



Statement on behalf of senior leaders from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

Statement on behalf of leaders from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

On 17 March, Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv made a strong [statement](#) about the terrorist attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand. We share Bishop Vincent's horror, grief and distress at this senseless violence and loss of life.

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta condemns Islamophobic, racist and extremist violence in all its forms. Together, we take up the invitation of Pope Francis and the Grand Imam, Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, to "all persons who have faith in God and faith in human fraternity, to unite and work together so that it may serve as a guide for future generations to advance a culture of mutual respect in the awareness of the great divine grace that makes all human beings brothers and sisters." ([Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together](#), Abu Dhabi, 4 February 2019).

As leaders in our school communities and the Catholic Education Office, we reject the language of racism and intolerance, and proudly commit ourselves to work together for mutual respect and human solidarity.

This statement, issued on 12 April 2019, is made on behalf of the leadership of 80 Catholic systemic schools as well as system leaders from the Diocese of Parramatta.