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MEDIA RELEASE

From Catholic Schools Broken Bay

Catholic Schools Broken Bay Presents 22 Teacher Education Students with Inaugural Exemplary (Pre-service) Teacher Incentive Program Awards

A new campaign to address the unprecedented teacher shortage has seen 22 outstanding pre-service teachers awarded a total of \$205,000 in scholarships and secured placements to Catholic Schools Broken Bay for 2023 and beyond.

Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo DD JCL, Bishop of Broken Bay, is delighted to see this initiative activated saying "it creates targeted pathways for bringing in the best early career teachers into Catholic Schools, Broken Bay and will enhance our ability to provide authentic professional Catholic education with care and compassion."

Director of Schools, Danny Casey, who will present recipients with their awards on Thursday 8 December said; "Catholic Schools Broken Bay is committed to attracting and retaining a quality workforce, placing our students and our staff at the centre of all we do. This exciting initiative will support our objective, ensuring we secure the best undergraduate teachers to our Diocese".

The inaugural *CSBB Exemplary Teacher Incentive Program* targeted high-achieving aspiring teachers, attracting over 80 applicants from year 12 students through to undergraduates in their final year of study.

In addition to significant financial support, recipients will be provided with an experienced mentor teacher, who can offer support and guidance throughout any remaining period of study and into the critical early years of teaching, as well as access to professional learning, formation and coaching programs.

Recipients will also be provided with part-time employment while studying and a guaranteed full-time teaching position upon degree completion.

"The additional classroom experience and on-the-job training provided as part of this program will see recipients better prepared to face the challenges of the teaching profession, and well-supported in their early years of teaching;" Mr Casey said.

One recipient of the scholarship program said; "The Young Achiever's Teacher Training Scholarship has allowed an amazing opportunity for my dream career to become a reality. The combination of financial assistance and the chance to experience practical work within a classroom environment will immensely contribute to my future teaching abilities and build the foundation for my career. Through this scholarship I am also able to grow as a teacher and gain skills in a way that aligns with my Catholic values and beliefs. I will forever be grateful for this opportunity, and am excited to embark on this journey."

Another grant recipient also said; "Being awarded an Exemplary Teacher Grant has meant a great deal to me, and is an amazing opportunity to be a part of a network of talented teachers who put their heart and soul into teaching. Receiving a grant has given me confidence in my own abilities and allows me to build on my skills in a nurturing and supported environment so that I can become the best teacher that I can be for my future students."

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General Information

At Catholic Schools Broken Bay, our vision is to provide 'authentic, professional Catholic education, delivered with care and compassion'. The vision is underpinned by our exciting and robust Towards 2025 Strategy which places students at the centre of everything we do, and which brings schools and Parishes together to work as one. The Towards 2025 Strategy commits our system of schools to being at least as good as the very best, to maximise the learning growth of every student, and to inspire hearts and minds to know Christ and love learning. Covering an expansive geographical area which includes the Central Coast and Sydney's Northern Beaches and North Shore, Catholic Schools Broken Bay is a system serving 44 Catholic Schools with around 17,000 students from Kindergarten to Year 12.