

Education is a key ministry of the Catholic Church in Australia. Catholic schools are integral to the Church's mission of forming the next generation in faith. Catholic schools are a major contributor to Australian education. They contribute to the common good and to the nation's social and economic capital. They have helped nurture a more just, tolerant and cohesive society. In the spirit of the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, Catholic education is determined in its commitment to excellence and equity.

Quality education for all children and young people

1. Access to high quality education is the right of every young Australian.
2. Catholic schools partner with families, government and the wider community to deliver high quality, affordable and accessible education across Australia.
3. Government resourcing supports quality teaching and learning for all young people, including those in Catholic schools.

Parental choice

1. Government funding policy supports educational choice for all families, including those experiencing disadvantage.
2. Accessible Catholic education in a wide variety of locations provides families with real school choice.
3. Families and the wider Catholic community contribute to sharing the costs of Catholic education with Governments.

Religious freedom

1. Catholic education supports the rights of families to educate their children according to their beliefs and values.
2. Catholic authorities are free to govern their schools, which are free to teach and form students in the Catholic faith.
3. Catholic schools celebrate faith as an integral and inseparable activity of the school.