

Fact Sheet

Kindergartens



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What are kindergartens?

In Queensland the term 'kindergarten' refers to an educational program offered to children in the year prior to starting Prep at school. This means an eligible child turns 4 years old by 30 June in the year they participate in a kindergarten program.

A National Partnership on Early Childhood Education between the Australian and Queensland government has resulted in a number of initiatives and strategies being implemented in the early childhood education and care sector. The Australian government has made a commitment to provide every child with access to a kindergarten program delivered by a four year qualified early childhood teacher for 15 hours a week for 40 weeks a year in the year prior to full-time schooling.

What do kindergartens mean for Catholic education?

Queensland Catholic education authorities are supportive of Commonwealth and State government initiatives to provide young children with early learning opportunities. Catholic kindergartens offer quality early learning environments and programs that engage young children and their families.

The Queensland Catholic Education Commission is one of five approved Central Governing Bodies (CGB) authorised to distribute funding to kindergarten services under the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS) and fulfil data and reporting requirements. QCEC gives responsibility to delegated Catholic agencies across the state, which are Approved Providers, to ensure kindergarten services comply with national law and regulations, QKFS policy and operating guidelines and QCEC CGB processes.

Links

[Australian Childrens' Education & Care Quality Authority \(ACECQA\)](#)

Queensland Government: [Early Childhood Education and Care](#)

QCEC: [Early childhood education and care](#)