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Catholic School Parents Victoria Update **February 2023**

Catholic School Parents CSPV Survey



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT FOR YOU IN VICTORIAN CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

Every year our team at Catholic School Parents Victoria prepare a plan for the year to share information, resources and support for you in areas that are important to you as you engage in children's wellbeing, safety, learning and curriculum and in your Catholic communities.

Our annual survey is your opportunity to have a say, to share your parent perspective and your views with us so we can effectively advocate for parents of children in Catholic schools across Victoria. We look forward to reading your feedback by **2nd March 2023**.

[Have Your Say >>](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Catholic Community

Religious Educational Institutions And Anti-Discrimination Laws Share your views!



YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS

CSPV continue to provide opportunities for you to have a voice in education. As the first and foremost educators of their children, the right of parents to choose a school based on their religious beliefs is recognised in international human rights law. However, there is currently no Religious Freedom Legislation in Australia to uphold the rights of parents to ensure the religious and moral education of their children. The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) is seeking feedback on faith-based schooling via submissions or its online survey **by 24 February 2023**. Click on the links below for further information.

[Read CECV Letter](#)

[Complete Survey](#)

CECV Announcement



FORMER DEPUTY PREMIER, JAMES MERLINO TO CHAIR THE NEW CECV IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

As the peak body for Catholic Education in Victoria, the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria undertook a rigorous executive search for the establishment of a CECV Implementation Committee (CIC) to oversee the implementation of the Response and Directives and to consider the remainder of the review's recommendations. CECV recently announced the appointment of Mr James Merlino as Chair supported by Ms Lynn Glover and Mr Michael Avery who will join Executive Director Jim Miles as they work together to establish an enhanced CECV. Click on the link for full media release.

[Media Release >>](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Catholic Community



CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA - STRENGTHENING CARE FOR FAMILIES THROUGHOUT VICTORIA

CatholicCare Victoria resulted in the merger of Centacare Ballarat, CatholicCare Melbourne Gippsland and CatholicCare Sandhurst. It aims to build thriving communities, through disrupting the cycle of disadvantage.

Rozanne and Kalma present to schools on the agency's work in supporting the most vulnerable families in our Catholic communities. Schools can invite Kalma and Rozanne to speak by calling 9926 5722 or emailing kalma.rathouski@catholiccarevic.org.au.



[Visit the Website](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Child Safety Online



DIGITAL LITERACY - HAVING CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS

There are so many reasons to have conversations with your children about digital literacy and knowing what is real, appropriate and what to avoid when interacting online. Children are exposed to so many things that are causing children to feel unsafe and unsure of how to manage the information that is being processed in their young brains. Sometimes it can be tricky to raise topics with them around respectful behaviour, pornography and sexual imagery they may be seeing or learning about. In this article, the eSafety Commissioner explores how to start the chat, how to talk about sensitive topics, tips for different age groups and other information to support you.

[Read Article >>](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Child Safety



SUITABILITY OF TEACHERS FOR THE TEACHING PROFESSION

As parents you want to be reassured that teachers are suitable to be teaching your children. CSPV meets each term with the Victorian Institute of Teaching to contribute parent voice to ensure the safety of children in education. VIT's function is to provide for the safety and wellbeing of children by ensuring only suitable persons are teaching Victorian learners. Suitability to teach means determining whether a person is fit and able to teach. All VIT registered teachers are continually assessed to ensure their character, reputation and conduct are such that they should be allowed to teach in a school. To learn more, download the parent information sheet.

[Parent Resource >>](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Wellbeing



ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO GET YOUR CHILD BACK TO SCHOOL?

School refusal is a huge challenge for kids, teenagers, their families and their schools. Often misunderstood, most want to be back in the classroom with their friends; they just feel so overwhelmed that they can't. Anxiety is one of the challenges that often underpins the overwhelming discomfort of walking through the school gate.

Dr Jodi Richardson provides a two part podcast series on school refusal with guest, **John Chelley**, Founder of **The School Refusal Clinic** in Melbourne exploring what's at the heart of school refusal, the important role of parents and the fun, unique approach he uses to change the lives of school refusers and their families.

[Listen Here](#)

CSPV Advocacy - Curriculum



ENGAGE IN LEARNING WITH YOUR CHILDREN TO TEACH THEM VALUES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

Upschool.co, a 100% FREE online learning platform that seeks to use the power of education to create meaningful and tangible change in the world, has recently launched its latest course, **Values for a Better Tomorrow**, which explores the importance of values, the role they play in our lives, and the impact our values have on others. Values such as friendship, love, empathy, and kindness are explored through quality resources, videos, and books written and illustrated by children all over the world. For more information, please visit www.upschool.co



[Upschool Course](#)

Prayer for Families



Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Türkiye and Syria who have been impacted by the recent tragic Earthquake. We are grateful our own families are safe but can't take for granted the importance of family. We pray for those suffering through this tragedy. Guide our way, Lord, as we go about our lives today. Also, be our shield as we return home. May you always preserve the bond that we have as a family, and may we look forward to seeing each other once again at home. Guard our home as well, God, that it continue to be a sanctuary of blessing, comfort, and love for each one of us. Continue to protect us, Lord, as we rest at night. We trust in your mighty power to keep our families safe. Amen.

CSPV enables and provides parent perspective in Catholic education in collaboration with each of our partners:



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