

ACCREDITATION TO TEACH RELIGION IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Scope: This policy applies to all teachers employed by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as CEDR in the document).

1. POLICY STATEMENT

All teachers of Religion in Catholic Education in the Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) are required to acquire and maintain Accreditation to Teach Religion in a Catholic School.

2. DESCRIPTION

Teachers of Religion require qualifications and competence in the areas of Religious Education theory and practice to enable them to facilitate learning, assisting students to grow in their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic tradition in the context of an ecumenical and multi-faith world (QCEC, 2021, p.1). The accreditation process aims to support leaders and teachers entering and continuing service in Catholic education, to effectively plan for teaching, learning and assessment in religious education; and facilitate student involvement in the religious life of the school (QCEC, 2021, p.1).

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton:

- Provide and monitor provisional accreditation to staff who are working towards full accreditation. In general, teachers beginning in a Catholic school can receive interim accreditation for a maximum of five years until they can satisfy the requirements for accreditation.
- Facilitate the accreditation renewal process for teachers at the end of the fifth year of the accreditation period.
- Negotiate with applicants who do not meet these requirements to ascertain ways they can fulfil the requirements in an appropriate manner and timeframe.
- Provide opportunities for all leaders and teachers to maintain currency of their accreditation status through appropriate professional learning and formation, in keeping with contemporary professional practice.



The Kindergarten/School/College Leadership and Community:

- Support all teachers to meet the requirements for gaining and maintaining accreditation.
- Actively promote professional learning and formation opportunities that could contribute to maintaining accreditation to teach Religion.
- Ensure that, in keeping with contemporary professional practice, all staff maintain currency of their accreditation status through appropriate professional support and development.

The Classroom Teacher:

- It is the responsibility of the individual teacher to fulfil the accreditation requirements for the teaching of Religion as reflected in selection criteria, position descriptions and contracts.
- It is the responsibility of those teachers granted interim accreditation to ensure that they meet the requirement for full accreditation by the end of the current cycle.
- Teachers must maintain their own records of ongoing professional learning and formation in order to demonstrate their fulfilment of the requirements of this policy.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

RESOURCES

- [Religious Education](#)
- *Procedures for gaining and maintaining Accreditation to Teach Religion 2018*
- [Queensland Catholic Education Commission \(2021\) Accreditation to teach religion in a Catholic School Position Statement](#)