

# ROLE OF PARENTS / GUARDIANS / CAREGIVERS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND SERVICES

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

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## 1. POLICY STATEMENT

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

## 2. DESCRIPTION

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

It is the task of the Catholic Education community to ensure that a distinctive Catholic identity is maintained.

This policy reinforces the important partnership role that parents / guardians / caregivers have in Catholic Education.



### 3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Parents / guardians / caregivers have the opportunity to be involved in the development of Catholic school policies and procedures.
2. Parents / guardians / caregivers have the opportunity to be informed about aspects of the Catholic school curriculum programs, including the Religion Curriculum.
3. Procedures are in place to facilitate formal reporting and feedback to parents regarding their child's progress.
4. Parents / guardians / caregivers have opportunities for assistance and support in the areas of faith, personal growth and effective parenting.
5. Parents / guardians / caregivers are encouraged to be engaged in and contribute to School Boards, Parents & Friends Associations and Catholic school activities.

### 4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

#### 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/>