



Pagewood & Matraville Master Plan

Launch Webinar – Submitted questions and
responses

12th November 2020

Submitted Questions

During the webinar attendees were encouraged to submit typed questions via the question function in the GoToWebinar platform. Attendees were advised that their questions would be responded to and posted to the project website.

There were 57 questions submitted throughout the hour-long webinar. These questions, and the corresponding responses, are below. The questions have been retained as much as possible in their original form (corrected for spelling and grammar) and there is repetition. However, to ensure that attendees can recognise their questions when they are posted, there has not been a rationalisation or wholesale change of the questions.

| Submitted Question | Response |
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| Will Marcelin become a feeder for St Andrews again? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place, however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| Will students from OLA be learning the same curriculum they are learning when they go to St Agnes | Curriculum is determined by the educational Stage of the students as set by the NSW Department of Education. |
| How will this effect a current Year 4 student at OLA? Any distractions to learning? Would they be able to visit Year 7 for Maths when they are in Year 6 if they are doing well? Will they finish Year 6 in OLA and start Year 7 in the co-ed high school? | A student in Year 4 in 2020 will complete Year 6 in 2022 at their current school site and if enrolled in Champagnat will be in the first co-educational cohort in 2023. There should be minimal distractions other than some building works on the current Champagnat Catholic College site. |
| Other than the Year 7s in 2023, will girls be introduced into the higher years at the same time? | Girls will be enrolled in the Year 7 cohort from 2023, and in each subsequent Year 7 cohort. There will not be co-educational cohorts in higher years. The first co-educational graduating class for Champagnat will be in 2028. |
| Will Year 3, 2020 be the last class to complete Year 6 before the amalgamation? | Yes. These students will graduate primary school in 2023. The primary schools will amalgamate in January 2024. |
| How will you minimise the impact of construction on students at OLA? | OLA will not experience construction on the site until after the students have relocated to Matraville. Champagnat Catholic College will have building works next door. Project plans will be developed to minimise disruption and ensure safety and access. |
| Why are Pagewood building "deemed unsatisfactory" when they were only built less than 10 years ago? | Some of the existing infrastructure has been deemed unsatisfactory to support the projected growth of enrolments and needs for the future in this area. This is where the Masterplan is purposeful in assessing the schools across the network and to then build facilities that work together to meet the current and future needs of our communities. |
| Are you saying that St Agnes will be rebuilt to become "state of the art"? | The amalgamated primary school located at Matraville will support contemporary learning practices with modern design elements. |

| Submitted Question | Response |
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| How will amalgamating the 2 primary schools meet the growing demographic of the 3000+ people expected to move into the Meriton complex? | Two new Early Learning Centres (ELCs) will be built and we will have a two-stream primary school and a six-stream secondary school. This is an increase in capacity across the pre-school to Year 12 educational pathway for the network. |
| How will going co-ed affect OLSH? Are OLSH on board with this? | OLSH will continue to provide quality Catholic education for girls, they are excited about the expanded offerings for schools in the area. |
| How will the new [secondary college] facilities be shared with primary school? e.g. How will they access science labs? | Across SCS, networks of schools will ensure that a diverse and exciting range of curriculum and co-curricular opportunities are shared and resources are leveraged for the benefit of students in the area. Practical considerations such as transport are being factored into the plan so that the extraordinary resources can be used by both primary and secondary students. |
| What is the process to select a principal and leadership team for the new school? When would this be announced? | <p>Sydney Catholic Schools is currently recruiting for a principal who will oversee both St Agnes and OLA primary schools from January 2021. They will manage the transition and will become the principal of the amalgamated school. This role will be announced in November 2020.</p> <p>Sydney Catholic Schools is also currently recruiting a new director for the network that encompasses St Agnes, OLA and Champagnat. This appointment is expected to be announced in January 2021.</p> |
| Please explain how having new buildings will increase literacy and numeracy? | SCS are committed to using the latest in educational research to ensure that the educational facilities and environmental stimuli encourage and support the foundations of literacy and numeracy. The opportunities in a new build include furniture, classroom layout and environmental cues which encourage engagement and stimulate learning. |
| With these changes, will there be any impact to the feeder schools for Champagnat and St Agnes? Will additional schools be added to the feeder system of Champagnat? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| Will there be more than 1 feed option also from St Agnes? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| What is happening to the OLA church? | The OLA Church will remain unchanged. The parish facilities will be refreshed and enhanced. |
| Has the strategy for the additional subjects and extra-curricular activities programs preceded the construction plans? | While the strategy for increased offerings has certainly been part of the broader plan, the specifics regarding programs and activities will be part of the consultation with parents and students. |

