



Queensland's independent schools

Queensland independent schools are a valued and pivotal part of the Queensland education landscape. They are not-for-profit autonomous institutions – required to meet state and national educational, operational and governance standards but free to structure and deliver their learning approaches and programs in line with their individual school mission.

SECTOR OVERVIEW

- 236 schools across 292 campuses
- 147,000+ students
- 16.8% of all Queensland school students
- 1 in 5 of all Queensland secondary students
- 20+ religious, philosophical, or non-denominational affiliations representing the communities they serve

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

- 1,193 students
- 73 schools cater for international students
- 87% of international students at Queensland non-state schools attend an independent school



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

- 221 schools
- 6,519 students
- 12 majority Indigenous schools (50%–100% Indigenous students enrolled)

BOARDING SCHOOLS

- 31 schools
- 3,796 students
- Nearly two thirds (63.4%) of Queensland boarding students attend independent schools



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

- 5 Special Schools (Autism Queensland, Josiah College, Mancel College, The Sycamore School, Eaton College)
- Enrolments of students with disability in independent schools have tripled in the past decade, with all 236 schools enrolling students with disability

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE SCHOOLS

- 30 schools for students who have disengaged from mainstream schooling
- 53 campuses with 25 located in South East Qld
- 4,942 students
- Special Assistance School sites and student numbers have nearly doubled over the past five years

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 176 schools offer VET
- 22,129 students enrolled in VET
- 1,143 independent school students undertook a school-based apprenticeship last year
- 39 independent schools are Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) Registered Training Organisations

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE QUEENSLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL SECTOR

>33,500

full-time jobs supported

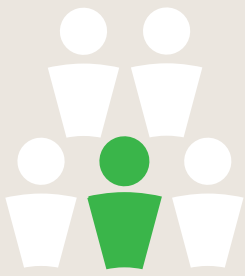
\$1.02bn

in savings to taxpayers through full fee-paying parents

\$4.88bn

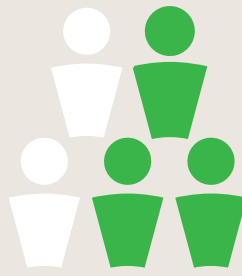
contributed to the Queensland economy

PER STUDENT FUNDING



\$12,260

independent students



\$13,970

Catholic students



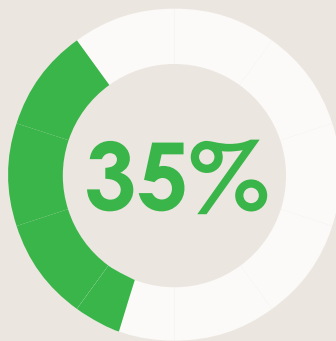
\$20,940

Government students

FUNDING



of the costs of educating a student at an independent school is met by parents



of the costs of educating a student at an independent school is covered by Federal Government



of the costs of educating a student at an independent school is covered by State Government

Sources: AEC Group, (2020 update), Economic Significance of Independent Schools to the Queensland Economy | 2023 Non-State School Census (State) February Collection | Department of Education Non-Government Schools Financial Questionnaire.



Independent Schools Queensland

choice & diversity

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