

Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns

Strategic Directions

2026-2028



**Catholic
Education**
Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision



Strategic Directions

2026-2028

Vision

To offer every student in every school a world-class education enriched by their lived encounter with the Catholic faith.

“Christ-centered, student-focussed, future-ready.”

Priorities

Wellbeing and Engagement

- Deep understanding of Catholic identity, place and self.
- Student and staff wellbeing strategies.
- Transition programs (Pre-Prep/Prep/Yr 1, Yr 6-7).

Excellence in Student Learning Outcomes through Quality, Differentiated, High-impact Teaching Practices

- Literacy & numeracy P-10.
- First Nations Education Strategy.
- Evidence-informed pedagogy.

Sustainable Stewardship

- Financial sustainability including an Enrolment Strategy.
- Leadership and workforce development, including cultural safety and competency.
- Laudato Si.

Enablers

- Safeguarding
- Formation
- Student voice, agency, advocacy, and participation
- Innovative technologies: Project Synergy and an AI Strategy
- Family and community partnerships
- Culture of governance, risk and compliance
- Continual enhancement of data and digital literacy

He said, “To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.”

— Mark 4:30–32



The iconography for *Strategic Directions 2026-2028* highlights thematic connections to the Diocese’s vision and shows continuity with the previous 2021-2025 Strategic Directions. Where once there was a seed, now a sprout emerges—symbolising growth, renewal, and the promise of what is to come.

This evolution reflects both the origins of our journey and the prosperity that lies ahead, as we continue to cultivate a flourishing, high-performing system of Catholic schools. The parable speaks to the power of faith and vision. It reminds us that even the smallest acts, when rooted in purpose and nurtured with care, can grow into something extraordinary.



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Aim

The aim of the Strategic Directions 2026-2028 is to cultivate a flourishing, high-performing system of Catholic schools within the Diocese of Cairns. This is formed and informed by our Encounter Catholic Identity Framework.

RESPECT

Respect

We honour the sacred dignity of each person appreciating difference & diversity:

Equity in Outcomes

All students access excellent learning and wellbeing opportunities appropriate to context and need.

Collaborative Cultures

Culture-based accountability through connected autonomy and system leadership.

REFLECT

Reflect

We are hope-filled searchers of truth:

Adaptability

Responsive to changing contexts and priorities.

Evidence-Informed Practices

Considered use of contemporary research and data.

CONNECT

Connect

We are people of kinship, earth and spirit:

Engaged Learning & Teaching

Students and staff deeply immersed in the educational process.

Wellbeing

Safe, welcoming, and respectful environments for enhanced learning and teaching.

EMBRACE

Embrace

We engage deeply in life:

Catholic Identity

Honest and fearless engagement with the issues of today, promoting a Catholic Dialogical world view.

Co-responsibility

All resources dedicated to the educational and wellbeing benefit of all students.

Community Partnership

Strong, dynamic connections with families and the broader community.



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