St John Paul II Catholic College

FORMERLY KNOWN AS TERRA SANCTA COLLEGE

All correspondence to: 85 Hambledon Road, Schofields NSW 2762 EMAIL: stjohnpaul2@parra.catholic.edu.au WEBSITE: www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au



SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS Years 7 – 10 Ph: 9208 7200 Fax: 9208 7230

NIRIMBA CAMPUS Years 11 & 12 Ph: 9208 7200 Fax: 9208 7290

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In response to the growing demand for enrolments in Catholic schools in north-west Sydney, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will open Santa Sophia Catholic College in 2018. The permanent site for the school will be located in Box Hill but a temporary site is needed during the building phase and while local infrastructure is completed.

The school's first intake of students next year is expected to be small with enrolments open to Years 7 and 8. The school's foundation principal is Mr Mark De Vries, current Director of Learning and Pedagogy at St Mark's Catholic College Stanhope Gardens.

It was originally announced that the location of the temporary school would be within the grounds of Our Lady of the Angels Primary Rouse Hill. However, after further research and investigation, it became clear that the best available site for the location of the temporary school was within the grounds of StJPII at Schofields. It is in this context that I have agreed to a request by the Executive Director Greg Whitby to allow a small section of StJPII to be used temporarily to support the establishment of Santa Sophia Catholic College.

Therefore, the first cohort of Santa Sophia students in 2018 will be housed in the some of the spaces in the StJPII Co-operative Learning Centre. When opportunities are available, they will also be offered access to other college facilities such as the resource centre or a specialist classroom. Given the small number of students involved, and the space available at StJPII, this arrangement is not expected to impact at all on the normal running of the college. While Santa Sophia College students may access some facilities such as bathrooms and the tuckshop, in the main, Santa Sophia Catholic College will operate independently of StJPII.

Thank you in advance for your support as we work together to make sure that all local families can access a high quality faith-based education. I am pleased that StJPII is able to assist Santa Sophia in its foundation years and I look forward to welcoming the school's first cohort next year.

I will provide you with further information about this matter in the weeks and months ahead.

Yours sincerely

Fanning

Jim Fanning

Principal