

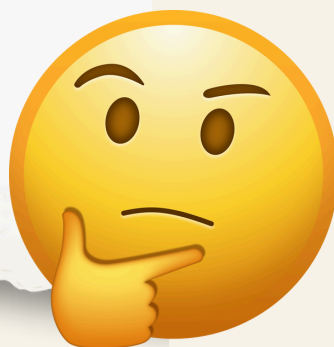
# History of negotiations



2025

VCEA and Catholic school employers do not wish to engage in **processes that may distract or delay** an agreement being reached. As in previous rounds of bargaining, VCEA and Catholic school employers seek to **work productively and in partnership** with the IEU and other relevant bargaining representatives towards a cooperative resolution to bargaining. We have communicated our intentions to the IEU and confirmed **our objective of a timely resolution** to bargaining.

Victorian Catholic Education Authority letter to staff in Victorian Catholic education, 13 June 2025



**The employers say they don't want to delay or distract from negotiations, but our history of bargaining says otherwise...**

2022



Catholic employers stall on negotiations, to the extent that the Diocese of Sale splits off and negotiates with the IEU as a single employer. The Sale Agreement comes into effect just two months after the Victorian Government School Agreement is finalised, while it takes a full year of negotiating and member campaigning for employers representing the rest of the state to agree to similar conditions for their employees.



**As a result, staff working in Sale schools receive the benefits of improved wages and conditions ten months ahead of their colleagues in other Catholic schools.**

2018



Due to funding uncertainties and internal disagreements, employers claim they are unable to commit to a multi-year Agreement and the IEU agrees to a one-year MoU to lock in salary increases.



**Following this, delays resulting from the constant turnover in the team representing Catholic employers leads the IEU to report that "the pace would make a tortoise look nimble and we have spent valuable time having to go over old ground."**

2013



Thousands of staff in Victorian Catholic education are compelled to take unprotected industrial action twice to achieve a new Agreement after Catholic employers refuse to budge on key demands for over two years.



**Catholic employers sought an injunction and threatened to fine not only the IEU but also each individual employee who took part.**



**Due to the rules of multi-employer bargaining Victorian Catholic staff are one of the only cohorts of workers in Australia not allowed to take protected industrial action.**

## Sign the petition

[ieu.news/bargainingrights](https://ieu.news/bargainingrights)

**Don't let Victorian Catholic employers stall negotiations for a new Agreement!**

