New outside school hours support services for students and families

A new and innovative before and after school care program to be known as Arise Catholic Schools Broken Bay will start operating at 14 Catholic primary schools across the Diocese in early 2027, and be progressively rolled out throughout 2027 and 2028.

This follows recent NSW government approval of Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) as an approved provider of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services.

Led by CSBB staff and service leaders, Arise will include "day boarding" programs before and after school which are designed to engage, enrich and inspire students while reflecting the interests, ages and needs of each school community.

The new program goes beyond traditional outside school hours care by offering a more connected learning and care journey, extending support beyond the traditional school day and including the earliest years of a child's development.

Arise will offer opportunities to be active and creative that are closely aligned with Catholic values.

Children will also have dedicated time and a supportive environment to work on homework through a Homework Club.

Vacation care programs will also be developed through 2027.

"This is about creating greater opportunity, connection, and belonging for children while providing families with high-quality care and learning experiences grounded in our Catholic mission and values," Fr David Ranson, Diocesan Administrator said.

CSBB Director of Schools, Danny Casey, said the aim of the program is to expand and strengthen the support available to children and their families.

"We recognise the critical role before and after school care plays for our busy families and we wanted to find a way to better connect these services with the school day.

"Arise and the new ECEC services we are planning to establish will enable us to respond to the needs of our parents and accompany children and families from the earliest years through every stage of their educational journey," he said.

CSBB is reviewing an affordable fee structure and will provide details before enrolments commence while they also progress arrangements for eligible Arise services to access the Australian Government's Child Care Subsidy.

More information https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/latest-news/csbb-launches-new-support-services-for-students