

Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025

Explanatory Notes

FOR

Amendments to be moved during consideration in detail by the Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts

Short title

The short title of the Bill is the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025.

Policy objectives of the amendments

Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*

The *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024* (the CSO Act) was developed in response to recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse which found that many organisations entrusted with the care of children failed to protect them from harm and appropriately manage allegations of harm by their employees and volunteers.

Amongst other matters, the CSO Act introduces a reportable conduct scheme (RCS) for Queensland which requires certain organisations with a high degree of responsibility for children, across multiple sectors, to report and investigate concerns about the conduct of workers in relation to children. The Queensland Family and Child Commission (the QFCC) is the administering and independent oversight body for the RCS.

Under the CSO Act, implementation of the RCS commences across sectors in three stages:

- Phase 1 (section 2(4)) – child protection services, services for children with a disability, justice or detention services, government organisations – commencing 1 July 2026;
- Phase 2 (section 2(5)) – accommodation and residential services, education services, health services – commencing 1 January 2027; and
- Phase 3 (section 2(6)) – early childhood education and care (ECEC) services and religious bodies – commencing 1 July 2027.

On 10 July 2025, in response to reports of child abuse in ECEC settings, the Queensland Government committed to bring forward RCS implementation for the ECEC sector to 1 July 2026.

To ensure children accessing accommodation and residential services, education services, health services and religious activities also benefit from earlier protection through the RCS, the Queensland Government has committed to bring forward commencement for all phase 2 and phase 3 sectors to 1 July 2026. The policy objective of the amendments is to improve safeguards available to Queensland children earlier through the full implementation of the RCS from 1 July 2026.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

The Queensland school education system comprises both a state and a non-state sector. The non-state sector is further divided into schools represented by two peak bodies. Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) represents a broad range of non-state schools. The Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) represents Catholic non-state schools.

From 1 January 2026, Catholic Education Queensland Limited (CEQL) will be established as the new peak body replacing QCEC. CEQL will continue all QCEC's core responsibilities under all Queensland legislation in which QCEC is named.

Replacement of references to QCEC or its full trading name in Queensland statutes with CEQL is required by 1 January 2026 to support the commencement of operations of CEQL on that date.

References to QCEC or the Queensland Catholic Education Commission are located in eight education statutes and one non-education statute and will be replaced with either references to CEQL or to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 respectively. A single reference to the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland is also replaced by a reference to CEQL for consistency.

This will provide for the lawful continuation of the role of Catholic non-state schooling sector for matters such as membership on education statutory authority boards, capital assistance funding arrangements to Catholic non-state schools, information sharing, legislative consultation and professional teacher recognitions through certification for highly accomplished and lead teachers, as well as maintaining funding and data sharing arrangements relating to approved kindergarten providers.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

In 2012, regulation of Queensland's early childhood education and care (ECEC) services moved from state-based to national scheme legislation under the National Quality Framework (NQF), comprising the *Education and Care Services National Law* (National Law), *Education and Care Services National Regulations* (National Regulations) and National Quality Standard.

The National Law is adopted in Queensland by the *Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) Act 2011* (Application Act 2011). The *Education and Care Services Act 2013* (ECS Act) and *Education and Care Services Regulation 2013* (ECS Regulation) provide the regulatory framework for Queensland ECEC services not regulated under the NQF.

Both regulatory frameworks allow for Queensland ECEC services to have rest period conditions as part of their service approval. A rest period condition is a non-standard condition providing for one or more periods during the day, totalling not more than two hours, as rest periods for the service.

During rest periods, significantly reduced staffing requirements apply from the minimum baseline ratio and qualification requirements prescribed for ECEC services at all other times during operating hours. The condition only applies to children aged over 24 months.

Under the NQF, Queensland is the only jurisdiction that allows for rest period conditions through Queensland-specific provisions in the National Regulations. As of 3 September 2025, 582 out of the 3,313 ECEC services licensed to operate in Queensland had a rest period condition in their service approvals.

In August 2022, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) launched Operation Tenterfield after arresting a former childcare worker charged with 1623 child abuse offences against 91 children, alleged to have been committed in Brisbane, Sydney and overseas between 2007 and 2022.

The Department of Education (department), in its role as the Queensland's Early Childhood Regulatory Authority (ECRA), identified an urgent need to review the Queensland-specific provisions for rest period conditions in service approvals under the NQF and ECS Act.

In December 2023, the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority released the Review of Child Safety Arrangements Under the NQF (Child Safety Review) which found that more can be done to strengthen and refine the NQF and the National Quality Standard with respect to child safety.

