

Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025

Non-State Schools Accreditation Board

The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board was established on 21 September 2001 under the now repealed *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001*. From 1 January 2018, the Board continued operation under the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017* (the Accreditation Act).

The Board will respect, protect and promote human rights in its actions and decision-making.

Vision

Quality education offered in non-State schools to students who are respected and nurtured in a safe, sustainable and principled environment that values diversity in its people and educational choices.

Purpose

- Uphold the highest standards of education in non-State schools.
- Maintain public confidence in the operation of non-State schools.
- Foster educational choice in Queensland.

Contribution to government objectives

The Board's strategic objectives contribute to the Queensland Government's objectives for the community, as stated in *Unite and Recover*, particularly the objective, Backing Our Frontline Services, in respect of the delivery of world-class frontline services in education.

The Board's functions include:

- assessing and settling applications for accreditation of non-State schools.
- determining eligibility for government funding.
- monitoring non-State schools' continued compliance with the prescribed requirements of accreditation.
- monitoring the suitability of governing bodies of accredited schools.
- monitoring compliance with the Accreditation Act.
- conducting investigations into contraventions of, or noncompliance with, the Accreditation Act.

Key strategic objectives

- Best practice regulation supporting the delivery of consistent, high-quality education and safe school environments.
- Informed and capable sector able to effectively manage compliance.
- Consistent and robust decision-making protecting the quality and reputation of the sector.

Key strategic risks, critical issues

The Board's key strategic risks, and critical issues, are focused on its enterprise risks including:

- maintaining the highest standard of education
- ensuring the provision of a safe environment and procedures focused on the welfare, health and safety of the school community
- devising precautionary and preventive measure against fraud and corruption
- ensuring the security of confidential and personal information

Key opportunities and challenges

- Oversight of governance and financial management of non-State schools.
- Ensuring educational programs in all non-State schools maintain standards in an environment that values diversity in educational choices.
- Managing an ever increasing workload for the Board and its Secretariat.
- Designing effective technological and operational solutions to enhance Board efficiency.
- Investigating allegations of unaccredited education sites operating as schools.
- Monitoring compliance in a legislative environment subject to change.
- Managing the performance of statutory functions and duties during, and in the recovery period following, the declared Queensland public health COVID-19

Key Strategic Objectives	Strategies	Performance indicators
Best practice regulation supporting the delivery of consistent, high-quality education and safe school environments. - To ensure Queensland non-State schools comply with accreditation criteria - To continue monitoring child protection policies and procedures and their implementation in Queensland non-State schools - To ensure Queensland non-State schools provide a quality educational program	- Continue to review, strengthen and streamline application and monitoring processes to ensure compliance of Queensland non-State schools with accreditation criteria - Continue to review and enhance the Board's current monitoring system for child protection policies - Continue to enhance the assessment and review processes in terms of child protection - Follow through on recommendations from government agencies on matters related to child protection - Monitor non-State schools' compliance with standards of education consistent with QCAA frameworks, the Australian Curriculum and alternative curriculum frameworks recognised by ACARA	- Number and percentage of valid applications for accreditation and government funding considered and decided within legislated timeframes - Percentage of child protection written processes assessed (as a percentage of total schools) - Compliance Reviews are scheduled to meet legislated timeframes - Assessments are scheduled and conducted within legislated timeframes
Informed and capable sector able to effectively manage compliance. - To ensure Queensland non-State school survey data are accurate and valid - To identify and respond to the needs of stakeholders for accreditation and Government funding eligibility information	- Continue to review and refine the current enrolment verification process to further strengthen data reliability, validity and integrity - Continue to review and refine census supporting materials - Provide clear, current and readily accessible information on accreditation and funding of non-State schools on the Board's website, its publications and in spoken and written communications	- Percentage of over-counts of full-time students in census - Rates of client satisfaction monitored through survey data
Consistent and robust decision-making protecting the quality and reputation of the sector. - To apply the principles of best practice and continuous improvement to fulfil Board functions and enable the regulation of the Queensland non-State school sector effectively - To investigate allegations of unaccredited education sites operating as schools	- Operate a fair, efficient and robust accreditation and funding eligibility scheme - Conduct periodic self-review of effectiveness of processes and guidelines - Monitor, improve and streamline Board policies, processes and guidelines - Conduct investigations into possible contraventions of the Act	- Rates of client satisfaction with processing and timeliness of decisions on applications - Actions taken to improve processes and functions of the Board as appropriate and as recorded in meeting minutes - Attendance at meetings monitored - All allegations investigated