

Ready for Year 7

An introduction for regional families



Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) is moving Year 7 from primary to secondary settings

This means that Year 6 will become the final year of primary schooling. Year 7 will become the first year of secondary schooling.

Most Catholic schools in South Australia made this change in 2019 and all schools will transition by 2022.

Moving Year 7 into a secondary setting will align South Australia with the rest of the country. We acknowledge that this transition is more complex for families in regional and rural areas, particularly those who are not close to a secondary Catholic school.

Why move Year 7 to secondary?

This decision has not been made lightly. It is primarily about best meeting the learning, social and emotional needs of young people.

“By the time students enter Year 7, they are beginning to change socially and emotionally. They are ready for greater independence. We are committed to ensuring all Year 7 students in Catholic schools are supported in their transition to secondary school.”

Nichii Mardon
Director, Catholic Education Port Pirie Diocese



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What are the benefits?

- **Educational benefits**

Teaching the Year 7 curriculum in a secondary setting gives students access to specialist teachers and facilities.

- **Learning outcomes**

A secondary environment offers flexibility that can help students be challenged intellectually.

- **Social and emotional benefits**

Adolescents thrive in an environment that encourages independence and supports their social and emotional needs.

The experience of parents and students in other schools who have recently made this move has been overwhelmingly positive.

How does this apply to regional / remote Catholic schools?

We are working closely with each Principal and School Board to enhance the provision of Catholic education across regional South Australia. Our aim is to strengthen pathways for students transitioning to secondary school.

We are currently exploring the feasibility of providing additional middle years and senior years education in some regions. Unfortunately, not every Catholic school will be able to provide a Reception to Year 12 education.

We encourage you to take part in the community consultation and have your say.

How do I find out more?

Please talk directly with your school principal or go to www.cesa.catholic.edu.au for more information.