

NEW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN LUCAS

The process for establishing a new Catholic School in Lucas, Ballarat has commenced. In 2014 Integra signed a contract with the Catholic Education Office Ballarat (CEOB) and St Patrick's Cathedral Parish for a three hectare site in Lucas' education precinct.

About fifty people attended a Community Consultation Evening at the Ballarat Golf Club on Tuesday, July 21 where information was provided for the proposed new Catholic primary school.

The new school will be designed to accommodate a long term enrolment of approximately 350-400 students. This school will be Prep/Foundation to Year 6 with consideration for early childhood into the future. Subject to further consultation and capital funding approval, the proposed date for the new school to be operational on the Lucas site is 2018.



At the meeting, Nick Grylewicz from Integra presented information on the Lucas development including future plans for residential sites, sporting facilities and commercial infrastructure. Parents and the local community were encouraged to attend this Community Consultation Evening where there was an open dialogue to discuss important issues for the opening of the new school. The evening focussed on the planning process, establishing an educational brief, facility master plan as well as the timing for the new school. The new school will provide families with contemporary facilities to meet the needs of residents seeking a Catholic education in Lucas and the surrounding communities including Cardigan.

CEOB planning, risk and infrastructure manager Brad Carr said the new catholic school would meet the needs of families seeking a Catholic education in the Lucas area. "It is an exciting time for Ballarat in general, the growth area and Lucas. This is our first stage in consulting the community," Mr Carr said. The CEOB will work closely with existing Catholic school communities, potential families, the developer and funding sources to determine when the new school will open.

Audrey Brown, Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Ballarat said it was important there was a Catholic school in the growing regional area of Lucas. "Catholic education has been part of the Ballarat story since the goldfields. Continuing the tradition of faith-based education in partnership with families in the Lucas area is a natural next step for us."

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



Photos:

Top: Nick Grylewicz, Integra, Fr Justin Driscoll and Julie Duynhoven, CEO Ballarat in Lucas

Middle: Fr Justin Driscoll presenting to the gathering

Bottom: Tony Perkins, CEOB discusses the new school