

From the Office of Dr Craig Wattam  
Executive Director, Edmund Rice Education Australia

## Edmund Rice Education Australia Announces New Governance Structure

The Trustees of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) have today announced a new incorporated governance structure – to be called EREA Ltd – which heralds a transformation of the organisation for a new era.

### MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 27 April 2022

EREA Ltd has been created in response to a renewed commitment to governance that continues to place the 40,000 students of our diverse learning communities at the heart of all we do with clear lines of accountability and transparency.

#### Details:

- EREA Ltd will be a company limited by guarantee with four subsidiaries.
- Together, EREA Ltd and its subsidiaries will be responsible for the continuation of the mission of a Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition.
- The four subsidiary boards reflect the breadth of EREA's education ministries, with each board having a very distinct function and a Board of Directors with specific expertise:
  - EREA Flexible Schools Ltd will oversee 21 flexible learning centres across metropolitan, regional, and rural Australia. These schools serve some of the most marginalised young people, who yearn for another chance at education, and who may have been excluded from or have felt excluded from education.
  - EREA Colleges Ltd will oversee the colleges and early learning centres across Australia other than Victoria.
  - EREA Victorian Schools Ltd will govern five Victorian colleges and one flexible learning school to ensure that the specific regulatory requirements of Victoria are met in a targeted manner.
  - EREA St Kevin's College Ltd will provide local governance oversight to St Kevin's College Melbourne, strengthening specific governance and accountability demands.

President of the Trustees of EREA Ms Philomena Billington said, "I am pleased to announce that the regeneration of EREA will provide more targeted and specialised governance structures and processes that meet the needs of young people in a way that is relevant to each context."

Ms Billington also announced the appointment of Inaugural Chair of EREA Ltd, Adjunct Professor Iyla Davies OAM, a distinguished law academic, respected community leader and experienced company director and Chair. Ms Billington commented "Iyla's broad expertise and remarkable professional experience will be critical in the establishment and shaping of EREA Ltd."

The Executive Director of EREA Dr Craig Wattam said, "The new governance structure and processes will bring renewed organisational clarity to EREA. Our National Office has already commenced the work to support the transformation and I very much look forward to engaging with the inaugural EREA Ltd Board as their Chief Executive Officer."

The new structure will be activated from January 2023. You can learn more about EREA at: [www.erea.edu.au](http://www.erea.edu.au)

#### Contact

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#### About Edmund Rice Education Australia

Since 1872, Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition have been educating young Australians in every state and territory. Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) was established in 2007. We are a system of Catholic schools educating more than 40,000 students. Our schools span early learning, flexible education settings and primary and secondary schools with more than 4500 staff. Our Charter articulates Four Touchstones that are central to, and inform, our work. We do this by forming students in their faith through the lens of a Gospel Spirituality, so that they receive a Liberating Education, in an Inclusive Community, to become adults who are selflessly committed to Justice and Solidarity. EREA is committed to creating an environment in which the safety, wellbeing and participation of all children and young people are paramount.