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PRINCE OF WALES TO ATTEND AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL

Statement by the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies

It has been announced in London today that The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have agreed that Prince Charles should spend a term at Geelong Church of England Grammar School, beginning on the 1st of February next year.

I am confident that I speak for all Australians when I say how delighted I am that, for the first time, a Prince of Wales is to go to school in Australia.

This is a very tangible demonstration of the close ties between Australia and the Royal Family. The idea of the young Prince of Wales living and studying here in his formative years is, I am sure, a prospect that will give widespread satisfaction.

It is an imaginative and practical step. Getting to know Australia through young Australians should prove of inestimable value for a Prince whose future duties will require a comprehensive knowledge of the countries and peoples of the Commonwealth.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh raised this question with me while I was in Britain earlier this year and, needless to say, I was very pleased when they asked me to initiate arrangements with the Headmaster of Geelong Grammar, Mr. T.R. Garnett. Mr. Garnett is at present visiting England, and recently met The Queen and the Duke to discuss the details.

CANBERRA,
18th October, 1965.