Defining features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century

Catholic Education Office
143 West St, Rockhampton Qld 4700 PO Box 524, Rockhampton Qld 4700
Telephone: 07 4931 3600 Fax: 07 4931 3700 www.rok.catholic.edu.au Twitter @DCEORock
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
- Holy Spirit College
- MacKillop Catholic Primary School
- Mercy College
- St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School
- St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School
- St Mary’s Catholic Primary School
- St Patrick’s College
- St Brendan’s Catholic Primary

Sarina
- St Anne’s Catholic Primary School

Walkerston
- St John’s Catholic Primary School

**Rockhampton Region**
Rockhampton
- Emmaus College
- 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
- 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
- Marist College
- St Brigid’s Catholic Primary School
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