



# Catholic Schools Office *Diocese of Armidale*

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24 June, 2022

Dear parents and carers,

## **Strike Action**

The Independent Education Union (IEU) has notified us that teachers and general staff in systemic Catholic schools in NSW and the ACT intend to participate in a second full day strike on Thursday, 30 June 2022.

It will mean that some schools may be unable to operate as usual on that day, and special arrangements will be in place. Those arrangements will be sent to you directly by your school principal.

Catholic Education representatives have continued to engage in productive negotiations with the IEU to finalise a new Enterprise Agreement that delivers enhanced benefits and a fair and just outcome for our staff.

We have responded to all claims made by the IEU and agreed to:

- *at least match the pay increases awarded to public school teachers as well as the effective date*
- *address any inequity in pay rates for support staff when compared to the State system*
- *provide teachers an additional pupil free day in 2022 to enable collaborative planning and professional development*
- *work closely with the IEU to address teacher workload intensification*
- *recognise prior service for support staff with relevant service at another Diocese, and*
- *improve parental leave for all staff, including providing leave for non-primary carers to become primary carers*

We have worked hard during these negotiations to offer an enterprise agreement that recognises and values the important job our teachers and support staff do every day to deliver high quality education for our students. Our representatives will continue bargaining in good faith with the union to try to finalise a new enterprise agreement that fairly recognises the great work of our teachers, while also keeping our schools affordable.

Kind regards,

Chris Smyth

Director of Catholic Schools