

# ACCREDITATION TO TEACH IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

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## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

Every teacher in a Catholic School must be a registered teacher with the Queensland College of Teachers.

Every continuing teacher or teacher employed on a contract must have accreditation to teach in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

## 2. DESCRIPTION

Accreditation assists all teachers in Catholic schools to develop a deeper understanding of the nature and purpose of Catholic schools as part of the Catholic Church's mission in the world, and the invaluable contribution they make to that mission as members of staff.

This policy reflects the Queensland Catholic Education Commission's 2015 Position Statement *Accreditation to teach in a Catholic school*.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. All teachers have access to information about accreditation procedures in the Diocese of Rockhampton.
2. Teachers who have completed four units of study in the areas of Religious Education, Theology or Spirituality are awarded Accreditation to teach in a Catholic school (ATICS).
3. Teachers who complete the Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology (also known as "Foundations") developed by the Institute of Faith Education gain Accreditation to teach in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Rockhampton.
4. If a continuing teacher has not completed any study in this area, they are granted provisional accreditation for five years. In that time period they have to complete the necessary professional development requirements.
5. A teacher on contract who has not completed any study in this area, is granted provisional accreditation for that calendar year regardless of the starting date of their contract.



6. Certificates are issued to teachers with details of their accreditation status.
7. Teachers must complete five hours of professional development each year for five years to gain or maintain their accreditation to teach in a Catholic school.
8. The Bishop's Inservice Days are provided each year to assist teachers to gain or maintain their accreditation to teach in a Catholic school.
9. Teachers on leave are exempt from these professional development requirements for the period that they are on leave.
10. Records are maintained at the Catholic Education Office on the accreditation status of all teachers. These records are updated annually.

#### 4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

##### RESOURCES

- Congregation for Catholic Education (1988) *The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School* § 33, 44
- Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education (1977) *The Catholic School* § 7, 8, 78
- Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education (1982) *Lay Catholics in Schools* § 12, 27, 37-38, 60, 64
- Queensland Catholic Education Commission (2015) Position Statement *Accreditation to teach in a Catholic school*