



A PROGRAM OF  Caritas AUSTRALIA

2021 Annual Report

Introduction

Pope Francis notes that "with the Encyclical *Laudato Si'*, promulgated in 2015, all people of good will [are invited] to take care of the Earth, which is our common home."

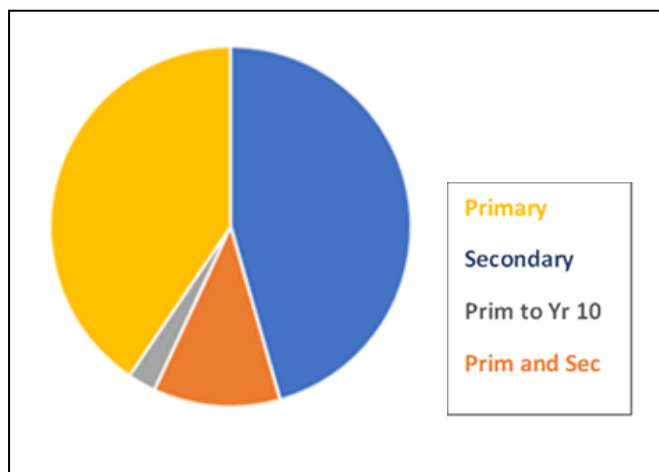
With the recent release of the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform, our Catholic Earthcare Schools program's certification process allows schools to meet the challenge that has been set for us as people of faith who are committed to listening to the cries of the earth and the poor.

Thirty-five schools registered for our trial year in 2019 and, as evidenced below, the program is now in almost 9% of all Catholic Schools in Australia, including 100% of schools in the Wollongong Catholic system.

Diocese	No	Diocese	No	Diocese	No
Adelaide	4	Darwin/ NT	3	Rockhampton	8
Armidale	2	Hobart	4	Sale	4
Ballarat	5	Lismore	3	Sandhurst	6
Brisbane	7	Maitland Newcastle	5	Sydney	5
Bathurst	1	Melbourne	22	Townsville	6
Broken Bay	4	Parramatta	8	Wagga	3
Broome	2	Perth	13	Wollongong	39
Bunbury	3	Port Pirie	1	Total	158

The program is spread evenly between primary and secondary school age groups and, apart from the Wollongong Diocese, schools are spread across almost all other dioceses.

Some schools remain Resource Smart Schools in Victoria and we encourage all schools to [dual register as Eco-Schools](#) as well through a process similar to ours (but without formation in a Catholic identity). Eco-Schools has the advantage of connecting schools to a global network.



For more information please contact Gwen.Michener@caritas.org.au.



Catholic Earthcare Australia is a program of Caritas Australia that responds to the 'cry of the earth' to safeguard the integrity of creation and provide a voice for victims of environmental injustice. It has the Caritas Australia values of courage, compassion, partnership and stewardship at its heart.