



28 June 2019

Dear Colleagues

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 unauthorized 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.

Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) activation is being implemented across the system in a phased approach and will provide further assurance that we are protected from potential cyber breach incidents in the future.

At this stage, only one school has experienced a data breach and there is no evidence that any student has been put at risk as a result of the breach.

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:

- Consider if the sender is someone you usually do business with
- Treat any email you did not expect to receive with suspicion
- Place your cursor over links to see if the web address is legitimate and relates to the email's content
- Be diligent when you receive an email that requests personal information as these are characteristics of phishing
- Check for incorrect company names, where the name is misspelled or substituted symbols for letters
- Confirm update payment detail requests with the sender by phone



If you receive communication that you believe is fraudulent, please contact the CEWA IT Helpdesk on [servicedesk@cewa.edu.au](mailto:servicedesk@cewa.edu.au)

If you have questions or concerns about the safety and security of your personal information, you may also 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Sayce', with a small dot at the end.

Dr Debra Sayce  
Executive Director

