

Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017

Explanatory notes for SL 2017 No. 196

made under the
Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017

General Outline

Short title

Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The policy objective of the Proclamation is to commence the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017* (the Act) on 1 January 2018. The Act received royal assent on 25 August 2017.

The Act provides for a new regulatory scheme for non-state schools in Queensland. It:

- continues the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board (the Board) as an independent statutory body responsible for the regulation of non-state schools;
- streamlines the accreditation processes, for example, by removing the concept of provisional accreditation and the requirement for the issuing of accreditation certificates;
- streamlines the process for government funding eligibility by: providing for the Board to make funding eligibility decisions, rather than the Minister and enabling automatic eligibility for accredited non-state schools operating on a not-for-profit basis to receive government funding;
- strengthens the functions of authorised persons to investigate offences under the Act and requires governing bodies to inform the Board when members cease and new members commence; and
- provides for review of decisions by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal rather than by the Minister.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by providing for the Act to commence on 1 January 2018.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the objectives of the Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The commencement of the Act will not result in any additional costs to Government.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

The Board, Independent Schools Queensland, and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission were consulted during a review of the legislative scheme. They have been advised about the assent of the Act and support commencement on 1 January 2018.