The Child Safety Review made 16 recommendations, where the final recommendation was to undertake a supplementary child safety review within two years informed by an AFP intelligence analysis of Operation Tenterfield.

As a result of Operation Tenterfield and the Child Safety Review, and in light of other recent high-profile incidents of alleged child sexual abuse in childcare services by former childcare workers, legislatively removing rest period conditions is a necessary and critical step to creating a child safe environment in ECEC settings and to minimise risk of harm to children during rest periods.

Removing the provision of rest period conditions ensures the minimum baseline supervision and qualification requirements apply at all times a relevant ECEC service is operating.

Achievement of policy objectives

Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*

The amendments will bring forward RCS commencement for accommodation and residential services, education services, health services, ECEC services and religious bodies to 1 July 2026 by amending sections 2 and 112 of the CSO Act.

Section 109 of the CSO Act will also be amended to bring forward the statutory review date by 12 months, consistent with accelerated commencement of the RCS. This will mean that the Minister responsible for administration of the CSO Act will be required to review the effectiveness of the Act as soon as practicable after 1 July 2029, following three years of full implementation.

Minor and technical amendments will also be made to correct cross-referencing and typographical errors in the CSO Act.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

The amendments replace legislative references to QCEC or to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission (as a peak body and trading name of the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland) with CEQL or Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 (as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee to be incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)). A reference to the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland is also amended for consistency.

The legislative references to QCEC / Queensland Catholic Education Commission and the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland are replaced with CEQL / Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 in the following education statutes: *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017*, *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005*, *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Regulation 2016*, *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014*, *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2025*, *Education (Capital Assistance) Act 1993*, *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*, and *Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) Regulation 2022*.

A reference to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission in the *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008*, administered by the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism (DWATSIPM), is also replaced with Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

The Application Act is also amended to provide that all existing rest period conditions in ECEC service approvals under the NQF are taken to be removed. This will also have the effect of rendering inoperative the Queensland-specific provisions in the National Regulations that prescribe reduced educator-to-child ratios and relaxed educator qualification requirements where a service has a rest period condition.

To remove any potential ambiguity about whether Queensland services regulated under the NQF can have a rest period condition, Queensland will seek approval from the education Ministerial Council for amendments to the National Regulations to repeal the Queensland-specific provisions for rest period conditions. Amendments to the National Regulations can only be made by the Ministerial Council for the National Law and are progressed by the host jurisdiction, New South Wales.

Additionally, the ECS Act is amended to repeal provisions permitting rest period conditions and to provide that all existing rest period conditions in ECEC service approvals under the ECS Act are taken to be removed.

The amendments to the Application Act 2011 and ECS Act will remove existing rest period conditions on service approvals and prevent application for a rest period condition into the future.

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*

As commencement dates for the RCS are set out in the CSO Act, there are no alternative ways to achieve the policy objectives other than by legislative amendment.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

There are no alternative ways of achieving the policy objectives for the amendments to replace references to QCEC / Queensland Catholic Education Commission and the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland with CEQL / Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 in Queensland statutes.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

An alternative option for minimising risks to children from lower educator-to-child ratios and staff qualification requirements during rest periods was a non-regulatory option whereby proactive strategies could be adopted by the ECRA to:

- promote voluntary compliance with baseline requirements for educator ratios and qualifications for the duration of opening hours.
- encourage approved providers with rest period conditions to develop service policies and procedures, to be made available to families, which outline the particular strategies being used to safeguard children while rest periods are in effect.
- partner with approved providers, peak bodies and recognised authorities to co-design guidance materials regarding best practice in supervision.

The number of ECEC services with rest period conditions has been decreasing in recent months, as approved providers proactively elect to have their rest period conditions removed. As of 3 September 2025, 582 out of the 3,313 ECEC services licensed to operate in Queensland had a rest period condition in their service approvals. This has decreased since February 2025 from 931 to 582 services. Approximately 47,800 children aged 2+ years (to whom the conditions apply) were enrolled in the 582 services with a rest period condition as of 3 September 2025.

However, there is no certainty that all approved providers will follow suit to voluntarily elect to have rest period conditions removed from their service approvals nor implement other risk mitigation strategies.

Furthermore, maintaining the status quo will not prevent approved providers lawfully applying for rest period conditions in the future. Maintaining the status quo will also continue the disparity in service delivery and potential higher risk to children in Queensland when compared with other jurisdictions.

