



Thursday 30th November, 2017

NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER INDUSTRIAL ACTION – MONDAY 4 DECEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Independent Education Union (IEU) has called for Protected Industrial Action (strike action) to take place in Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT in support of a new Enterprise Agreement (EA). Some schools in the Diocese of Parramatta have agreed to take part in this action. Staff from St Columba's Catholic College are among those taking part.

The industrial action will happen this Monday, 4 December 2017. It will begin from the normal commencement of the school day to 12.30pm.

What will happen?

The IEU proposes that its members take the following forms of protected industrial action at your school:

- Stop work at specific times
- Provide information to parents or other community members about the why they are stopping work, as well as information about the industrial campaign
- Wear the IEU's campaign badges.

Student safety and wellbeing assured

The safety and wellbeing of all of our students is always our number one priority. Supervision will be provided at the College, however, the absence of most staff for a significant portion of the day will result in no classes running until staff return at 12.30pm.

Ongoing discussions about a new Enterprise Agreement

Catholic schools and the IEU are currently involved in discussions over a new Enterprise Agreement (EA). Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is respectful of employees exercising their industrial rights. Our school system works effectively and diligently to ensure that all staff are treated with dignity, respect and are fully rewarded. It is particularly disappointing that the IEU is taking industrial action at this very busy time of the year.

Why is the Union proposing protected industrial action?

- The union has taken issue with the current Disputes Resolution Clause. This is despite that in last seven years, the clause has successfully resolved every dispute that's been notified to the Diocese.
- The clause is the same one the IEU recently endorsed for 450 non-systemic schools, including Catholic non-systemic schools
- If for any reason the clause does stop working as effectively as it has in the past, CEDP is committed to working with staff and their Union to address that.

We will keep you updated with the latest information. In the meantime, if, you have you have any questions, please contact the school.

Kind regards,

Mr Paul Ryan,
Principal.