



CNA
Catholic Network
Australia

Annual Report

2025-26





Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, Catholic Network Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia. We recognise their enduring connection to Country, culture and community, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We are committed to walking together in partnership, respect and learning.

Deep Ties

by Jashayla Highfold-O'Loughlin

St Clare's School, Lathlain
Western Australia

Catholic Network Australia Ltd.

Established in 2009 by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Catholic Network Australia (CNA) is a national network that brings together Catholic education providers from across Australia to strengthen collaboration, improve access to technology and expertise, and deliver shared value through national initiatives.

Guided by its vision to **empower Catholic school communities with technologies that serve today and shape tomorrow**, CNA supports more than 860,000 students, educators and staff across over 1,700 schools and early learning centres.

Through its five strategic pillars - **Education, Technology, Commercial, Communication and Governance** - CNA delivers strategic procurement, professional learning, student initiatives, collaboration and thought leadership. Underpinning this work is a commitment to **Community, Equity and Value**: strengthening connections across Catholic education, championing equitable access to opportunities and resources, and delivering tangible benefits for every Participant.

The following dioceses, Religious Institutes and Ministerial Public Juridic Person (MPJP) School Authorities are currently CNA participants:

National

Marist Schools Australia

Western Australia

Aquinas College
Catholic Education Western Australia Ltd
Christian Brothers College Fremantle
Santa Maria College
Trinity College

South Australia

Catholic Education South Australia

Victoria

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd
Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Ltd
Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Ltd
Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd
MACSEYE

Tasmania

Catholic Education Tasmania

Queensland

All Hallows' School Limited, Brisbane
Brisbane Catholic Education
Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns
Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton
Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Schools
Townsville Catholic Education
EREA Colleges, Queensland
Downlands College, Queensland

