



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

22 July 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I am writing to advise that Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) has recently been the subject of false email representations designed to obtain personal information.

Our IT security team has systems and measures in place to monitor and respond quickly to cyber security incidents, and in this case, detected and quickly intercepted unauthorised access to a small number of CEWA email accounts.

Supported by an international cyber security firm, CEWA's IT security team continues to take steps to identify any possible data breaches and limit potential effects on our staff, students and school communities.

You may have seen reports in the media that respected organisations worldwide have been subjected to similar illegal activity, and thus CEWA has not been specifically targeted. While investigations are ongoing, a confirmed data breach has been identified at one school and there is no evidence that any student data has been put at risk as a result of the breach. Additional cyber security measures were promptly put in place and the parent community informed.

This incident is a timely reminder of the importance of good cyber safety behaviours and additional information on cyber security can be found at <https://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/protect-yourself>

Fraudulent emails

Several tips are recommended in determining if you have received a fraudulent email:

- Use unique passwords across different online accounts.
- Treat any email you did not expect to receive with suspicion.
- CEWA and your school will never request your password in an email or over the phone.

If you have questions or concerns about the safety and security of your personal information, please contact CEWA's cyber security partner, ES2, on **1800 372 732**.

The safety and security of all in the CEWA community remains our highest priority and CEWA will continue to take measures to ensure online safety.

Yours sincerely

Dr Debra Sayce
Executive Director

