

Monday, 10 February 2020

FAMILIES MISS OUT ON SCHOOL CHOICE IN NEW SUBURBS

Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn has today called on the ACT Government to guarantee school choice for ACT families moving into the Molonglo Valley.

On Friday, 7 February, ACT Minister for Education, Yvette Berry, announced a new government high school would be built in Molonglo Valley to “respond to the needs of this growing community”. Ms Berry’s announcement builds on a previous commitment to build a primary school in the same area.

Director of Catholic Education, Mr Ross Fox, said that families moving to new suburbs in the Molonglo Valley are entitled to the same choices other families have in the ACT.

“Families have always had school choice in Canberra,” Mr Fox said. “Regardless of which party is in Government, both Labor and the Liberals have always supported school options for Canberra suburbs.”

Catholic Education has been providing quality schools in Canberra for almost 100 years and thousands of families make the choice to send their children to an ACT Catholic school.

Chair of Catholic Schools Parents Archdiocese Canberra Goulburn, Selina Walker, said that school choice meant that families could decide which school would be best for their child.

“Families know what is best for their children and it is important that they are able to choose the right school for each child,” Ms Walker said. “This can often mean children in one family attend different schools, but what is important is having that choice.”

Mr Fox said that the ACT Government must respond to the needs of all families.

“We know that many families moving to the Molonglo Valley want to be able to choose a Catholic Education for their child,” Mr Fox said. “This can only happen with the support of the ACT Government through land release.”

“Catholic Education calls on the ACT Government to make land available to build a local Catholic primary and secondary school in the Molonglo Valley, ensuring that families are able to continue to have choice in where they send their children to school. This is very important to ACT families.” Mr Fox concluded.

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