

6 June 2024

Dear St Paul's College Community,

I am delighted to announce that, after an open selection process and a significant period of discernment, **Mr Patrick Harmer** has been appointed as the next Principal of St Paul's College, Gilles Plains for commencement in January 2025.

I wish to thank the selection panel of Mr Chris Leadbetter, Regional Director of Education EREA Colleges, Ms Sue Kennedy-Branford, Director - People, Leadership and Culture Catholic Education South Australia, Mr Chris Edge, Advisory Council and Community representative and Mr Darren O'Neill, Principal Trinity College East Perth for their assistance with the appointment process. I also thank the St Paul's Community for your engagement in the consultation to inform the panel.

Patrick is currently the Deputy Principal at Cardijn College, Noarlunga South Australia where he is responsible for the strategic and operational leadership across three campuses. Cardijn College has a current enrolment of approximately 2200 students from Reception to Year 12. Patrick has also had experience in managing the Registered Training Organisation component of the College. He has also held positions as Acting Principal, Assistant Principal Wellbeing and Head of Middle School at Cardijn. Prior to this Patrick was employed at Nazareth College in middle leadership and acting senior leadership roles.

Patrick is currently studying a Master of Business Administration and holds a Master of Educational Leadership. He has also completed a Graduate Certificate in Catholic Education as well as double degree in Applied Science and he is a graduate of the Company Director's Course. Patrick impressed the panel with his commitment to Catholic mission and inclusion. He is a man of faith and life-long learner.

In his application, Patrick states:

The St Paul's community is rich in history and has achieved so much throughout its first 65 years. The College has a unique way of engaging with its diverse community and providing liberating educational opportunities for young people. As principal I would authentically acknowledge the rich past, understand the present and enable an exciting future.

Finally, I thank Mr Paul Belton for his exceptional leadership of St Paul's College over that last ten years. Paul is a strong relational leader who has led this community with compassion, dedication, and foresight. He has left a great legacy for those who follow him and for the many students that he has supported in over 40 years of service to Catholic Education. Later in the year we look forward to being able to celebrate with Paul his journey.

I welcome Patrick to this significant leadership position within Edmund Rice Education. I will also continue to pray for each of our unique communities where Catholic Education is delivered in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

Live Jesus in our Hearts. Forever.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CW' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Chris Woolley
CEO EREA Colleges Ltd