Operating an ECEC service entails a high degree of risk to children, with educators acting *in loco parentis* for children in some services from birth. As such, a high degree of oversight and regulation is expected and justified.

With the objective of enhancing the safety, health and wellbeing of children and eliminating or mitigating, as far as possible, risks associated with reduced educator-to-child ratios and relaxed staffing qualification requirements during rest periods, the option that provides consistent, broad effect is to legislatively repeal the provision of rest period conditions for all Queensland ECEC services regulated under the NQF and ECS Act.

Estimated cost for government implementation

Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*

The Queensland Government committed funding of \$36.059 million over four years from 2024–25 and \$9.444 million per annum ongoing for the QFCC to operate the child safe organisations oversight body. Any additional resourcing implications for the QFCC arising from earlier RCS implementation will be considered ahead of commencement on 1 July 2026.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

Costs to Government arising from changes to legislation to reflect CEQL replacing QCEC will be associated with administrative actions to update forms or processes. Such costs will be minimal and met from within existing budget.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

Removing rest period conditions may result in some ECEC services having additional costs. It is estimated that approximately 368 services may be impacted through the need to have additional staffing. Should staffing costs be passed on by these services, costs to families associated with increased staffing requirements will be offset by the Australian Government's Child Care Subsidy and by the Queensland Government's Free Kindy initiative.

Costs to Government arising from the amendments will be met within existing budget allocations.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendments have been drafted with regard to, and are generally consistent with, the fundamental legislative principles (FLPs) set out in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* (LS Act).

Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024*

Potential departures and breaches of FLPs were considered in detail in the development of the CSO Act. This included potential departures from the FLP that legislation has sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals (LS Act section 4(2)(a)), for example:

- *enforcement powers*: while it was recognised that enforcement powers and new offences for non-compliance with the RCS may represent a departure from the FLPs, these powers were considered justified and appropriate as they are necessary to support the function of the QFCC to provide oversight and protect children from harm and were designed as a graduated suite of compliance tools to be used in a way that is proportionate to the nature of the non-compliance;
- *information sharing*: while it was recognised that the sharing of sensitive and confidential information about a worker and a child may represent a departure from the FLPs, the potential departure was considered justified as information may only be shared for legitimate reasons in certain circumstances to protect children from harm, with safeguards in place such as offences against the disclosure of confidential information; and
- *powers of authorised officers*: while it was recognised that requiring a person to provide information or documents may potentially depart from the FLPs where it abrogates protection against self-discrimination, these powers were considered justified on the basis that it is necessary information that supports the function of the QFCC to provide oversight and protect children from harm, with safeguards in place such as evidential immunity in certain circumstances.

As the amendments do not impact the functions of the QFCC or the features of the RCS, the analysis of FLPs undertaken in the development of the CSO Act has not changed and the amendments do not entail any further potential departures or breaches of FLPs. While the amendments will bring forward the potential impact on the rights and liberties of some individuals in phase 2 and 3 organisations, this is considered appropriate and justified to achieve earlier protections for children across institutional settings.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

The amendments to legislation to reflect CEQL / Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 replacing QCEC / Queensland Catholic Education Commission are technical in nature and are consistent with FLPs.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

A potential breach of FLPs was identified in relation to the amendments for rest period conditions. The changes will serve to automatically remove rest period conditions from existing service approvals from 1 January 2026 and remove the provision of rest period conditions on service approvals beyond that date.

FLPs aim to ensure that legislation respects the rights and liberties of individuals and are underpinned by concepts including transparency, accountability and fairness. The principle of natural justice requires that individuals affected by a decision are given the opportunity to be heard and to provide input before any changes are made.

The legislative changes will serve to automatically remove rest period conditions from existing service approvals from 1 January 2026 and remove the availability for rest period conditions on service approvals beyond that date. There will be no ability for approved providers to appeal or object to the change to service approval.

Approved providers have been made aware that rest period conditions have been under review by the department, and were given the opportunity to be heard, through the targeted consultation process undertaken in early 2025. Additionally, approved providers will be given two months to implement the minimum baseline educator ratio and qualification requirements for all operating hours, with the commencement of the changes not proposed to take effect until 1 January 2026. Furthermore, rest period conditions are not a universally held right across the national or even local Queensland ECEC sector. Rest period conditions are unique to Queensland ECEC services and currently only 17.5% of all ECEC services have a rest period condition.