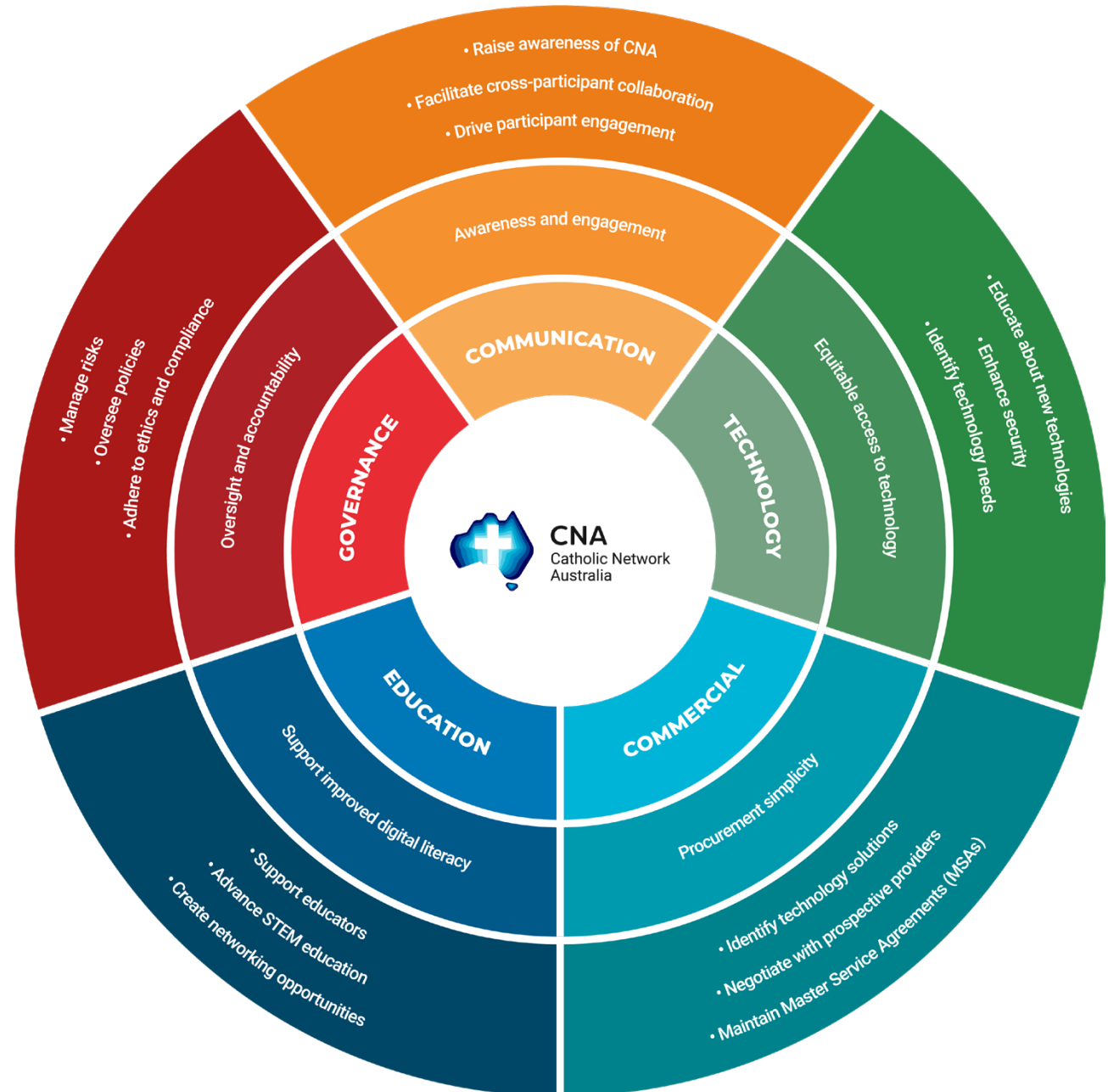
ACT/New South Wales

Catholic Education Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst
Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga
Catholic Education Diocese of Wollongong
Catholic Schools Broken Bay
Catholic Schools Diocese of Armidale
Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd
Community Ventures
Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Ltd
Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes
Sydney Catholic Schools

Executive and Working Group Membership:

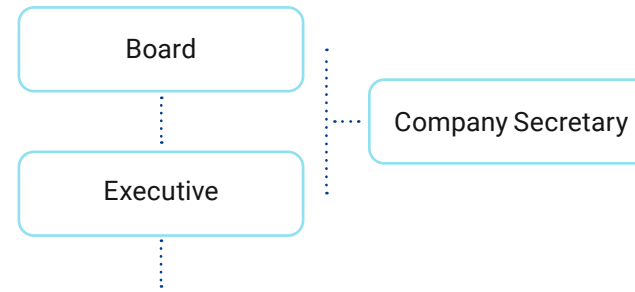
Executive Education Governance Communication Technology Commercial

CNA's Strategic Vision



CNA's Structure

The **Executive** is composed of the chair and deputy of each Working Group, invited experts from across CNA Participants, and a Board member who serves as chair on a rolling annual basis. The Executive ensures cohesive and consultative review of new and ongoing initiatives while providing peer review before key deliverables are shared with the Board.



Commercial Working Group

The **Commercial Working Group**, brings together technical and commercial specialists with expertise in procurement, contract evaluation, negotiation, and management. This group manages and monitors existing Master Services Agreements with third-party vendors, ensuring optimal value and service delivery for CNA participants. They proactively explore new product and service needs, support participant onboarding, and handle commercial term amendments and escalations.

Communication Working Group

The **Communication Working Group**, comprises educators, technologists, and communication specialists responsible for CNA's communication strategy and operational delivery. This diverse team manages the CNA website and social media channels, ensuring timely and informative content for the Catholic education sector. They collaborate with all working groups, the Executive, and the Board to create engaging collateral and communication tools that raise awareness and increase participant engagement.

Education Working Group

The **Education Working Group** unites passionate educators and digital learning specialists from across the CNA network to enhance educational experiences through thoughtful digital integration. Led by experts who understand the unique context of Catholic education, this group drives strategic initiatives that improve teaching and learning across participating schools and systems. They spearhead flagship events including STEM MAD National, develop professional learning programs, and create educational resources while maintaining alignment with Catholic values and pedagogical principles.

Governance Working Group

The **Governance Working Group** comprises senior leaders from across Australian Catholic Education who play a critical role in overseeing organisational processes, including risk management and strategic alignment. This group ensures that all working group initiatives align with CNA's broader mission and strategic intent as established by the Board. Their oversight fosters cohesion and confidence in achieving CNA's goals.

Technology Working Group

The **Technology Working Group** consists of technology leaders from across the CNA community who bring deep expertise in assessing and supporting transformative technology initiatives. They manage enterprise systems across CNA schools and collaborate closely with other working groups to ensure practical guidance on system safety, security, and effective management. This group provides relevant technological insight tailored to individual CNA participant needs.

From the Chair

On behalf of the Board, I am delighted to present the 2025–2026 Catholic Network Australia Limited (CNA) Annual Report.

This year has been one of significant growth, resilience and momentum. CNA now supports more than 860,000 students, educators and staff across over 1,700 Catholic schools and early learning centres, continuing to strengthen collaboration and deliver value for Catholic education nationwide.

We are delighted to welcome back the Catholic Education Diocese of Wollongong as a CNA Participant. Their return reinforces the strength of a nationally connected Catholic education sector and reflects the enduring value of collaboration, shared expertise and collective action. CNA now represents 95% of all Catholic students and educators across Australia, which is a source of great pride for everyone who contributes to its smooth functioning.

This growth has been achieved during a period

of significant leadership renewal across both CNA and the wider Catholic education sector. While transitions in Working Group and system leadership can often slow organisational progress, CNA has continued to build momentum, demonstrating the resilience of its governance, the strength of its collaborative model, and the commitment of its participants.

