

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 29 August 2011

How long will Marian College be sited on Barbadoes St?

We have been advised from 2 to 4 years (2012 to 2015 if four years). The land at our original North Parade site needs to settle and be reassessed for repair or rebuild. It is expected that a one to two year wait for settlement is needed. It takes at least 2 years usually for major repair/rebuild of any school after that.

How safe is the Barbadoes St site?

At present safety issues are closely overseen by OPUS engineering company on behalf of the Bishop. Catholic Cathedral College is operating safely at the site.

By the time Marian College is at Barbadoes St, the rear of the basilica, the music school and possibly one other building will have been demolished. Large cranes will have been moved away from Marian College areas. Earthquake repair work is underway on the Moorhouse Avenue classrooms. Fencing is and will be in place to ensure the safety of students and staff from both schools.

Will Marian College be amalgamating with Catholic Cathedral College?

The proprietor of the two colleges, Bishop Barry Jones, has assured us in writing that the two colleges are to remain as unique schools and that both have a long term future as separate schools.

The teachers are busy sorting out learning for 2011 so how will all the extra work of this move to a new site be done?

The Marian College Board of Trustees has set up a relocation committee to have oversight of this process and to enable staff to maintain the focus on teaching and learning in both 2011 and 2012.

How will the two colleges be kept separate when they are operating on the one site?

Both schools will run their own classes. There will be different break and lunch times for each school. There may be some occasional sharing of classes at Years 12 and 13, but this would be an exception, not the norm. Marian College will remain a girls' only Catholic secondary school.

What are the transport arrangements for getting to the Barbadoes St site?

The Ministry of Education has already promised a daily bus to and from North Parade to the Barbadoes St site. They have also indicated a willingness to discuss other arrangements. This offer will be taken up by the relocation committee in the time ahead.

For students who need to drive to school, the relocation committee will investigate what parking is available in the general area. Some families have already made their own arrangements with a nearby Wilson parking lot.

What facilities will Marian College students be using at the Barbadoes St site?

Most of the facilities are permanent classrooms. There will be some relocatables. We may be able to use some of the specialist facilities at Catholic Cathedral College. Use of other local facilities is also being investigated by the relocation committee eg use of CPIT. There is a grassed field in the middle of the site that will be able to be used next year.

When can we come for an inspection of the 2012 Marian College site?

At this stage the rear of the basilica is due for demolition by 25 October. Once that is done, Catholic Cathedral College needs to be able to move back into two of its red stickered buildings that are now in the fall zone of the basilica. Then we need to do some work on some of the buildings they have been occupying. It is anticipated that an open day for Marian families, current and new in 2012, will be held in December 2011.

What will the school day be like in 2012?

We anticipate running a 'normal school day' next year. In 2010 this was 8.30 to 3pm. Exact times will be advised as soon as they are available.

What do I do if I have further questions?

Please contact the school office on 385 8449 or email your question to exec@mariancollege.school.nz