

# NEW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN LUCAS – OPENING IN 2017

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A Community Information Evening for the new Catholic Primary School in Lucas created great interest from many prospective families. "Isn't it great that we can come together here in Lucas, to discuss this new Lucas Catholic primary school and to see this new community taking shape – it's exciting for us to be a part of it and share in it together," said Fr Justin Driscoll at the Ballarat Community Health Centre in Lucas on Monday evening, October 26.

The new school will be designed to accommodate a long term enrolment of approximately 350-400 students and will encompass Prep/Foundation to Year 6.

Catholic Education Office Ballarat director, Audrey Brown, said it was time to bring families on board who wanted a Catholic education at Lucas. "(The meeting is) to reassure families that this project is now under way. There will be a new Catholic primary school at Lucas in 2017," Ms Brown said.

Parents and the local community were encouraged to attend this information night to assist in the planning of the new school. Items raised from the previous Community Consultation Evening in July had been considered by the Steering Committee and the open dialogue provided the committee with considerations for the establishment of the new school. The consensus was that people felt their voice is being heard, creating an exciting opportunity to help shape this new school for our children.



At the meeting, Nicole Wiseman from the City of Ballarat brought to light that the Integrated Early Years Centre opening will coincide with the school opening in 2017. Nicole explained that the Early Years Centre will consist of child care as well as long day care, a maternal and child health center and a kindergarten.

A key discussion point about the school opening on the Lucas school site in 2017 was around a modular building which an appointed architect will design to incorporate into the school's masterplan. The Steering Committee also provided a copy of draft enrolment policy which will help provide a guideline for families wishing to enrol at the new school. Mark

Hogbin, Principal of St Patrick's Parish Primary School Ballarat mentioned, "We all want the same thing – for your beautiful children to be happy in our schools." Families were encouraged to speak with school principals when considering which school they are considering to enrol their children.

Advertising will commence in November for a Principal with the appointment to be made in February 2016. Once the principal has commenced in some capacity, decisions around the type of learning and classroom structure will be considered, as will the school name.

Applications for enrolment are now available on the Catholic Education Office Ballarat website.

To find out more information about the new Catholic Primary School in Lucas please direct all enquiries to the Catholic Education Office Ballarat 03 5337 7135 or [www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au)