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| Is the Masterplan a pioneer development plan or is this following a model from another school expansion somewhere near to Pagewood? | Sydney Catholics Schools has a continuous program of investing in, and updating, our school infrastructure to continue to deliver high quality and low-fee Catholic education. SCS is refurbishing and undertaking new construction in many schools across the system. |
| Can you tell us the number of dollars to be budgeted on bricks and mortar and then give parents the planned number of dollars to be budgeted for teachers, for subjects to be offered and programs to be offered? | As identified, the costs of a project this significant are far more than just the bricks and mortar. SCS will make significant investment not only in the physical infrastructure but programs and human resources. Many of these initiatives such as sport, music and performing arts as well educational programs such as master teachers and instructional specialists will be instigated across SCS schools so particular costings are not directly attributable to a single project. |
| Do you not think the parents should be invited at the concept phase of the project? It appears you are inviting parents after the expansion plan and masterplan has reached an advanced stage? | Sydney Catholic Schools has a continuous program of investing in, and updating, our school infrastructure to continue to deliver high quality and low-fee Catholic education. Our research and work with stakeholders has informed this broad program. We invite staff, parents and parishioners to participate in the community specific aspects of the Pagewood and Matraville Masterplan. |
| Why was there no mention of the Catholic Spiritual fabric of the school student body? Why does this appear to be a secular school environment? | <p>The principals articulated the commitment to continuing and respecting the traditions and charism of the founding Orders – Marist Brothers and The Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.</p> <p>The Masterplan delivers a school environment that will support contemporary learning in a faith-based community on church-centred campuses.</p> |
| Will there be adequate funding for OLA to be run and managed appropriately until it closes? | Sydney Catholic Schools is committed to delivering high quality Catholic education for all of our 150 schools. This includes OLA through to the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| As the Sydney Catholic Schools is limited in resources, what other program elements are going to be reduced? | Sydney Catholics Schools (SCS) is a system of 150 schools across the Archdiocese of Sydney providing more than 70,000 students with a high-quality, low-fee Catholic education. SCS is appropriately resourced to deliver its commitment to the Catholic families of Sydney. |
| Will the teachers be moved from OLA to St. Agnes? | The teaching staff at OLA will be part of the amalgamation and will relocate to the Matraville site. |
| Will feeder schools change for the girls? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| Will there be another feeder school for boys at St Andrews who do not want co-ed? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |

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| When Champagnat goes co-ed in 2023, will there be girls in all years or just Year 7? | Girls will be enrolled in the Year 7 cohort from 2023, and in each subsequent Year 7 cohort. There will not be co-educational cohorts in higher years. The first co-educational graduating class for Champagnat will be in 2028. |
| Is enrolment in the co-ed high school confirmed for year beginning 2023? Is there a chance this could change? | Sydney Catholic Schools has announced that Champagnat Catholic College will be co-educational from 2023. Enrolments for that co-ed cohort will open in March 2021. |
| Currently Champagnat is the feeder school for OLA. Will a single-sex feeder school also be provided for those not wanting to go to a co-ed school? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| Will the girls' feeder school change to Champagnat or will they also be given a single-sex option? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| What was the make-up of the webinar attendees? | Participants were able to identify during the registration process. From those declarations, we hosted 60% parents of current or future students, 19% staff of Matraville and Pagewood as well as other local Catholic schools and 21% either parishioners, community members or unspecified. |
| Will the year 6 OLA students in 2022 and 2023 miss out on opportunities and experiences normally enjoyed by year 6 students such as being buddies to Kindergarten children, leadership roles etc.? | The OLA primary school will continue to operate fully, including new enrolments in Kindergarten and all years, until the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| How will the amalgamation impact the search for a new principal for Our Lady of the Annunciation? | Sydney Catholic Schools is currently recruiting for a Principal who will oversee both St Agnes and OLA primary schools from January 2021. They will manage the transition and will become the principal of the amalgamated school. |
| For OLA how will the quality of education be guaranteed for students in the few years before the amalgamation? | Sydney Catholic Schools is committed to delivering high quality Catholic education for all of our 150 schools. This includes OLA through to the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| Are teachers of OLA guaranteed job security from now to the end of 2023 so that quality teachers do not leave? | The teaching staff at OLA will be part of the amalgamation and will relocate to the Matraville site. |
| How will this affect the current feeder school system? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| Will the new Matraville primary school no longer be a feeder to OLSH college? | Matraville will continue to feed to OLSH College. |