Consultation**Amendments to the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024***

Extensive public consultation, including on regulatory impacts, was undertaken in development of the CSO Act. The results of consultation indicated strong support for the model in the CSO Act, with the RCS seen as a valuable tool to improve organisations' ability to appropriately respond to complaints of child abuse.

External consultation on the amendments was not undertaken given the urgent need to bring forward RCS commencement to improve safeguards available to Queensland children earlier.

Legislative references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission

QCEC has been consulted on amendments to replace relevant statutory references to QCEC / Queensland Catholic Education Commission and the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland with CEQL / Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 in Queensland statutes. The DWATSIPM was consulted with respect to the references to QCEC in the *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008*.

Rest period conditions in early childhood education and care services

The department undertook targeted consultation from 31 March 2025 to 22 April 2025 about rest period conditions with all ECEC approved providers whose service approvals had a rest period condition.

A discussion paper was circulated to approved providers along with an invitation to two online information sessions and to provide feedback in a survey. This consultation sought feedback

on three options: Option 1 – retaining the status quo; Option 2 – repealing rest period conditions through legislative change; Option 3 – no regulatory change but promoting change through other avenues and methods including voluntary removal of rest period conditions from service approvals.

The targeted consultation revealed that the majority of approved providers (17 responses or 38%) preferred option 1; that is, to maintain the current regulatory framework, allowing for the continuation of rest period conditions. The other two options received equal number of responses as the preferred option (14 each, or 31%). Irrespective of support for a regulatory option, respondents were strongly supportive of the need to improve child safety and national consistency of regulation.

Proceeding with legislative changes to repeal provisions for rest period conditions will have a financial impact on some ECEC services, families and the Queensland Government.

Based on the outcome of the March-April 2025 consultation, in particular where the respondents indicated their services would be impacted from removal of rest period conditions and quantified the additional cost for their service, it is estimated the additional average cost to each service (currently not meeting baseline staffing requirements at all operating times) will be \$48,000 per year. This figure was reached based on asking survey respondents to provide an estimated annual cost of potential staffing changes for their services. Where a survey respondent had more than one service, they were asked to provide an average annual dollar cost.

Based on these consultation results, it is anticipated that approximately 368 services may be impacted with an estimated additional staffing cost of approximately \$17.664 million per annum across the sector, approximately 662 additional qualified staff needed, and approximately 257 existing staff would have their hours extended.

Consistency with legislation of other jurisdictions

The amendments to the CSO Act are consistent with the RCS implementation approach in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia adopted a phased approach to RCS implementation.

The references to QCEC and the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland is specific to the Queensland statute book and is not uniform with any current legislation of the Commonwealth or another State or Territory.

The regulation of ECEC services transitioned from state-based to national scheme legislation (the NQF) in 2012. Under the NQF, no jurisdiction, aside from Queensland, permits rest period conditions on service approvals. Removing rest period conditions will bring Queensland in alignment with all other jurisdictions.

Notes on provisions

Amendment 1 amends Clause 2 of the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025 (Commencement) by amending the commencement to include the new provisions:

- the following provisions commence on 1 January 2026:
 - (a) part 2, division 2A
 - (b) part 3, division 2 to 11

Amendment 2 amends Clause 2 of the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025 to insert a subsection (2). This is to provide for renumbering within the commencement clause of the Bill, to take account of the inclusion of the commencement of the new provisions relating to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission and rest period conditions (clause 1).

Amendment 3 inserts clause 15A, amendment of section 251B (consultation about planning) of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to omit a reference to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission in subsection (b) and insert a reference to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 as new subsection (b).

Amendment 4 inserts a new part 3, division 1, into the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Bill 2025:

- Clause 39A provides that this division amends the *Child Safe Organisations Act 2024* (CSO Act).
- Clause 39B amends the commencement provisions in section 2 of the CSO Act to commence the RCS across all sectors under Schedule 2 on 1 July 2026. This clause:
 - omits references to sections 2(5) and 2(6) from section 2(1) of the CSO Act;
 - amends section 2(4)(n) of the CSO Act to omit references to sections 4, 5, 8 and 9 of schedule 2 to reflect commencement of the RCS for all sectors under Schedule 2 on 1 July 2026;
 - omits:
 - section 2(5) to remove 1 January 2027 as the existing RCS commencement date for accommodation and residential services, education services and health services sectors; and
 - section 2(6) to remove 1 July 2027 as the existing RCS commencement date for the ECEC and religious bodies sectors.
- Clause 39C makes minor and technical amendments to section 49(6) of the CSO Act to correct cross-referencing errors.
- Clause 39D amends the review date of the CSO Act under section 109(1) to require a review of the Act as soon as practicable after 1 July 2029. This date is 12 months earlier than the current legislative review date to align with full RCS implementation commencing 12 months earlier.
- Clause 39E amends section 112 of the CSO Act which provides a transitional provision for conduct or convictions prior to commencement. The amendment replaces references to the ‘start date’ for an entity in the heading and body of section 112 with references to the commencement of the section and omits the definition of ‘start date’.
- Clause 39F makes a minor amendment to section 130(1) of the CSO Act to correct a typographical error in the reference to the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*; replacing the reference to ‘Child’ with ‘Children’.