This seamless continuity of our work is a testament to the clarity of our strategy, effectiveness of our governance, dedication and capability of our volunteers and the collaborative culture that has been built across our community. Engagement within and across our Working Groups, national events and communications has continued to increase, demonstrating the growing value participants place on learning from one another and working together to address shared opportunities and challenges. It is this spirit of collaboration that continues to distinguish CNA and positions us strongly for the future.

The Board extends its sincere gratitude to the many volunteers who contribute their time, expertise and leadership to CNA. Every working group meeting, national initiative, professional learning opportunity, student program and strategic procurement outcome is made possible through their generosity and commitment to serving the broader Catholic education community. We also acknowledge our valued partners, whose expertise and collaboration continue to help deliver meaningful outcomes for Catholic education across Australia.

Finally, I wish to thank my fellow Directors for their guidance, stewardship and commitment throughout the year. Together, they have helped ensure CNA remains focused on its purpose while continuing to evolve in response to the changing needs of Catholic education.

The 2025–2026 year also marks the culmination of CNA's three-year strategic journey. Over this period, CNA has exceeded the

objectives we set for ourselves, strengthened the foundations of the organisation and demonstrated the value of a nationally connected Catholic education community. As we move into our 2026–2028 strategy, this is not a change in direction, but a continuation of a course that is delivering results - building on our strengths, extending our impact and evolving in response to the changing needs of Catholic education.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge Dr Sally Towns. Sally was part of the CNA journey for many years, contributing not only as a Board member but as one of the strongest advocates for collaboration and innovation across Catholic education. Her leadership, strategic insight and unwavering commitment helped shape CNA. Sally sadly passed away in May 2026, shortly after stepping down from the CNA Board due to illness. She faced her diagnosis with remarkable courage, grace and unwavering faith. May she rest in peace.

As we look ahead, I am optimistic about the future of Catholic Network Australia. The continued growth of our network, the willingness of leaders across Australia to contribute their expertise, and the strength of our collaborative model position CNA to deliver even greater impact in the years ahead.

Together, we remain committed to our vision of empowering Catholic school communities with technologies that serve today and shape tomorrow, ensuring every Catholic school and early learning service - regardless of location or size - can benefit from the collective strength of our national community.

With sincere appreciation,



Peter Matthey



Recognising Outstanding Service



Dr. Sally Towns

Catholic Network Australia honours the life and legacy of Dr Sally Towns, whose leadership, wisdom and unwavering commitment helped shape CNA into the collaborative national network it is today.

Throughout her years of service as a Director and passionate advocate for Catholic education, Sally embodied the spirit of collaboration that defines CNA. She believed deeply that by working together, Catholic education systems could achieve more for students, educators and school communities than any organisation could accomplish alone.

Sally's influence extended far beyond the Board table. She was a champion of innovation, a generous mentor and a trusted leader who helped guide CNA through a period of significant growth and transformation. Her strategic insight, integrity and commitment to serving others strengthened our organisation and inspired countless colleagues across Australia.

As Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education, Sally was recognised nationally for her leadership and her vision for the future of Catholic education. Through her work with CNA, she generously shared that vision, helping build enduring partnerships, fostering a culture of trust and collaboration, and ensuring that opportunities created through CNA benefited Catholic education as a whole.

Perhaps Sally's greatest legacy is the collaborative spirit she helped cultivate. The relationships she built, the generosity she modelled and the values she championed continue to shape the way CNA serves its participants today. Her contribution will be felt for many years to come.

On behalf of the Board, Participants, Working Groups, volunteers and partners of Catholic Network Australia, we give thanks for Sally's extraordinary life of service and leadership. We remember with deep gratitude all that she gave to Catholic education and to our organisation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sally's husband, children, family, friends and colleagues as they mourn her passing. May they find comfort in the profound impact she had on so many lives, and in the enduring legacy she leaves across Catholic education.

May Sally rest in the peace of Christ, and may perpetual light shine upon her.

Key activities & impact

CNA's impact is made possible through the generosity and expertise of volunteers from Catholic education systems across Australia. Their leadership, collaboration and shared commitment enable participants to learn from one another, respond collectively to emerging opportunities, and deliver initiatives that strengthen the sector.

By connecting participants, sharing expertise and negotiating nationally, CNA helps ensure that schools and early learning services - regardless of geography, size or available resources - can access high-quality technologies, professional learning and strategic opportunities.

Throughout the year, CNA continued to invest in initiatives that build capability across Catholic education, from national working groups and professional learning to strategic procurement, student programs and thought leadership. STEM MAD National remained a flagship initiative, celebrating student creativity and demonstrating how science, technology, engineering and mathematics can be applied to solve authentic, real-world challenges.

