



Leading for Learning: Senior school leaders enhancing Catholic school identity through the prayer renewal process

Aim of this program:

In a context that is increasingly detraditionalising and pluralising, ECSI research has confirmed that there is a direct correlation between personal and communal prayer life and the enhancement of Catholic identity.

This program aims to support the development of personal and communal prayer life by means of the prayer renewal process and the 10 Characteristics of Prayer in a Catholic Dialogue School, led by participating school leadership teams.

Who's invited to attend:

The audience for our program would include Principals, Deputy Principals and members of the school's senior leadership team.

The Prayer Renewal Process (PRP) program has been designed to enable the development of capabilities of current senior leaders to lead themselves and others; subsequently, teams of senior leaders from individual education settings or clusters of education settings are invited to participate. Ideally, teams of three to six participants are welcome, as the requirement to lead learning is best achieved with the support of colleagues from our pluralised school settings, working collaboratively. It will be the responsibility of these teams to develop a plan to lead the learning of colleagues in their respective schools in the PRP and subsequently the young people in their settings. This process will be the vehicle for applying and demonstrating professional learning across the life of the program.

Participants in this program would demonstrate a willingness:

- to share their school ECSI data
- to collaborate as part of a school team to facilitate learning of self and others throughout the program
- to engage in deep personal reflection upon all aspects of the program in order to develop insights to inform, form and transform professional practice, and
- to share insights and identify growth as it occurs across the life of the program and finally to present their project to the whole team as a celebration of learning.

Program Structure:

1. Six days of spaced professional learning will be provided over three terms to support participants to lead the learning of others. In Term 4, a seventh day is provided for participants to present their leading projects and to share and celebrate the learning from each school team.
2. The Leading for Learning: Prayer Renewal Process Team (L4L:PRP) from each participating school will participate in professional learning to become familiar with the recontextualising approach to prayer and to teach the approach to their respective staff teams.

3. The L4L:PRP Team will analyse the school context, choose particular prayer activities as a focus for renewal, and make a plan to support the renewal of the chosen prayer activities in line with the 10 Characteristics of Prayer in a Catholic Dialogue School.
4. Together with staff and students across the school community (depending on the chosen prayer activities), the L4L:PRP Team will develop recontextualised prayers and prayer activities.
5. The L4L:PRP Team will evaluate the process and outcomes of the program, celebrate achievements and plan for the ongoing life of the program in their respective schools.

Between workshop coaching

L4L facilitators will coach all participating teams as they engage in an individualized team project in their school setting to support a process of exploration and reflection on:

- Plans for applying new learning as they lead the learning of others
- Individual team member's leadership development goals

What's involved

- On a personal level participants will be invited to:
 - deepen their own recontextualised understandings and experience of prayer
- On a professional level participants will be invited to,
 - lead others in these same understandings related to the personal prayer life of colleagues and young people
 - develop the religious and faith dimensions of their leadership, explicitly, in their school setting
 - contribute to the system of Catholic education in the diocese, with this program understood as one means for addressing secularising trends
 - enhance the capabilities of the leader to skilfully facilitate/moderate the learning of others
 - grow in understandings for systems change requirements

For further information or contact Gina Bernasconi on 0438 523 530.