

Defining features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

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Defining Features of Catholic Schools

Give witness to the message of Jesus and the mission of the Church

What makes a school Catholic is the obvious living out of the Gospel values in all dimensions of the school. Living these values and giving witness to total dependence on a loving God calls us to nurture and develop positive relationships within our school communities, our Church communities and the wider community.

Be open and accessible to all who seek their values

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton are called to be of service to the wider community in which they exist. Catholic school communities are enriched by the presence of people from a diversity of cultural backgrounds and many faith traditions. The members of Catholic school communities are drawn to the Catholic school as a source of holistic education founded in Christian values.

Be communities of care

In responding to this vision of community, Catholic schools strive to establish quality interpersonal relationships of care and support in order to offer “care beyond the curriculum”.

Have a clear Catholic identity

The Catholic school continues to search for and develop authentic expressions of faith. It strives to develop greater knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Church, its worship, teachings and history. The Catholic school develops cultures and environments that reflect and support God’s Good News in response to our baptismal call and are a lived expression of the educational mission of the Church.

Offer a relevant and holistic curriculum of quality teaching and learning

The Catholic school of the new millennium is called to provide a curriculum shaped and informed by Gospel values and designed to meet the needs of its students. The Catholic school is committed to providing quality learning and teaching that is relevant, challenging, Christ-centred and values based.

Be characterised by inclusive partnerships within a community of faith

As part of our search for ‘Meaning for Life’, all involved in Catholic education accept a call from God to serve the education communities of the Diocese. Catholic education in the Diocese of Rockhampton places priority on relationships as the essential element of our response to the call of the Diocesan Vision Statement.

Diocese of Rockhampton

Our Schools

Northern Region

Mackay

Emmanuel Catholic Primary School
MacKillop Catholic Primary School
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
St Brendan's Catholic Primary
Catherine McAuley College
Holy Spirit College
St Patrick's College

Sarina

St Anne's Catholic Primary School

Walkerston

St John's Catholic Primary School

Rockhampton Region

Rockhampton

St Anthony's Catholic Primary
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Park Avenue
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Emmaus College
The Cathedral College
Boys Boarding Campus and Girls Boarding Campus

Gracemere

St Paul's Catholic Primary School

Yeppoon

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
St Benedict's Catholic Primary School

Southern Region

Gladstone

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School
St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
Chanel College

Tannum Sands

St Francis Catholic Primary School

Bundaberg

Shalom College
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Biloela

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Monto

St Therese's Catholic Primary School

Western Region

Springsure

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Longreach

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Barcaldine

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Blackall

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Clermont

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Emerald

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
St Brigid's Catholic Primary School
Marist College

About this document

This research project enabled us to reflect on our hopes and aspirations for Catholic education in the future with a set of what has been termed Defining Features for Catholic Schools in Queensland being formed.

These defining features communicate clearly what we believe is at the heart of Catholic education and give direction and guidance to those whose daily interactions with others bring to life the vision of an authentic Catholic school as a living out of the Gospel message.

Catholic schools have a special and vital role in the Church's mission in education.

Through providing a learning environment that is spiritually nurturing, intellectually challenging and emotionally caring, Catholic school communities will continue to provide support to lifelong learners so that they will be able and willing to envision and contribute to the creation of a just, equitable and compassionate world.

Leesa Jeffcoat

Diocesan Director
Catholic Education