CNA also continued to expand its portfolio of centrally negotiated offerings providing participants with equitable access to leading technologies and services while maintaining the flexibility for each participant to determine what best meets its local priorities and needs.

31 July 2025 **Minecraft Jubilee Build Challenge 2025**

A national challenge encouraging students to use Minecraft Education to creatively explore the Jubilee theme while developing digital design, collaboration and problem-solving skills.

11 August 2025 **AI & the Digital Generation – Parent Webinar**

A national webinar supporting parents to better understand artificial intelligence, its impact on young people, and practical strategies for navigating the digital world safely and responsibly.

13-23 October 2025 **CNA Virtual Cyber Incursions**

A series of live, online cyber safety sessions for students from Kindergarten to Year 8, delivered in partnership with the Cyber Safety Project to strengthen digital citizenship, privacy awareness and online safety.

18 November 2025 **STEM MAD National**

CNA's flagship national STEM showcase brought together students and educators from across Australia to present innovative solutions to real-world challenges, celebrating creativity, collaboration and Catholic Social Teaching through STEM.

16-18 March 2026 **Joint Education & Technology Working Group Forum**

Hosted by Catholic Education Western Australia in Perth, the joint forum brought together education and technology leaders from across Australia to collaborate on shared priorities including artificial intelligence, cyber security, digital governance, online learning and student wellbeing, strengthening national collaboration and shaping future CNA initiatives.

CNA empowers its Participants to make a difference by strengthening connections across Catholic **COMMUNITY**, championing **EQUITY** and access, and achieving tangible **VALUE** and benefits for all.

COMMUNITY

National Community



95%
of Catholic school students
and educators nationally

New national initiatives

Established Online Learning Community

Transitioned Technology Assessment Platform (TAP) to National Catholic Education Commission



2 New participants



EQUITY

Professional learning



36 CNA and partner-led student incursions, webinars, forums, and other events

Representation



Working Group representation spanning **21** dioceses and systems of schools

Economics

Participation grants introduced for socio-economically impacted Participant travel to in-person events

\$0 increase in membership fees over the past five years

VALUE

Return on Investment

380% average annual return for Participants who consume CNA negotiated MSAs

Utilisation

100% of Participants use at least one negotiated CNA offering

New commercial offerings



Interested to learn more? Visit www.cna.catholic.edu.au

Working Group Achievements

At the heart of CNA is a national community of volunteers who generously contribute their expertise to strengthen Catholic education across Australia. Through the Commercial, Communication, Education, Governance and Technology Working Groups, participants collaborate across organisational boundaries to address shared challenges, identify opportunities, and deliver practical outcomes that create community, equity and value for all participants.

The following pages showcase the key achievements of each working group throughout 2025–2026.

Commercial Working Group

The Commercial Working Group focuses on delivering greater value for Participants through strategic procurement, supplier governance and nationally negotiated commercial agreements. Chaired by Boyd Bostock, Head of IT Systems and Platforms at Brisbane Catholic Education, the Working Group engages with Participants and industry partners to simplify procurement, strengthen supplier relationships, and improve equitable access to technology and services across Catholic education.

Secure Networking and Data Carriage

Following a comprehensive national market assessment, CNA established three new Master Service Agreements (MSAs) with **Macquarie Telecom**, **Orro** and **Vocus** for secure networking and data carriage services.

These agreements provide Participants with access to nationally negotiated commercial terms while maintaining complete flexibility to choose the provider and solution that best aligns with their local requirements. Participants can transition at the conclusion of their existing contracts, with no obligation to change providers.

CNA continues to facilitate commercial outcomes and procurement processes for Participants with **Fortinet**, while the new data carriage providers remain open to supporting edge device hardware selection choices that align with individual Participant needs.

Microsoft Licensing Agreement

A major priority this year has been negotiating CNA's next Microsoft licensing agreement ahead of the expiry of the current five-year arrangement on 31 March 2027.

Building on the experience and relationships established through previous negotiations, CNA has worked closely with Microsoft, Licensing Solution Providers and Participants to accelerate the negotiation process while

seeking optimal commercial outcomes, greater pricing certainty, enhanced transparency, and stronger strategic collaboration for Catholic education nationally.

This work represents one of the most broadly impactful commercial initiatives undertaken by CNA and has involved extensive consultation with Participants to ensure the negotiated outcomes reflect their priorities.

Additional Solutions

The Commercial Working Group also expanded CNA's portfolio of nationally negotiated offerings through new strategic partnerships.



An agreement with **Makers Empire** provides participating schools with preferential pricing and improved access to leading 3D design and STEM learning resources, supporting innovative classroom practice and student engagement.



CNA also established a partnership with **Compnow**, giving Participants access to nationally negotiated pricing for Apple hardware, deployment services and professional learning. The partnership supports schools at every stage of their Apple journey, from new deployments through to large-scale Mac and iPad environments.

