



130
YEARS
1891 to 2021

Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham

A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition
Educating boys in Years 5 – 12 since 1891

29 October 2021

Dear Neighbours,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Dr Michael Blowes and I started this year as Principal of Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham. I have found it is an excellent school which has served the needs of families in this local area for 130 years and imagine that many of you would have considered this school as a valuable educational service when you joined this local community. I also acknowledge that there are concerns in the community which I am hoping to address with our future planning.

I would like to take the opportunity to respond to the letters and social media activity currently circulating in the community surrounding future plans for the school as some of the items of concern are not factually correct.

The school's present enrolment is 1272 students in Years 5-12. We welcome a range of students from all backgrounds and circumstances, including bursaries for over forty Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander families, a score of refugee families, as well as boys from the Inner West and Canterbury local areas. We are a low fee Catholic school whose aim is to provide a comprehensive education to a broad spectrum of families. We enjoy great success in preparing young men for their future and this includes excellent HSC results.

I wish to make it clear upfront that the works that we are planning for the school for the foreseeable future do not include us asking to raise our enrolment ceiling beyond the currently approved 1350 students.

The works that we have in plan and have begun lodging with the Inner West Council aim to help ease some of the community concerns by increasing our on site parking, improving traffic flow, improving existing facilities and creating recreational spaces for the students and hopefully the wider community.

The DA currently before Council is the first in a series of building works to achieve this goal. The school follows a traffic management plan and we have trained staff controlling traffic and parking before and after school each day. This traffic plan will be updated as part of the planning procedure.

All of this work will be conditional on planning approval and we welcome you to contact us at office@cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au with any questions you may have as we look forward to a new era at CBHS Lewisham for the enjoyment of the wider community.

Regards,

Dr Michael Blowes
PRINCIPAL