

ROLE OF PARENTS AND CARERS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND SERVICES

Scope: This policy applies to all in Catholic kindergartens, schools, colleges and services conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as CEDR in the document).

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Parents and carers have a personal responsibility for the education of their children or those in their care. They enrich their child's education by their support and involvement in their child's Catholic school, college and service (hereafter referred to as Catholic schools) in the Diocese of Rockhampton. They utilise the structures offered for parental participation and engagement and assist the school in remaining faithful to the mission and principles of Catholic Education.

Parents and carers reinforce within the family the Catholic school's efforts to develop the child spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically.

2. DESCRIPTION

Parents and carers have the right to raise children in accordance with the family's own tradition and religious and cultural values.

As a member of the Catholic School community, parents and carers support the development and nurturing of a distinctive Catholic identity throughout the school.

This policy reinforces the important partnership role that parents and carers have in Catholic Education. Guiding Principles for right relationships within this partnership are outlined in the *Code of Conduct* for staff and *Right Relationships Parent Code of Conduct*.



3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Parents and carers have the opportunity to be involved in the development of Catholic school policies and procedures.
2. Parents and carers are encouraged to be engaged in and contribute to School Boards, Parents and Friends Associations and Catholic school activities.
3. Parents and carers have the opportunity to be informed about aspects of the Catholic school curriculum programs, including the Religion Curriculum.
4. Parents and carer have opportunities for assistance and support in the areas of faith, personal growth and effective parenting.
5. Procedures are in place to facilitate formal reporting and feedback to parents and carers regarding their child's progress.
6. Parents and carers are presented with the opportunity of becoming familiar with the document *Right Relationships – Parent Code of Conduct*.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [Code of Conduct - Staff 2018](#)
- [School Boards](#) 2018-11
- School Board – An Opportunity to Share Wisdom
- [Right Relationships – Parent and Student Grievance](#) (2019-02)
- [Right Relationships – Parents and Student Grievance Procedures](#) 2019
- [Right Relationships – Parent Code of Conduct](#) 2017
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education](#) 2016-01
- *Family Engagement – Position Paper*
- Catholic Education Portal – School Counselling
 - ✓ Engaging Fathers in School
 - ✓ Helping Your Child Learn to Read
 - ✓ Parenting Styles
 - ✓ My Dad Matters Toolkit – Engaging Fathers
 - ✓ Supporting Your Child's Mental Health – Tips for Parents
 - ✓ Surviving Year 12 for Parents

RESOURCES

- The Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education *The Catholic School* 1977
- Pope John Paul II *Familiaris Consortio – the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World* 1982
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium* St Pauls Publication 1998



- The Vatican *Letter of Pope Francis to Families* 2014
- National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) *Walking His Way, Telling His Truth, Living His Life: Implications of Ecclesia in Oceania* for Catholic Education Canberra Australia 2003
- The Federation of Parents and Friends Associations of Catholic Schools in Queensland *Introductory Booklet* 2015
- <http://qcec.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/partnerships-with-parents/>