27 October 2021



## **Catholic education backs VCE students and teachers**

The Catholic education community sends wishes of support and encouragement to all Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) students and teachers as 2021 written exams begin today with English at 9.00 am.

'We all know the past two years have been challenging for our VCE students, and we trust they feel as supported and confident as possible as they tackle their final exams', Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) Acting Executive Director Paul Sharkey said.

'Schools have told us that despite the challenges, Year 12 students have shown great resilience and independence, and built their capacity to not only excel in exams, but have also grown as young people ready to take on anything in life and achieve their hopes and dreams.

'I know that our schools and teachers have worked tirelessly to support the students' wellbeing and provide every opportunity for them to stay on top of their work through the lengthy periods of remote learning.

'We also welcome the availability of special consideration provisions for all students, recognising that the pandemic has impacted students and schools in different ways.

'On behalf of the Catholic education community, we encourage all students to take care of themselves, to do their best, and we wish them every success', Dr Sharkey said.

More than 10,500 Year 12 students attend Catholic schools across the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

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