.

Fit and proper person

The management and staff of the Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn continue to meet the requirements of 'fit and proper' persons and act in accordance with ACNC governance standard five. No matter as outlined under Section 28(2) of the *Education Regulations 2023* have been identified as applying to persons employed by the Catholic Education Office.

NGRB Annual Report Sign Off

This annual report is submitted in fulfillment of the annual report requirements in sections 50, 51 and 52 of the CAF Guidelines.



Name and Position of the person signing off on behalf of the NGRB: Wynand Janse Van Rensburg
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Date: 28 June 2024

Summary of 2023

Over 2023, the Trustees for Catholic Education Office Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn (CECG) focussed on the consolidation of schools as part of the Archdiocese financial transformation program. With all schools' financial information on a single platform, CECG now has the infrastructure to utilise the Choice and Affordability Fund (CAF) funding earlier than planned commencing in 2024. Previously this was reported as *'reserved extensively for 2025-2029 when the adverse impact of the new funding arrangements kicked in for ACT schools' continuation of educational activities while managing the conflicts of higher operational costs and lower funding supports'* however progress under the program has allowed this to occur earlier than originally planned.

This grant funding has been recorded as unearned grant funding in the Balance Sheet and is held over for use in future years as the implementation of the transition strategy is executed.

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
The impact of higher inflation disproportionately impacting CECG costs with limited capacity to raise tuition fees above current CPI levels.	Implementing use of CAF funding ahead of the initially proposed 2025-2029 and to maintain tight cost controls.
Reduction in recurrent funding for ACT Catholic schools due to higher DMI rate.	CAF transition funding is reserved for future years (2024-2029), assisting schools remain financially sustainable and keeping tuition fee increases to a minimum.

Activity Report

No utilisation of the CAF funding has been utilised for specific initiatives however with the financial transformation providing more timely information, CECG will be in a position to address funding pressures particularly to our regional schools.

Work continues to review our schools funding models and identify programs that support the initiatives and priorities under the CAF that deliver the necessary outcomes.

Activity/Initiative Priority	Name
	A – Choice and Affordability
	B – Transition Assistance
	C – Special Circumstances Funding
	D – Strengthening outcomes for schools and educationally disadvantaged schools and students
	E – Student wellbeing and support

Activity Description

No utilisation of the CAF funding occurred through 2023 however the work performed over the year will allow CECG to commence activities under the scheme earlier than initially planned.

Outcomes Achieved

Outcomes	Indicators of success
None	None

Activity Expenditure

	Centralised (Reporting Year Only)	Distributed (Reporting Year Only)
Expenditure	\$0	\$0