Together, these partnerships continue to strengthen CNA's ability to simplify procurement, leverage the collective scale of Catholic education, and provide Participants with greater choice, value and support.

Communication Working Group

Led by Ben Beaton, Head of School Technology Enablement at Catholic Education Western Australia, the Communications Working Group is responsible for strengthening awareness, engagement, and collaboration across the CNA community. The Working Group oversees CNA's communications strategy, ensuring Participants remain informed about opportunities, resources, events, partnerships, and national initiatives, while also showcasing the collective impact of Catholic education across Australia. Through a coordinated approach to digital communications, the group helps connect educators, technology leaders, executive leadership, and industry partners, fostering a stronger and more engaged national community. Throughout 2025–2026, the Working Group continued to expand CNA's digital presence, enhance participant communications, and develop new channels to better connect stakeholders across the network.

CNA Website

This year marked the first major redesign of the CNA website since its launch. Informed by participant feedback and website analytics, the new site was redesigned around the Participant experience, making it easier to access CNA services, resources, events, and partnership opportunities.

27,101

site sessions (+73%)

+245% direct sessions

+45% Google (organic) sessions

20,849

unique visitors (+116%)

+45% Newsletter generated sessions

+79 blog posts +36 events

New features included a dedicated Participant induction, enhanced event information, expanded thought leadership content, instructional videos, and improved guidance for Participants, partners, and prospective collaborators.

The redesigned website has significantly increased awareness and engagement, recording

LinkedIn

LinkedIn continues to be CNA's primary social media channel for sharing news, celebrating participant achievements, promoting events, and showcasing thought leadership across Catholic education.

During the year, CNA published 88 posts, surpassed 1,000 followers, generated more than 50,400 organic impressions (+51%), and received over 1,300 reactions, reflecting growing engagement with educators, technology professionals, and system leaders nationwide.

Educator Newsletter

Published quarterly, the **Educator Newsletter** connects teachers and school leaders with practical resources, professional learning opportunities, technology updates, research, and events.

Distribution increased to 724 subscribers (+7%), with an average 47% open rate and 8% click-through rate, demonstrating strong engagement with classroom-focused content.

Leadership Newsletter

Published twice each year, the **Leadership Newsletter** provides Directors, Executive Leadership Teams, CIOs, and senior leaders with strategic updates on governance, commercial initiatives, technology, and national priorities.

Distribution grew to 281 leaders (+61%), achieving an average 56% open rate and 18% click-through rate, reinforcing its value as a trusted communication channel for Catholic education leadership.

Education Working Group

Led by **Matthew Ferrinda**, Team Leader – Digital Learning at Catholic Education Western Australia, the Education Working Group brings together educators from across Australia to advance digital literacy, STEM education, online learning, and innovative teaching practice.

The Working Group provides a national forum for sharing expertise, identifying emerging priorities, and developing collaborative initiatives that improve learning outcomes for students and professional learning for educators.

Throughout the year, members met regularly online and in-person, including a Joint Working Group Forum in Perth, delivered in partnership with the Technology Working Group. The forum strengthened collaboration across Catholic education while exploring shared priorities including artificial intelligence, digital wellbeing, online learning, and the future of education.

STEM MAD National 2025



STEM MAD National remains CNA's flagship education initiative, inspiring students to **Make a Difference (MAD)** by applying STEM knowledge to solve authentic challenges through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching.

Hosted by Catholic Education South Australia at the Adelaide Convention Centre, the 2025 National Showcase brought together 333 students from 72 schools across 13 dioceses, presenting 110 innovative STEM projects through both live and virtual participation.

The event continues to grow as a national celebration of student innovation, fostering collaboration between schools, educators, industry and higher education while showcasing practical solutions to real-world challenges. The 2025 showcase also received national media coverage through **Channel 7** and **Behind the News (BTN)**, further highlighting the outstanding work of Catholic school students.

STEM MAD National 2025 Highlights

5 States

13 Dioceses

72 Schools

333 Students

64 Live Teams

41 Online Teams

110 Projects



Cyber Safety Project - AI in Education: Ethical and Responsible Use

Following the successful pilot, CNA expanded its partnership with the **Cyber Safety Project** to deliver the AI in Education: Ethical and Responsible Use micro-credential nationally. By April 2026, the program had been adopted by 271 schools across five Catholic education systems, with 1,998 educators enrolled and 300 course completions. Additional dioceses are scheduled to commence implementation during the next phase.

The course continues to receive positive feedback, with educators highlighting its practical relevance and reporting increased confidence in the ethical use of AI, privacy, data protection and safe classroom implementation. The initiative is strengthening AI capability across Catholic education while providing equitable access to high-quality professional learning and supporting a consistent, system-wide approach to responsible AI adoption.

