



DOBCEL CIRCULAR

17 March (#3/2020)

Dear Colleagues

Our Board is constantly reflecting on ways that we can fulfil our mission to strengthen Catholic education, to continue working in partnership with priests and parishes and to ensure that our parish and diocesan schools remain authentically engaged in the life of our Church. One way to keep this agenda at the forefront is to be deliberate in outlining our beliefs and commitments as a Board and then shaping concrete actions that will enable those commitments to be lived out in DOBCEL schools.



[Attached is a paper](#) that has been developed to initiate and/or contribute to discussion across our Diocesan Education Community about matters of common interest to all those who cooperate in the ministry of Catholic school governance, particularly for parish schools.

The specific matters to be addressed in this paper are:

1. Engagement of priests in pastoral ministry in DOBCEL schools alongside the engagement of DOBCEL schools in the life of the parish
2. Engagement of DOBCEL with local and regional councils
3. Openness of the DOBCEL board to ongoing enhancement of partnerships

We invite you to [read the paper](#), reflect on your own beliefs and commitments in relation to Catholic schools in our parishes, and to speak with members of the Board about these important matters as we visit parish communities over coming months. By keeping the focus on DOBCEL's engagement with priests, parishes and regional councils, we can be deliberate about the way school governance is shaped over coming years and ensure that DOBCEL schools enhance and contribute positively to our parish communities.

If you wish to provide feedback about the paper or have another question about this area of DOBCEL's mission, please send an email to admin@dobcel.org.au.

DOBCEL will endeavour to honour as many of its commitments as possible via the use of video conferencing and phone calls.

Tracey O'Neill

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DOBCEL Board Director and Chair

Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) 2020

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