Creating Connections at The Cathedral College

From Fire Control Centre in Youngtown, Tasmania, Rockhampton’s Queensland Fire and Emergency Service Superintendent Colin May, caught glimpses of son Jarryd receive both his senior and House Captain Badges at The Cathedral College Opening and Commissioning Mass recently.

By logging onto the College’s website and viewing the live streamed event, filmed in St Joseph’s Cathedral, Colin was able to witness the occasion, thousands of kilometres away.

“It was a big deal and it definitely eased the disappointment in not being there. I spoke to Jarryd by phone after the Mass and he was happy I could share the moment with him. I could comment on detail which would not have been possible otherwise,” he said.

Colin, deployed to assist in Tasmania’s fire fighting efforts, is joined with families across Australia and the world, including Canada, Argentina, Japan, United States and New Zealand, to take advantage of TCC’s live streamed events.

Principal of the Catholic College, Rob Alexander said staying connected is important for every family and through digital leading technologies spearheaded by the College’s Information Communication Technology team this is possible when families are separated by distance.

“Particularly for our Boarders and their families. We recognise the enormous sacrifice families make to provide a Catholic education at our College and wanted to connect Boarders with their families through a shared experience,” he said.

“It’s also important for communicating important information to parents, particularly our Subject Selection evenings and upcoming Information evenings,” he said.

The College progressively acquired multiple cameras, editing and live streaming capabilities to produce quality vision via the College’s website.

“It’s not only limited to events at College and becomes an opportunity to work closely with other organisations when events take us off site. In this instance the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton supported the live stream from St Joseph’s Cathedral. Collaboration with Rockhampton Regional Council ensured 400 families and friends unable to attend the Academic Awards evening at the Pilbeam Theatre watched on, via the website,” he said.

The College is also investigating the possibility of live streaming a state wide sports carnival later in the year.

“We are hopeful we can sort through the many technical issues to achieve this as it will be beneficial not only for our own families but for thousands of families across the state,” he said.

“Expanding the College’s ICT footprint creates connections and engages the community, shining a spotlight on Rockhampton as a great place to live,” he said.

With a strong focus on digital technology since 2010, the College distributed 1250 laptops to all students and teaching staff supported by the College’s ICT team in 2016.

Mr Alexander said all teaching areas have the latest interactive audio and visual technology installed and a site wide wireless network.
Queensland Fire and Emergency Service Superintendent Colin May and son Jarryd view The Cathedral College’s Opening and Commissioning Mass via the College’s live streamed event on the website, where Jarryd received his senior’s Badge and House Captain Badge.

TCC ICT Staff Ryan Collins and Bradley Hewett work on live streaming events vision.