2025 Student Cyber Safety Week Incursions

Cyber Safety Week 2025 was a significant success, with CNA's virtual cyber security incursions reaching 18,998 students nationwide. Through targeted sessions designed for different age groups, students from Kindergarten to Year 8 engaged in cyber safety education that promoted responsible online behaviour, digital resilience and cyber awareness.

The initiative demonstrated CNA's ongoing commitment to supporting schools and education communities in building safer digital environments, with participation from numerous Catholic education dioceses and school networks across Australia. The strongest engagement was seen in the primary years, with 6,328 students from Kindergarten to Year 2, 5,749 students from Years 3–4, and 3,284 students from Years 5–6 participating, alongside 1,896 Year 7 students and 1,741 Year 8 students. Building on the success of Cyber Week 2025, CNA's week-long cyber security incursion program will return in 2026, with an expanded offering that will extend

learning opportunities to Years 9–12, ensuring students across the full school journey have access to age-appropriate cyber security and online safety education.

Joint Working Group Forum – Perth



In March 2026, the Education and Technology Working Groups co-led a national Joint Working Group Forum in Perth, hosted by Catholic Education Western Australia. The forum provided a valuable opportunity for leaders from across Australia to strengthen relationships, share

practical experience, and collaborate on common challenges facing Catholic education.

Discussions focused on the evolving role of artificial intelligence in schools, cyber security, digital governance, data-informed decision-making, student wellbeing, and emerging technologies. Participants also explored opportunities for greater national collaboration, identifying shared priorities that will inform future CNA initiatives and cross-jurisdictional projects.

Online Learning Subgroup

During the year, the **Online Learning Subgroup** was established under the Education Working Group to create a dedicated forum for educators leading online and blended learning across Catholic education. Meeting quarterly, the subgroup brings together practitioners from across Australia to share effective practice, explore emerging approaches to digital learning, and collaborate on common challenges.

Governance Working Group

Led by Janine Conolly, Executive Manager Data, Strategy & Transformation, Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns, the Governance Working Group strengthened CNA's governance maturity by embedding consistent governance practices, improving risk oversight, and establishing scalable governance frameworks to support the organisation's continued growth.

Strengthening Governance

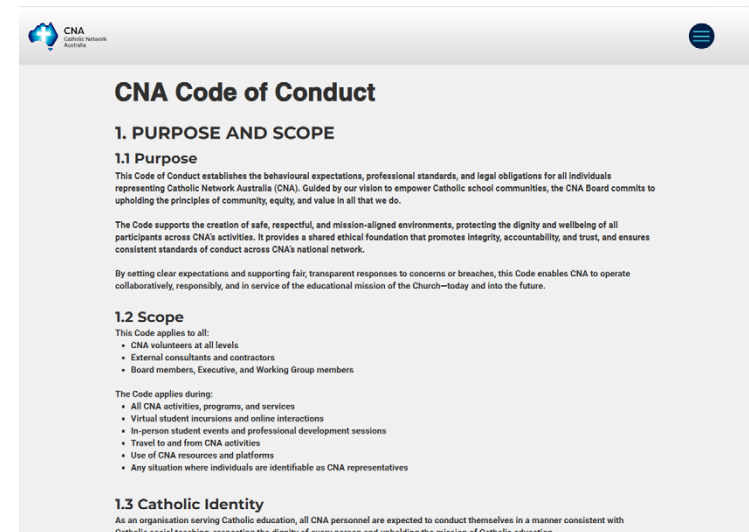
The Working Group implemented dedicated SharePoint environments for each Working Group, integrating agendas, document management and shared issue registers to improve collaboration, transparency and accountability. A central **Conflict of Interest Register** and **Incident Register** was also introduced, alongside a new Code of Conduct to ensure all volunteers understand their responsibilities before accessing CNA systems and information.

Risk and Safeguarding

Governance processes were enhanced through the introduction of standardised event risk assessments, a new Safeguarding Framework and audit process, and a refinement of CNA's enterprise risk framework. The organisational risk register was streamlined from 18 to 14 strategic risk categories, providing stronger alignment with CNA's strategic priorities and operational activities.

Policy and Participant Governance

A central Policy Register was established to maintain the current version of all 22 Board-approved policies, monitor review cycles, and improve policy governance across the organisation. To support the continued growth of the network, the Working Group also supported efforts to develop new Participant induction resources directly into the CNA website.



Technology Working Group

Led by Lee Swift, Chief Information Security Officer at Catholic Education Western Australia, the Technology Working Group brings together technology leaders from across Catholic education to share expertise, identify emerging opportunities, and shape national technology initiatives that improve outcomes for Participants. The Working Group plays a central role in helping CNA identify common technology priorities, foster collaboration, and leverage the collective expertise of technology leaders from across the country.