- Clause 39G makes a minor amendment to schedule 4, section 7 to update additional references to the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* in sections 282(1)(f) and (2)(a) of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*.

Amendment 5 inserts part 3, division 2 which amends the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017* (EANSSA) by:

- amending sections 20(a), 39(5), 102(1)(b) and (e) and 103 of EANSSA to omit references to QCEC and insert references to CEQL;
- inserting new chapter 6, part 2, division 1, heading (Division 1 Transitional provisions for Act No. 24 of 2017)
- amending section 181 of EANSSA to omit “part” and replace it with “division”;
- inserting new chapter 6, part 2, division 2 (Transitional provisions for *Education (General Provisions) Amendment Act 2025*). The transitional provisions set out:
 - definitions for the division;
 - that a notice given to QCEC under former section 20(a) or 39(5) is taken to be a notice given to CEQL;
 - that a person who held office as a member under former section 102(1)(b) is taken to hold office as a member under new section 102(1)(b);
 - that a person who held office as a member under former section 102(1)(e) is taken to hold office as a member under new section 102(1)(e);
 - appointments, nominations and consultation undertaken in relation to QCEC under section 102 and 103 apply to the new entity of CEQL; and
- amending schedule 1 Dictionary to omit the definition of ‘QCEC’ and insert a definition for ‘CEQL’ to mean Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 6 inserts part 3, division 3 Amendment of *Education and Care Services Act 2013* (ECS Act), which amends the ECS Act by:

- omitting the note in section 44(1) (Form of application for service approval);
- omitting the note in section 56(1) (Form of application for exceptional circumstances service approval);
- omitting the note in section 65(2) (Amendment of service approval on application);
- omitting subsection (2) of section 110 (Standard requirements);
- omitting section 112 (Rest periods).

Amendment 6 also inserts new part 11, division 3 in the ECS Act, which inserts transitional provisions for the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Act 2025. The transitional provisions set out:

- definitions for division 3, being: *former section 112* means section 112 as in force from time to time before 1 January 2026; and *rest period condition*, in relation to a service approval for a QEC approved service, means a condition included in the service approval under former section 112;
- that in relation to a service approval for a QEC approved service, if the service approval, immediately before 1 January 2026, had a rest period condition, then from 1 January 2026 the rest period condition is of no effect and the service approval is taken to not include the condition;

- that where an application for a service approval, an amendment of a service approval or an exceptional circumstances service approval was made before 1 January 2026 and included a request for a rest period condition and, immediately before 1 January 2026, the application had not been decided, the application must be decided as if it had not included the request for the rest period condition.

Amendment 7 inserts part 3, division 4 which amends *the Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) Act 2011* by:

- amending, relocating and renumbering part 4, division 1, heading (Transitional). Part 4, division 1, heading is replaced with division 1 (Transitional provisions for Act No. 38 of 2011). Part 4, division 1 is relocated to newly inserted part 5 and renumbered as part 5, division 1;
- inserting transitional provisions which set out that:
 - in subdivision 3, rest period condition means a condition imposed on a service approval providing for one or more periods during a day, totalling not more than two hours during the day, to be rest periods for an approved education and care service;
 - in relation to a service approval if, immediately before 1 January 2026, the service approval was subject to a rest period condition, from 1 January 2026 the rest period condition is of no effect and the service approval is taken not to be subject to the rest period condition;
 - in relation to an undecided application under the Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) for a service approval or an amendment of a service approval made before 1 January 2026 and that included a request for the imposition of a rest period condition, the application must be decided as if it did not include the request for the imposition of the rest period condition;
- inserting a transitional provision which sets out that authority for particular employees or officers of the Corporation of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Queensland given by the chief executive and in force before 1 January 2026 is revoked on 1 January 2026.

