

CURRICULUM IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

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

1. POLICY STATEMENT

All Catholic schools and colleges will implement the Diocesan Religion syllabus as well as the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) syllabus documents based on the Australian Curriculum where applicable.

2. DESCRIPTION

Essentially, Catholic schools and colleges are concerned with learning and teaching (The Catholic School, 1997, p.38).

“The curriculum of a Catholic school [or college] refers to students’ life experiences in the context of schooling. It therefore embraces formal teaching and learning (from Preschool to Year 12) as well as the informal curriculum” (*“An encounter with Christ”: Defining Features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century*, 2004, p.15).

In Catholic schools Religion is a learning area.

This policy clarifies the particular approach that has been adopted with regard to curriculum in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Catholic schools and colleges in the Diocese of Rockhampton are responsible for developing and reviewing their own school curriculum programs that reflect the principles and approaches of Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) syllabus materials based on the Australian Curriculum where applicable.
2. School learning area overviews are accredited according to diocesan processes.



4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- Diocese of Rockhampton (2004) “An encounter with Christ”: [Defining Features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century](#)
- Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton (2010) [Learning Framework](#)
- Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton (2007) *Religion Syllabus P-12*
- Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton (2011) *School Curriculum Framework Review and Development : Overview and Guiding Questions*

RESOURCES

- Ministerial Council of Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs Australia (2008) *Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*
- Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) documents (e.g. position papers, syllabuses, Essential Learnings)
- Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) *The Australian Curriculum*
- Congregation for Catholic Education (1977) *The Catholic School*