National Collaboration

A highlight of the year was the Joint Working Group Forum held in Perth, delivered in partnership with the Education Working Group. The event brought together education and technology leaders from every participating jurisdiction to explore the intersection of pedagogy and technology, recognising that many of the most significant challenges facing Catholic education require collaborative solutions.

Key themes included the practical application of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, digital governance, data governance, and emerging technologies. The forum provided Participants with opportunities to share lessons learned, examine common challenges, and identify opportunities for national collaboration, further strengthening relationships across the CNA network.

Technology Assessment Platform (TAP)

The Technology Working Group continued to support the development of the **Technology Assessment Platform (TAP)**, an initiative designed to provide a consistent, evidence-informed framework for assessing the privacy and cybersecurity risks associated with new technologies.

During the year, stewardship of the initiative transitioned to the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC), reflecting its growing significance as a national capability. The Technology Working Group continues to serve as the primary conduit between Participants, NCEC, and Safer Technologies

4 Schools (ST4S), ensuring practical implementation experience, sector feedback, and emerging technology priorities continue to inform the platform's ongoing development.

Commercial support

Technology Working Group members played a critical advisory role for both the secure networking and data carriage and the Microsoft negotiations for CNA. Drawing on technical expertise from across the country, several Technology Working Group members participated in the procurement process for the Microsoft and Licensing Solution Provider agreements. Their experience was relied upon to inform potential operational impacts and options available for Participants and helped to guide CNA's commercial negotiations throughout the 2025-2026 period.

This collaborative approach ensured that negotiations considered not only commercial outcomes, but also the practical technology requirements and alignment with future strategic priorities of Catholic education.

Technology Leadership and Knowledge Sharing

Throughout the year, the Working Group continued to provide a trusted national forum for technology leaders to collaborate on shared challenges and emerging issues.

Members exchanged practical insights on topics including cloud strategy, cybersecurity, Microsoft licensing, infrastructure planning, identity and access management, artificial intelligence, procurement, and digital transformation. By sharing expertise and experiences from across jurisdictions, Participants can make more informed decisions, reduce duplication of effort, and accelerate the adoption of effective technology practices across Catholic education.

Through this ongoing collaboration, the Technology Working Group continues to strengthen CNA's role as a national connector for technology leadership, helping ensure Participants have access to both collective expertise and strategic opportunities that would be difficult to achieve independently.

Compliance & Safeguarding

Catholic Network Australia continues to meet its statutory reporting and governance obligations.

CNA submitted its Annual Information Statement to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) in August 2025, well within the required six-month period following the end of its financial reporting period on 30 June 2025. CNA also completed its required annual organisational update with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) in February 2026.

Although CNA is not required, based on its current size and annual turnover, to comply with all provisions of the Privacy Act 1988, it has elected to operate in accordance with the principles and requirements of the Act as a matter of good governance. CNA also maintains compliance with the Spam Act 2003 in its electronic communications and fulfils its applicable governance obligations under the Corporations Act 2001.

Additionally, safeguarding remains a key organisational priority and is embedded across CNA's governance, events, partnerships and other activities. CNA continues to strengthen its policies, risk-management processes and operating practices to support safe, respectful and accountable participation across the network.

Key People

Directors

Peter Matthey (CNA Board Chair)
Dr. Neil McGoran
Dr. Edward Simons
Megan Kavanagh
Dr. Sally Towns (Retired April 2026, RIP)

Office Bearer

Dr. Doug Ashleigh (Company Secretary)

CNA Executive

Dr. Neil McGoran (Chair, SA)
Dr. Doug Ashleigh (Company Secretary)
Vicki Russell (Melbourne)
Ben Beaton (WA)
Matthew Ferrinda (WA)
Lee Swift (WA)
Adin Sabic (SA)
Boyd Bostock (Brisbane)
Liam Garvey (NCEC IT representative)
Janine Conolly (Cairns)
Matthew Wissell (SA)
Phillip Easter (Melbourne)
Melanie Wray (WA)

Technology Working Group Members

Lee Swift (WA – Chair)
Adin Sabic (SA - Deputy Chair)
Greg Swiney (Sandhurst)
Damian Foster (Ballarat)
Matthew Wissel (SA)
Nyree Buchanan (Townsville)

Michael Norman (Cairns)
Francisco Ramirez (Brisbane)
Boyd Bostock (Brisbane)
Haydn Cockayne (WA)
Brendan Park (Canberra-Goulburn)
Shaq Herath (Trinity)
Jackson Chan (Parramatta)
Andrew Bell (Melbourne)
Karen Kitanov (Paramatta - Resigned)
Mark Koch (WA - Resigned)
Ross March (TAS - Resigned)

