

19 July 2017

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) 2017 - Open Letter to our Parents and Carers

All schools across Australia are required to participate in the NCCD in Term 3, by providing basic data on students within the school who require additional assistance or support to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students. This national data collection process includes students with a formally diagnosed intellectual, physical, sensory or social/emotional disability, as well as those who have a difficulty in learning or behaviour due to an impairment that requires ongoing adjustments in the classroom or in test situations.

The purpose of the NCCD is two-fold from this year onwards. Firstly, the project aims to provide government authorities and communities with a clearer picture than ever before of the number of students who require adjustments as a result of the impact of a disability or impairment. With the recent introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the changes to schools funding for students with disability, the data supplied by all schools, including St Pius X College, to the government via the Catholic Education Commission (CEC), will be used for the allocation of government funds in 2018 and beyond, for the learning and support needs of identified students.

For this reason, we ask for the cooperation and assistance of our parents and carers, in advising the College about student disabilities and needs, and providing Student Support Staff (Counselling team, Learning Support and Enrichment Department) with updated medical information on an ongoing basis, as this will constitute the main evidence-base required by the NCCD guidelines. Medical information includes diagnostic reports, assessments and letters, from a registered doctor, psychologist, specialist or therapist, which identify and/or confirm your son's disability. Student Support staff welcome copies of such documentation at any time in the school year, and will be grateful for your ready assistance if and when contact you in relation to the above.

## What information about your child will be provided?

The information we are obliged to provide as part of the data collection is:

- the overall number of students at St Pius X College from Years 5-12 who are currently receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as their peers.
- the type of disability of impairment which has impacted on their learning or behaviour over the past year.
- the level of adjustment provided by the school. These are set down and range from in-class differentiation and support to substantial or extensive support.

While student details are provided to the Catholic Education Commission by the census date of 4 August 2017, the information is then compiled and forwarded to the Government by the Commission in summary form, and does not include names or student details. All information collected is held in accordance with our College Privacy Policy. The aggregated data collected by the Australian Government Department of Education may be used to inform policy development for future education and planning purposes for the benefit of school students with disability.

## **Further information**

For further information, please visit the following website: <a href="https://education.gov.au/what-nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability">https://education.gov.au/what-nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability</a>. You are also welcome to contact Mr Alex Damo, Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning at <a href="mailto:adamo@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au">adamo@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au</a> or LSE Coordinator, Ms Joanne Raheb-Mol at <a href="mailto:JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au">JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au</a> with your further queries.

Yours sincerely

Mr John Couani **Principal** 

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