

Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028

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The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board was established on 21 September 2001 under the now repealed *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001*.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 safe school environments within Queensland non-State schools.

Purpose

The purpose of the Board is to uphold the highest standards of education in non-State schools, maintain public confidence in the operation of non-State schools and foster educational choice in Queensland.

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, and
- conducting investigations into contraventions of, or noncompliance with, the Accreditation Act.

Key strategic objectives and government objectives

The Board supports the Government's objectives for the community:

- Good jobs: Good, secure jobs in our traditional and emerging industries
- Better services: Deliver even better services right across Queensland
- Great lifestyle: Protect and enhance our Queensland lifestyle as we grow

The Board's key strategic objectives relate to the sub-objective of 'Backing our frontline services', in respect of the delivery of world-class frontline services in education:

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

Key strategic risks

- Demands placed on the Board negatively impact on its ability to effectively regulate
- Disproportionate regulatory burden imposed on quality non-state schools
- Non-state schools not complying with the requirements for accreditation
- Non-compliance not evident in a timely manner or responses to non-compliance not timely, consistent or appropriate
- Being unaware that government funding was fraudulently claimed or dispensed

Key opportunities

- Working closely with the Queensland Department of Education to implement the Queensland Government's response to the independent review of the non-state schools accreditation framework, which was publicly released in early 2024 and which includes recommendations related to the operations of the Board.
- Adapting to emerging technologies and impacts on security and confidentiality of personal information
- Designing effective technological and operational solutions to enhance Board efficiency
- Developing solutions to a workload that is ever increasing in volume and complexity for the Board and its Secretariat and including external review of decision making by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- Monitoring compliance in a legislative environment subject to change
- Managing the performance of statutory functions and duties in the COVID-19 recovery period following the cessation of the temporary Queensland public health COVID-19 emergency legislation

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 continue monitoring educational programs and their compliance with the accreditation criteria in Queensland non-State schools	- 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.	- Percentage of schools with a compliance review (including assessment of child protection practices and educational programs) conducted within the previous five years - Percentage of compliance concerns reported within the jurisdiction of the Board that are investigated - Percentage of routine assessments that detect non-compliance that are investigated
Informed and capable sector able to effectively manage compliance. - To ensure Queensland non-State school survey data is 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 school survey data verified through the annual enrolment verification program - Percentage of responding applicants who are satisfied with the resources made available by the Board
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 and efficiency of processes and guidelines - Monitor, improve and streamline Board policies, processes and guidelines - Conduct investigations into possible contraventions of the Act	- Percentage of valid applications for accreditation and government funding considered and decided within legislated timeframes - Percentage of assessments scheduled and conducted within legislated timeframes - Percentage of responding applicants who are satisfied with the timelines and processes of the Board when deciding applications - Percentage of allegations of unaccredited places investigated