Governance Working Group Members

Janine Conolly (Cairns – Chair from April 2026)
Melanie Wray (WA - Deputy Chair from April 2026)
Ben Cooper (Tasmania)
Dr. Doug Ashleigh (Company Secretary)
Jennifer Caro (Brisbane – Chair until April 2026)
Matthew Wissell (SA - Resigned)

Education Working Group Members

Matthew Ferrinda (WA - Chair)
Jo Quinlan (Broken Bay - Deputy Chair)
Liam Garvey (CEQL)
Tracey Catling (Lismore)
Hayley Bertwistle (Maitland-Newcastle)
Marc Hattam (Maitland-Newcastle)
Nicholas Frigo (Melbourne)
Chris Anthony (Canberra)
Jason Ranieri (Sydney)
Janice Mendham (Bathurst)
Paul Norton (Rockhampton)
Megan Newell (Cairns)

Rebecca Sherriffs (WA)
Deborah Kroeger (SA)
Simon Eade (TAS)
Lona Gill (Brisbane)
Mark Woolley (Wollongong)
Ben Woods (Wollongong)
Jane Heatley (TAS - Resigned)
Caitlin Caputi (WA - Resigned)
Tim Smith (Townsville – Resigned)
David Gall (Brisbane - Resigned)
Deborah Hansen (SA - Resigned)

Communication Working Group Members

Ben Beaton (WA - Chair)
Phillip Easter (Melbourne - Deputy Chair from June 2026)
Danielle Purdy (Melbourne - Deputy Chair until July 2025)

Commercial Working Group Members

Boyd Bostock (Brisbane – Chair)
Matthew Wissell (SA – Deputy Chair from April 2026)
Dr. Doug Ashleigh (Company Secretary)
Ernie Zibert (Marists Australia)
Con Lappas (Melbourne)
Marisa Stewart (Melbourne - Resigned)
Anna Fitzgerald (WA)

Special thanks to Jim Moody (WA), Magdalena Chidiac (Parramatta), Jackson Chan (Parramatta), Kevin Ellis (Sale), Jason Bursztynowicz (Cairns), Pramodh Gunawardhana (WA), and Mark Koch (WA) for their support in commercial negotiations.

Financial Accounts

Notes:

1. The summary of the financial statements of Catholic Network Australia Limited was extracted from the audited 30 June 2026 financial statements. These are available upon request from the company secretary or via a company search of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).
2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to, and forming part of, the financial statements.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2026

Revenue	Notes	2026 (\$)	2025 (\$)
Revenue from services provided	4	805,773	773,706
Other revenue	5	69,964	82,369
Total Revenue		875,737	856,075

Expenses

Accounting and audit fees	(24,450)	(20,772)
Advertising and promotion (including website)	(43,251)	(29,003)
Consultancy and marketing expenses	(656,948)	(473,712)
General Expenses	(5,106)	(4,232)
IT management fees	(13,519)	(15,808)
Legal Expenses	(13,525)	-
New initiatives - Cyber Safety project	(26,969)	(81,000)
Seminars and conferences	(110,569)	(93,412)
Subscriptions	-	(5,874)
Travel	(29,298)	(28,267)
Total Expenses	(923,635)	(725,080)
Net deficit for the year	(47,898)	103,995
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Deficit after income tax	(47,898)	103,995
Total comprehensive (loss) / Income of the company	(47,898)	103,995

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2026

Assets	Notes	2026 (\$)	2025 (\$)
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	490,929	660,154
Trade and other receivables	7	268,857	49,633
Other financial assets	8	1,517,696	1,616,642
Other assets	9	18,735	2,626
Total Current Assets		2,296,217	2,328,055
Total Assets		2,296,217	2,328,055

Liabilities

Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	83,151	80,482
Contract liabilities	11	409,582	396,191
Total Liabilities		492,733	476,673
Net Assets		1,803,484	1,851,382

Equity

Accumulated funds		1,803,484	1,851,382
Total Equity		1,803,484	1,851,382

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	Accumulated Funds (\$)	Total Equity (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2024		1,747,387	1,747,387
Surplus for the year		103,995	103,995
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income		103,995	103,995
Balance at 30 June 2025		1,851,382	1,851,382

	Notes	Accumulated Funds (\$)	Total Equity (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2025		1,851,382	1,851,382
Deficit for the year		(47,898)	(47,898)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive loss		(47,898)	(47,898)
Balance at 30 June 2026		1,803,484	1,803,484

Statement of Cash Flows

for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 (\$)	2025 (\$)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers and others		600,156	1,145,118
Payments to suppliers and employees		(939,383)	(808,728)
Net cash provided by operating activities		(339,227)	336,390
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		72,056	77,036
Net investment in term deposits		97,946	(519,818)
Net cash used in investing activities		170,002	(442,782)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		(169,225)	(106,392)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		660,154	766,546
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6	490,929	660,154





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