

## Media Statement

Date: 11 February 2020

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## APPOINTMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION TASMANIA

Dr Gerard Gaskin has been appointed to the position of Executive Director of Catholic Education Tasmania.

Mr Gaskin replaces former Executive Director John Mula, who offered his resignation last year in order to take up a position with Catholic Education in South Australia.

Announcing the appointment, Archbishop Julian Porteous said Mr Gaskin 'brings a wealth of experience in Catholic education to Tasmania'.

"Gerard has taught at all levels: primary, secondary and tertiary, and was school principal for eight years in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. He then spent 10 years as Assistant Director of Education and Director of Religious Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga," His Grace said.

"In 2015, Gerard kindly accepted my invitation, and that of former CET Executive Director John Mula, to conduct a detailed review of Catholic Identity in Tasmanian Catholic Schools. Following the completion of the review, he became project leader of renewing Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta, before returning to Tasmania to take up the role of Director: Learning and Teaching with Catholic Education Tasmania for the past two years."

Mr Gaskin has multiple degrees in education that includes a Masters and PhD. He has taught at Vianney College Seminary for 25 years and lectured to undergraduate students from Charles Sturt University. He has also worked for the University of Notre Dame reviewing research proposals, has examined doctoral theses, and co-supervises a number of PhD students.

Mr Gaskin has written widely on education matters, and most recently assisted in drafting the National Catholic Education Commission's contribution to the Alice Springs Declaration on Education.

Dr Gaskin and his wife Kathy (a Catholic school principal), have seven children and four grandchildren. ENDS.