

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The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board was established on 21 September 2001 under the now repealed *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001*.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
<p>Best practice regulation supporting the delivery of consistent, high-quality education and safe school environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
<p>Informed and capable sector able to effectively manage compliance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of over-counts of full-time students in census Rates of client satisfaction monitored through survey data
<p>Consistent and robust decision-making protecting the quality and reputation of the sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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