Administrator of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch 2/9 Washington Way PO Box 4544 Christchurch 8140 New Zealand

4 July 2016

Marian College

As we draw closer to making a final decision on where a new Marian College will be built, I am seeking feedback from those with an interest in the school and also the adjacent Catholic Cathedral College.

After consultation with the Board of Trustees of Marian College, the Board of Trustees of Catholic Cathedral College and the Proprietors Board of St Bede's College and the Board of Trustees of St Bede's College the preferred option is to rebuild the new Marian College on its present site in the Cathedral Education Precinct.

This would see Marian College remain as a single-sex school that would share some facilities and resources with neighbouring Catholic Cathedral College. Both schools would retain their own unique character.

This is not the final decision. That will be made by the end of Term 3 in September, once we have received and studied your feedback.

To date, this has been a thorough process. Originally Bishop Barry and advisers looked at five options, but during the consultation process we arrived at two for a variety of reasons.

The second option was the possibility of siting Marian College on the St Bede's College site. Both Boards of St Bede's College have engaged with us willingly and openly over the past three years. A number of meetings were held but the Diocese was clear the land available at St Bede's College was not sufficient space for Marian College.

We understand the frustrations for many in the time that it has taken us to reach a preferred option, but this is an important decision, hence this opportunity for you to provide feedback.

Bishop Barry Jones initiated this process and following his death, and my appointment as Administrator of the Diocese, we have followed the clear parameters that he had set for this investigation. Our preferred option concurs with his thinking.

Your feedback can be emailed to marianfeedback@chch.catholic.org.nz by July 22. I will then consider this feedback before the final decision is made.

Your feedback is extremely valuable and we thank you for taking time to respond.

God bless

Father Rick Loughnan

<u>Administrator</u>