**CSES Professional Development for Primary Schools in 2017**

***COURSE DESCRIPTORS***

**Beginning Teachers and Teachers New to Catholic Schools Seminar**

This seminar will provide an overview of the role of a teacher in a Catholic Primary or Secondary School with a particular emphasis on the Religious Education Curriculum & planning in Religious Education. It is important to note that this seminar is the first of three days for the RE501 (*replacing RE101*) and RE201 TCI papers. Teachers who go on to attend the other 2 days throughout the year and pass the required assessment tasks will be credited with RE501/RE201 (please note that the seminars for the second and third days of these papers are not available in the South Island - teachers from South Island schools who wish to complete the papers will need to attend the second &- third days in Wellington). Teachers who do not wish to complete the paper are welcome to attend this seminar only.

**Catholic Young Leaders Workshop**

This workshop is designed to build student leadership in Catholic Character with a particular focus on liturgy. The DRS will attend this workshop with a small group of students selected in particular to support in the task of preparing and leading school celebrations. There is a maximum registration of 50 students per workshop.

**Classroom Prayer Workshop**

The purpose of this workshop is to explore ideas and resources for classroom prayer and will provide participants with an opportunity to develop a classroom prayer plan.

**Cluster Meeting**

Dr Chris Duthie-Jung will deliver a presentation on *Amoris Laetitia* at the 2017 Cluster Meetings. *Amoris Laetitia* is an Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Francis given in Rome on 19 March 2016 “on love in the family” and has great relevance for educators in Catholic Schools.

**Curriculum Workshop**

These workshops provide teachers with an opportunity for in-depth exploration of an element of the Curriculum specific to their Curriculum level. In 2016 the focus of these workshops was Advent. The 2017 focus will be notified closer to the time according to evident needs and opportunities.

**Deputy and Assistant Principals Workshops**

This pair of workshops will provide an opportunity for Deputy and Assistant Principals to come together to explore Catholic Character leadership in our schools unique to their roles. Participants will be invited to contribute to the direction this group takes - opportunities exist for peer support, professional learning conversations, reflective collaboration, networking, nourishment and enrichment.

**DRS Conference**

The annual DRS Conference is an opportunity for the Directors of Religious Studies from all 38 Catholic Primary Schools in the Archdiocese of Wellington to meet together for collaboration, companionship, nourishment and enrichment. A key component of the conference is the ongoing exploration of material critical to the function of the DRS - including the Religious Education Curriculum, leadership, “The Catholic Education of School-Age Children” and Catholic Character.

**DRS Workshops**

This pair of workshops is designed to support Directors of Religious Studies in their work as stewards of Catholic Character and as leaders within our Catholic Primary Schools. The workshops provide excellent opportunities for collaboration and networking. In 2017 these workshops will be used to establish a DRS mentoring programme. The November workshop will focus on celebrating the 2017 school year and preparing for 2018 (including long term planning and opportunities for professional development).

**RE501 (*replacing RE101*) Seminar – Religious Education Today (TCI - Level 5, 10 credits)**

This course will introduce participants to the philosophy of the Catholic school, the role of the teacher, the principles, general aims, contexts, teaching approaches, assessment and language of Religious Education by examining the Religious Education Curriculum Statements for Catholic primary and secondary schools.

**RE201 Seminar - What Makes a School Catholic? (TCI - Level 6, 15 credits)**

What makes a school Catholic? What is meant by “special character”? What is the role of teachers, Boards of Trustees and others, in maintaining and enhancing the Catholic character of a school? This course draws on Church documents, other current writings and the experience of the participants to provide some answers to these and related questions.

**The Role of the DRS Workshop**

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the role of the Director of Religious Studies in a Catholic Primary School. The workshop is designed for those new to the role of DRS and for those aspiring to the role or who would like to learn more about the role. The workshop will provide clarity around expectations and responsibilities, informed in particular by the Integration Act and the DRS Handbook.