



## Media Release

Friday, 23 February 2024

## Notre Dame and the Catholic Institute of Western Australia announce historic partnership

In a significant move for Catholic education, The University of Notre Dame Australia is proud to announce a new strategic alliance with The Catholic Institute of Western Australia (CIWA), which was formalised at a special ceremony held in Fremantle today.

The Alliance will combine the distinctive and common responsibilities of both bodies. The Catholic Institute, which was established by the Bishops of Western Australia in 1975 has the responsibility also of providing Catholic Education units in State Universities.

This collaboration aims to enhance Catholic education in Western Australia by leveraging the strengths of both institutions in providing Catholic-based education and formation.

Notre Dame Chancellor, the Hon. Christopher Ellison, said: "This alliance represents an important mission for Notre Dame and signifies our commitment to nurturing future generations of Catholic education leaders with a deep understanding and formation in Catholic faith and values."

Managing Director of CIWA, Dr. John Topliss, said: "The partnership between Notre Dame University and The Catholic Institute of Western Australia facilitates both our Catholic Institutions to continue to provide for the students of today so that they may become the future Catholic teachers, leaders, and principals of our Catholic schools."

Chair of the CIWA Council, Bishop Gerard Holohan, spoke at the ceremony on the history of Catholic Education in Western Australia since the establishment of the Catholic Education Commission in 1971 saying: "The Strategic Alliance will combine resources and expertise, to greatly benefit Catholic education in Western Australia, focusing on undergraduate and postgraduate programs, leadership professional development and formation, and other key initiatives."

By combining resources and expertise, Notre Dame and CIWA aim to create a robust framework for Catholic education, focusing on undergraduate and postgraduate programs, leadership professional development, and other key initiatives.

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