



## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

20 December 2018

### **Announcement**

#### **Mr Stephen Elder OAM**

By mutual agreement with the recently appointed Archbishop of Melbourne Peter Comensoli, the Executive Director of Catholic Education Melbourne (CEM) and Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV), Mr Stephen Elder, has resigned from his position after 13 years.

Having successfully campaigned to secure a fairer national funding deal for Catholic systemic schools and having driven major operational change within CEM and the 342 parish and archdiocesan schools, Mr Elder will step aside to allow a new leader to take Catholic education in the Archdiocese forward.

Archbishop Comensoli thanked Mr Elder for his dedicated and loyal service to Catholic education in Victoria, and for his strong voice on a national stage, by which he has made a lasting contribution for the good of Catholic education in the country.

Mr Elder leaves CEM with a very solid foundation on which his successor can build. Inevitably, any new leader will bring fresh insights and a different leadership style. In the meantime, fostering a productive and cooperative workplace for current staff will be important during the stage of transition.

Over his time in the role, Mr Elder worked with six Prime Ministers, five Premiers and many Education Ministers. The Archbishop agreed that with the achievement of secure funding for Catholic schools for the decade ahead it was a good time for Mr Elder to conclude his tenure as Executive Director.

While Mr Elder will now cease his involvement in CEM and CECV, he will seek other ways of contributing to the cause of Catholic education in Australia after a period of rest and renewal, something that the Archbishop welcomes.

Mr Jim Miles will continue to act as Executive Director of CEM for the time being.