



# School renewal and improvement policy

## Rationale

Catholic schools engage in developmental processes and seek the ideal in Catholic ministry, spirituality and excellence in teaching and learning.

Contemporary Catholic schools are accountable to their stakeholders: Church, government, system and their communities.

The Vatican document *The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School – Guidelines for Reflection and Renewal* states:

*On the one hand a Catholic school is a civic institution; its aim, methods and characteristics are the same as those of every other school. On the other hand, it is a “Christian community”, whose educational goals are rooted in Christ and the Gospel.<sup>1</sup>*

Therefore, our traditions and contemporary accountabilities require Catholic schools to focus on renewal and improvement to ensure the quality of education and pastoral care within that Catholic community.

## Values

Each school community is called to be future focussed (hope), and challenged and responsive (courage), grounded in a culture of love and respect.

## Policy statement

All Catholic schools are to engage in continual self-renewal and improvement processes.

## Consequences

- All Catholic schools will demonstrate evidence of ongoing improvements as a result of engaging in self-renewal and improvement processes.
- All Catholic schools will collect and maintain records of self-renewal and improvement processes.
- The Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Education Office will systematically validate school renewal and improvement processes for all systemic Catholic schools within the Diocese.

Most Reverend Robert McGuckin | Bishop of Toowoomba

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<sup>1</sup> The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School – Guidelines for Reflection and Renewal, Congregation for Catholic Education, para 67