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| Will OLA continue to accept kindergarten enrolments in 2021? | The OLA primary school will continue to operate fully, including new enrolments in Kindergarten and all years, until the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| Will Ms Colussi remain the Principal of St Agnes? | Sydney Catholic Schools is currently recruiting for a principal who will oversee both St Agnes and OLA primary schools from January 2021. They will manage the transition and will become the principal of the amalgamated school. |
| If numbers at OLA get particularly low through the transition - will OLA close before 2023? | Sydney Catholic Schools is committed to delivering high quality Catholic education for all of our 150 schools. This includes OLA through to the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| Which website are you referring to, where info will be posted & shared? | The Pagewood and Matraville Masterplan project website is www.pmm.ceosyd.catholic.edu.au . Information and updates about the project will be posted to this website. |
| Will the teachers from OLA go to St Agnes with the students? | The teaching staff at OLA will be part of the amalgamation and will relocate to the Matraville site. |
| When are the development applications being submitted [for building works]? | DAs are submitted in line with the stages of development and will begin to be submitted before the end of the 2020 year. |
| Are there going to be any opportunities through the process where we may object or agree with the changes? | The Masterplan will be implemented by Sydney Catholic Schools. There will be opportunities for you to contribute and we invite staff, parents and parishioners to participate in the community specific aspects of the Pagewood and Matraville Masterplan. |
| What will be the demand for girls at Champagnat? How will this impact the numbers going to the established SCS girls-only schools in the area? What choice have we got for an SCS single- sex boys school in area? | Community research suggests that there is a demand for co-educational education in the area. OLSH will continue to provide quality Catholic education for girls, they are excited about the expanded offerings for schools in the area. The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. |
| Is St Aidens, Maroubra going to increase student numbers for local children displaced from OLA Pagewood? | The amalgamated primary school will be two-stream with increased capacity for students. All students that are enrolled at OLA at the time of amalgamation are guaranteed a place in the Matraville school. |
| How will this Masterplan sustain the existing Marist history, such as buildings named after significant places? How will the Marist history be incorporated in the new masterplan? | Faith formation of students, families, staff and the community continue to be central to the offering of our Catholic schools and colleges. The rich Marist charism will be continued in a range of ways including the physical environment and faith opportunities for staff and students. Naming of buildings and facilities will be an area of consultation as the college is developed. |
| Will there be a change to feeder school options? If people don't want to send to a co-ed high school, will Marcelin be available as a feeder school? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |

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| How will you ensure quality of education [at St Agnes primary school] during the years before 2024? | Sydney Catholic Schools is committed to delivering high quality Catholic education for all of our 150 schools. This includes St Agnes primary school through to the amalgamation in January 2024. |
| How will you attract girls to the school when there are 2 very good girls' schools in the area? | Co-education is a different offering but equally as sound academically and socially. The attraction of girls will be the attraction of girls and families who are seeking a coeducational opportunity for their students. All SCS schools are committed to providing excellent teaching and learning and opportunities for all our students. |
| What are the options for the parents who would prefer a single-sex education [for their boys], if Champagnat is the only feeder option based on their current primary school? | The Botany-Randwick network will provide options for both single-sex and co-educational options. Primary schools in the network will be able to feed to both single-sex and co-educational options. As is the case now, a feeder pathway is not a guarantee of an enrolment place however the plan is an intention to provide a choice for parents based on the needs of their students and varied educational opportunities. |
| What are the plans for integrating girls into the high school? | The transition from single-sex to coeducational offerings is a transition which requires changed physical facilities, assessment of curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities to provide for both boys and girls and professional development for staff on diverse and inclusive teaching practices. It is anticipated that this is regardless of boys or girls but provides a comprehensive offering for all students. Sydney Catholic Schools will also draw on the lessons from schools where it has successfully introduced co-education into single-sex schools in North Sydney and Penshurst. |
| Will girls be introduced in all year level from 2023? | Girls will be enrolled in the Year 7 cohort from 2023, and in each subsequent Year 7 cohort. There will not be co-educational cohorts in higher years. The first co-educational graduating class for Champagnat will be in 2028. |
| What year is OLA closing down? | OLA will amalgamate with St Agnes and relocate to the Matraville site in January 2024. |
| If I do not want my child to go to St. Agnes school [now that it is amalgamating], are you assisting with placing [students] in other Catholic Schools? | St Agnes will be an innovative and contemporary learning environment for students and families. As in any case, we are committed to working with you and parents who wish to explore other opportunities in our system will be supported in as many ways as we can. |
| Will OLA students have first preference [for enrolment at other schools] due to the fact that OLA is no long be operating [will be amalgamating; if the parents do not want to send their child to the amalgamated school]? | St Agnes will be an innovative and contemporary learning environment for students and families. As in any case, we are committed to working with you and parents who wish to explore other opportunities in our system will be supported in as many ways as we can. |
| Why was this information not disclosed when I enrolled my children to attend OLA? | There is a process to develop and refine plans of this significance, size and scale. Sydney Catholic Schools communicates appropriately at each stage in this process to ensure accurate information is available. The Pagewood and Matraville Masterplan was publically announced on 12 th November 2020. |
| How will this impact the students currently in Year 4 at Matraville? | A student in Year 4 in 2020 will complete Year 6 in 2022 at their current school site. There will be a construction program at Matraville during this time. Sydney Catholic Schools has extensive experience in managing construction |

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| | works across the system, and will plan appropriately to minimise disturbance on the site during school hours. For example, large or noisy works will be scheduled for school holidays. |

