



## DOMINICAN EDUCATION AUSTRALIA LTD INVITATION TO GOVERNANCE

DEA has received your expression of interest in being considered as a potential candidate for the role of Board Director in an education ministry of Dominican Education Australia Education (DEA).

As a Board Director of an incorporated company, you would be committed to ethical and sound governance.

Some of the important elements of this for DEA are:

### **Mission**

Catholic Education is the core of our mission and DEA seeks at every level of governance to create a culture of ongoing learning and formation. In joining the DEA community as a Director on the Board of an Education Ministry, you are expressing a willingness to journey with us. You will participate in board reviews to reflect on both individual and board effectiveness. Opportunities will be provided to grow in the critical areas of spirituality; understanding catholic thought and context; and exercising effective governance.

### **Stewardship**

You are called to bring your own gifts and talents to further this mission of Catholic education in the Dominican tradition and to care for the education ministry and its community. As a director you are responsible for ensuring the Mission, Vision and Values of the education ministry remain consistent with the values of Dominican education. Each director is called to model the values, set high expectations for school leadership and develop a culture that reflects the Catholic identity of the ministries of DEA.

### **Spirituality**

The Dominican Charism and the Philosophy of Education of Dominican schools is founded on a tradition that is over 800 years old.

Prayer and formation bring life to this spirituality and provide the context for your role as a Board Director of a DEA Ministry. In your role you will be invited to enter into formation experiences that will deepen and nurture your personal and collective understanding of the core Dominican values that underpin ethos and identity and build the culture of the DEA network.

You will be involved in an ongoing process of growth in the particular knowledge, skills, dispositions and relationships that will enable you to apply this spirituality in effective governance to build a community of people who value the tradition and are willing to commit to its long-term sustainability.

Those engaged in the mission of Catholic education “need a ‘formation of the heart’: they need to be led to that encounter with God in Christ which awakens their love and opens their spirits to others, so that their educational commitment becomes a consequence deriving from their faith, a faith which becomes active through love (cf. Gal 5:6).”

*Educating Together in Catholic Schools, 25, cf Deus Caritas Est, 31*

## **Catholic Thought and Context**

Familiarity with, and appreciation for, a Catholic world view. As a Board Director within a Catholic ministry you exercise a governance responsibility and commitment to ensuring the community operates in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of the Church and that all understand vision, mission and values within the context of our Dominican tradition.

You are called to model attitudes and behaviours that are informed by Catholic social teaching and consistent with the values and ethos of the Catholic tradition. In addition to formal Induction and regular formation at meetings, Board Directors are invited to participate in a range of opportunities and/or resources directed at professional, personal and communal growth in mission awareness such as workshops, readings, webinars and podcasts.

## **Leadership and Governance**

Competency in leadership and governance roles.

Your responsibilities as a Director derive from common law, ACNC requirements, state Education legislation, and the Constitution of the school company. Your primary responsibility is for the stewardship of the ministry. This responsibility is shared with DEA Trustees who, through the Annual General Meeting, ensure among other things, that there is appropriate stewardship of finance, property and other assets, and that succession plans are in place for board and senior school leader roles.

You may be asked to join a Board committee. Each board decides what committees they require, these include but are not limited to:

- Finance, Audit and risk
- Property and Development
- Policy
- Mission and Identity

## **Decision-making**

You are a 'responsible person' who will fulfill the legislative obligations of good governance relevant to the education ministry.

As a Director you will at times be called upon to consider competing interests and dilemma. This requires sound thinking, reflective listening, open dialogue and sound decision-making skills guided by the mission and values our Dominican tradition.

## **Approval of Appointment**

Following your interview, you will be asked to provide names and contact details of two referees, ideally one professional and the other personal. You will also be asked to complete a 'Declaration by Potential Board Director'.

Once your interest has been considered and approved by the DEA Trustees, a Letter of Appointment and the *Induction Guidelines for Newly Appointed Directors* will be provided by the DEA Board Chair. A copy will also be provided to the Ministry Board Chair, who will ensure that the Company Register is updated. The Board Chair will also provide you with further documents specific to the Education Ministry you are joining.

October 2021

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