

## Catholic Education in Queensland

The first Catholic school in Queensland was established in 1845 in Central Brisbane. Catholic education subsequently expanded to most cities and towns throughout the State, largely due to the efforts of Religious congregations.

In Queensland today more than 135,000 or 18% of all students, and almost 60% of students in non-government schools, are educated in the 290 Catholic schools that employ more than 16,000 teachers and staff across the state.

Research shows that parents and students choose Catholic schools for a number of reasons including:

- the Christian values taught by Catholic schools
- care for the well-being of students, teachers and staff
- a commitment to the holistic development of students - spiritually, intellectually, physically, culturally, socially and emotionally
- the pursuit of academic excellence
- the teaching of self-discipline based on respect for others and a vision of hope for the future
- strong partnerships with parents, parish and community.



## Mission of QCEC

The Queensland Catholic Education Commission, trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is delegated by the Bishops and Leaders of Religious Institutes Queensland to support and advance Catholic education in Queensland.



### Queensland Catholic Education Commission

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# Queensland Catholic Education Commission



Supporting and Advancing  
Catholic Education  
in Queensland



## About QCEC

- The Queensland Catholic Education Commission is a 16 member body with certain statewide responsibilities in respect of Catholic schools. The Commission has an independent chairperson and includes the Executive Director, Bishops' representative, Directors of diocesan schooling authorities, representatives of the Leaders of Religious institutes of Queensland, Federation of Parents and Friends Associations and diocesan Catholic Education Councils and Boards.
- The role of the Commission is essentially strategic and focuses on the coordination and advancement of Catholic education in Queensland. The Commission does not operate Catholic schools. These are administered by five diocesan (regional) education authorities and 18 Religious Institute authorities.
- The Commission has established a number of committees and subcommittees to draw upon the wisdom and expertise within Catholic education communities across Queensland.
- The operations of the Commission are carried out by the Secretariat staff based at the Catholic Centre in the Brisbane CBD.



## Key Functions of the Commission

The Bishops of Queensland and Leaders of Religious institute Authorities have delegated a number of functions to QCEC including:

- advocating the position of Catholic education and liaising with state and federal governments and various peak bodies and agencies across a range of educational policy and funding issues
- distribution of government funding to Catholic schools
- communicating and responding both internally and through the media to issues relevant to Catholic education state-wide, and nationally in cooperation with the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC)
- co-ordinating collective bargaining processes and facilitating collaboration on Industrial relations issues
- facilitating collaboration between Catholic school authorities in areas such as curriculum, information and communication technologies, Indigenous education, religious education outside Catholic schools, education for ministry and social justice matters
- researching, collecting and managing relevant statistical data and information.



Mike Byrne  
Executive Director, QCEC

with  
vision  
and  
spirit

QCEC is the peak body representing the interests of Catholic education in Queensland