Amendment 8 inserts part 3, division 5 which amends the Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) Regulation 2022 (National Law Regulation). Section 3 of the National Law Regulation (central governing bodies—Act, s 32) is amended to insert a reference to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223, to omit section 3(c) and renumber section 3(aa) to (b) as section 3(a) to (c).

Amendment 9 inserts part 3, division 6, which amends the *Education (Capital Assistance) Act 1993* (Capital Assistance Act) to remove reference in section 7(1) to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission and replace it with reference to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 9 also inserts a transitional provision for the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Act 2025 to ensure that a corporation nominated by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission to be a capital assistance authority under former section 7(1) of the Capital Assistance Act in force before 1 January 2026 is taken to be nominated under the new section 7(1) as in force on 1 January 2026.

Amendment 10 inserts part 3, division 7, Amendment of *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* (QCT Act), to set out that references to Queensland Catholic Education Commission in sections 239(1)(c) and (i)(ii) are omitted and replaced with reference to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 10 also inserts new transitional provisions for the *Education (General Provisions) Amendment Act 2025* to provide for any actions undertaken by, or with regard to, QCEC (or a school represented by QCEC) in relation to the certification of teachers as Highly Accomplished or Lead Teacher, prior to 1 January 2026, will still have effect and apply to CEQL as follows:

- *former*, for a provision, means the provision as in force from time to time before 1 January 2026;
- *new*, for a provision, means the provision as in force from 1 January 2026;
- persons nominated by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission under former section 239(1) are taken to be nominated by Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223;
- a person nominated jointly by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission and the Association of Independent Schools Queensland is taken to be a person nominated jointly by Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 and the Association of Independent Schools Queensland;
- a person appointed as a member of the board under former section 239(1)(c) or (i)(ii) immediately before 1 January 2026 is taken to be appointed by the Governor in Council for the same term as the term decided before 1 January 2026. This does not limit section 243;
- a notice given under section 241 to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission before 1 January 2026 is taken to be a notice given to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 11 inserts part 3, division 8 which amends the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Regulation 2016 by amending sections 12A(b), 12B(b), 12C(b) and (c) and schedule 1, items 10(b), 11(b) and 12(b) to omit QCEC and insert CEQL. Schedule 2 (Dictionary) is also amended to omit the definition of QCEC and insert that CEQL means Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 12 inserts part 3, division 9 which amends the *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014* (QCAA Act). Section 13 (Testing) of the QCAA Act is amended to omit reference to QCEC and replace it with reference to CEQL; section 22 (Members) is amended by omitting section 22(b)(ii) and inserting new section (ii) as the chief executive officer, or nominee, of CEQL. Sections 67 and 92 are amended to omit references to QCEC and insert references to CEQL for the definition of relevant entity.

Amendment 12 also inserts transitional provisions for the Education (General Provisions) Amendment Act 2025 for:

- section 114 of the QCAA Act to provide definitions for the division;
- section 115 of the QCAA Act to provide that:
 - a member of the authority appointed under former section 22(b)(ii) is taken to be the member appointed under section 22(b)(ii) for CEQL;
 - a person who was appointed as a member of the authority immediately before 1 January 2026 under former section 22(b)(ii) is taken to be appointed by the Governor in Council on the same terms and conditions that were decided by the Governor in Council before 1 January 2026;
 - former section 22(b)(ii) means section 22(b)(ii) as in force from time to time before 1 January 2026;
 - new section 22(b)(ii), means section 22(b)(ii) as in force from 1 January 2026;

- section 116 of the QCAA Act to provide that:
 - if, before 1 January 2026, the authority received a request from the QCEC for aggregated student information under section 67 and the authority had not given QCEC the information, the request is taken to be made by CEQL; and that QCEC means Queensland Catholic Education Commission;
- schedule 1 (Dictionary) to omit the definition of QCEC and insert that CEQL means Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 13 inserts part 3, division 10 which amends the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2025 to omit reference to QCEC in section 152(b)(ii) and insert CEQL for the purposes of section 67 of the QCAA Act.

Amendment 14 inserts part 3, division 11 which amends the *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008* to omit a reference to QCEC in section 145(c) and insert Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223.

Amendment 14 also provides for a transitional provision for the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2025* that a guideline given to the Queensland Catholic Education Commission before 1 January 2026 by the commissioner under former section 145(5) is taken to have been given to Catholic Education Queensland Ltd ACN 689 899 223 and that former section 145(5) means section 145(5) as in force from time to time before 1 January 2026.

Amendment 15 inserts part 3, division 12 (Other amendments), for the amendment of the long title.

Amendment 16 amends the long title.