

Non-State Schools Accreditation Board

Planning and building approvals – demonstrating compliance

Accreditation requirements

Governing bodies must meet the accreditation requirements for non-state schools under the Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Regulation 2017. This includes following all relevant laws when planning or developing a non-state school. The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board (NSSAB) checks that the required planning and building approval documents are in place before the student intake day. For special assistance schools, evidence of planning and building approvals must also be provided when notifying us about the use of temporary sites.

Engagement with relevant authorities

Where development approval is not required, the governing body must provide written confirmation from a Registered Planner (for example, an RPIA planner) or the relevant authority, such as the local council. The confirmation must be on official letterhead and include the author's qualifications and a signed declaration that they are independent and have no conflict of interest. A template is available on the [NSSAB website](#).

The governing body should contact the local council or other relevant authority to confirm applicable planning and building approval requirements and retain relevant documentation to demonstrate compliance if requested by the NSSAB. NSSAB may also contact these entities to monitor compliance.

Evidence of approvals

Table 1 (page 2) outlines the information and documents required to demonstrate compliance with accreditation requirements.

Table 1. Planning and building documents required to demonstrate compliance

Approval pathway and head of power	PDA		CDA		ID
	<i>Economic Development Act 2012</i>		<i>Planning Act 2016</i>		<i>Planning Act 2016</i>
	Exempt of self-assessable development	Assessable development (permissible)	Accepted/accepted subject to requirements	Assessable development	Full process
Relevant authority for pathway	N/A	Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) Minister for EDQ or applicable local government	N/A	Applicable local government	Department responsible for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Resulting approval/s from pathway	Certificate of classification	• Priority development area approval • certificate of classification	Certificate of classification	• Development permit (material change of use) • certificate of classification	• Infrastructure designation • certificate of classification
Evidence to support compliance	Written confirmation development is exempt or self-assessable and does not require approval	Development approval confirming required legal permission has been granted: • decision notice • condition/s of approval • approved plan/s	Written confirmation development is accepted and does not require approval	Development approval confirming required legal permission has been granted: • decision notice • condition/s of approval • approved plan/s	Letter from the Minister approving ID, including any conditions and approved plans
Certificate of classification (Class 9b) and copies of approved building plans relevant to certificate to confirm the building is mostly completed and suitable for occupation.					

Additional information

For more details on land and building requirements, visit [our website](#) or contact the relevant authority for guidance.