Catholic Education begins here

Curriculum
Catholic schools offer a rich and challenging curriculum that supports all students in learning and maximising their potential. All schools promote a vision of each student as a person capable of free choice enlightened by informed Christian conscience. They seek to help students develop a total commitment to Christ as responsible, inner-directed individuals.

Religious Education
Religious Education is the first learning area in Catholic schools. It enables young people to understand, explain and justify the Christian message. Through these studies students are guided to study, research and learn what the Catholic Church teaches about the distinctive vision of how Christian people live.

Technology
The Catholic Education Network (CathEdNet) has been established to enhance teaching and learning in Catholic schools in Western Australia. Schools participate closely with the development and support of CathEdNet and enjoy collaboration between teaching staff and students from around the state, regardless of location.

Catholic Education WA is part of Catholic Network Australia (CNA), a national network which enables broadband telecommunication and information technology services to reach approximately 1600 Catholic schools throughout Australia. Through this participation in CNA, Catholic Education WA utilises and contributes to leading technology services. Advanced information services and online access is available in all schools.

Living the Vision
We in Catholic Education seek to create environments that enhance learning, nurture young people and empower them to live the Catholic faith in the Spirit of Jesus Christ by:

- Developing a hunger for the learning adventure
- Challenging each other to seek truth and justice for all, especially the most vulnerable
- Capturing the joy in the mystery of the created Universe
- Embracing the diversity of the Earth and all its people
- Walking together in a spirit of reconciliation and forgiveness

Structure
Geographically, the distance between Western Australia’s northern and southern-most schools is approximately 3500 kilometres.

The state is divided into the Perth Archdiocese and three dioceses – Bunbury, Geraldton and Broome.

For information on a school near you visit our website ceo.wa.edu.au and access links to our schools or check our Catholic Education listing in the White Pages.

THERE ARE 52,000 FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ENROLLED IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
Catholic Schools in Focus

Catholic Education in Western Australia seeks to provide a holistic education for over 72,000 students who attend the 158 schools across the length and breadth of the state. Western Australia is the only Catholic Education sector nationally to operate under the one statewide Mandate from the Bishops of the state.

Catholic schools are focused on the development of students as self-directed individuals, capable of free choice and of making value judgements, enlightened by an informed Christian conscience. As such, they have a shared commitment to the dignity of the individual and the common good of society.

The Mandate is the Bishops’ vision for Catholic Education in the 21st century aimed at fostering the continuous development and improvement of Catholic schools and benefiting all Catholic school aged children.

Students experience their Catholic schools as an extension of their home. In this way, school communities support parents in their educational responsibilities.

Parental involvement is integral to the ongoing development of Catholic Education and in every school parents have the opportunity to join the School Board that provides advice to school principals and is responsible for the financial management and future planning of the school.

Education for all

No child will be denied a Catholic Education due to the inability to pay full fees. Families who possess a current means tested Health Care Card or Parenting Payment (single) Card have access to significantly reduced tuition fees at Western Australia’s Catholic schools and colleges.

Catholic schools focus proactively on catering for the needs of students with disabilities and 21 schools have Special Education Support Centres. There are 2,146 students with disabilities enrolled in Catholic schools and there are four schools that provide for profoundly deaf students.

Seven of our schools provide boarding facilities.

Our schools also have a proud reputation of providing education to overseas students. Currently approximately 28 schools, both primary and secondary, cater to the needs of overseas students, including four schools offering intensive language centres.

Funding for growth

Western Australia’s Catholic Education sector operates on a total annual budget of approximately $850 million. Approximately 57% of this funding is provided by the Australian Government, 20% is State Government funding and 23% is generated from the collection of school fees.

Across the sector’s 158 schools, some 8,700 staff are employed on a full-time and part-time basis to provide the ever-growing student population with the vast range of educational opportunities offered to them. (Data as at August 2010)

THERE ARE 26,396 SECONDARY STUDENTS YEARS 7-12 IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (INCLUDING 2,146 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES) AND 2,089 SECONDARY TEACHERS. (All teacher numbers are full-time equivalent)

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Funding for growth

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THERE ARE 44,719 PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION (KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 7) AND 2,300 TEACHERS.

THE YEARLY PRIMARY SCHOOL TUITION COST FOR CHILDREN WHOSE FAMILIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A MEANS-TESTED HEALTH CARE CARD IS $220.