



CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS QUEENSLAND CONSTITUTION

ADOPTED 2024



CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS
QUEENSLAND

www.cspq.catholic.edu.au

Table of Contents

1.	Name and Status	1
2.	Definitions and Interpretations.....	1
3.	Objects, Guiding Principles and Limitations	2
4.	Membership of Catholic School Parents Queensland	4
5.	Powers of CSPQ	4
6.	Empowerment and Accountability	4
7.	Board of Catholic School Parents Queensland	5
8.	Annual General Meeting of CSPQ	9
9.	Arch/Diocesan Parent Conferences, General Meetings and Annual General Meetings	10
10.	Secretariat.....	10
11.	Funding and Finance	11
12.	Life Membership.....	11
13.	By Laws and Code of Conduct.....	12
14.	Amendment to the Constitution	12
15.	Documents and Records.....	12
16.	Execution of Agreements	12
17.	Special Provisions Required by Canon Law.....	13
18.	Dissolution	13
	Authorisation	15
	Schedule 1 - By-laws	16

Catholic School Parents, Queensland

1. Name and Status

- 1.1 The name of the incorporated association shall be Catholic School Parents Queensland (CSPQ).
- 1.2 CSPQ has status under Canon Law as a private association with Juridic personality [Can. 322 §1] and has been erected and recognised as a private Juridic person in each Diocese within the Province of Brisbane by decree of the Bishops of Queensland given in writing on 25 August 1998.
- 1.3 This amended Constitution has been reviewed by the competent ecclesiastical authority for the objectives set out herein [Can. 299§3; Can. 322 §2] and has been approved in writing by the Bishops of Queensland.
- 1.4 CSPQ is subject to the supervision of the Bishops of Queensland [Can. 305 §1; Can. 323 §1].
- 1.5 CSPQ may call itself “*Catholic*” as part of its name while the consent for such use of a competent ecclesiastical authority (the Bishops of Queensland) subsists [Can. 300].
- 1.6 CSPQ was on November 20 2018 (previously P & F Federation was on 9 May 2000), and remains, incorporated under the *Roman Catholic Church (Incorporation of Church Entities) Act 1994 (Act)* [Incorporation Number 3].

2. Definitions and Interpretations

- 2.1 In this document:

Annual Levy is the annual charge applied by CSPQ to the Parents/Carers of each child attending a Catholic School in Queensland and agreed by the Bishops’ of Queensland from time to time.

Bishops of Queensland means the persons holding appointment as an Arch/Diocesan Bishop under the Code of Canon Law.

Canon Law refers to the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church 1983.

Executive Director means the senior staff member of CSPQ appointed from time to time by the CSPQ Board under written contract to undertake the day to day management, control and operation of CSPQ in accordance with the said contract provisions and by the job title and role description set out therein and otherwise performing the functions as directed by CSPQ Board. The Executive Director also assists the Chairperson in carrying out his/her functions as set out in clause 7.4(f) hereof.

Co-opted Members are up to 5 persons who are appointed by the CSPQ Board to membership of the CSPQ Board because she or he is considered to be necessary or important to the operation of CSPQ. Co-opted Members will have full voting rights.

Delegate is a person chosen by the member bodies to represent that Diocesan Parent body to the CSPQ Board and/or to Annual and special General Meetings of CSPQ. This person must be a parent/carer of a child in a Catholic School in Queensland.

Diocesan Parent Body means the body representing the interests of all the Recognised Parent Organisations in a Diocese in the Roman Catholic Province of Brisbane.

Ex-officio Members are members of the CSPQ Board by virtue of the office they hold. They do not have voting rights.

Financial Year means the calendar year commencing on and including the first day of January and ending on and including the thirty-first day of December in that year.

Meeting can be by physical convocation of the members of the group or by use of appropriate communication technology, including electronic and otherwise as determined by the Chairperson and the Executive Director.

Member Body means those bodies empowered to provide delegates to the CSPQ Board.

Parent/Carer means the natural parents, legal custodians or people who are in loco parentis.

Recognised Parent Organisation means the Parent or community organisation in a Catholic School which is recognised by the School as the main forum for Parents and Carers to have a voice and work in partnership to support learning in that School and has as its objectives the promotion and furtherance of the interests of the Catholic School and its supporting community.

Representative is a person appointed to represent CSPQ.

School means any institution which conducts a pre-school, primary or secondary education programme conducted in accordance with Canon 803 in the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church.

Secretariat is the state office of CSPQ through which the affairs of the CSPQ Board and CSPQ are conducted and through which its policy is implemented and promoted. The Secretariat provides support to the CSPQ Board.

CSPQ Board means the governing body of CSPQ.

3. **Objects, Guiding Principles and Limitations**

3.1 The Objects of CSPQ are to:

- (a) promote and support the Church's mission in Catholic Schools;

- (b) promote the interests of Parents and Carers in respect of the education of their children in Catholic Schools;
- (c) provide leadership and support to School and Diocesan Parent bodies, Catholic Education Authorities, and government and non-government organisations around engaging Parents, families and communities in education;
- (d) provide a voice for Catholic school parents/carers with Catholic and other agencies including government instrumentalities to help shape policy as it relates to Catholic Schools, students and their families and communities;
- (e) support and further quality education as a right in all Schools;
- (f) ensure the rights of Parents/carers to choose Catholic Schools and promote and protect the interests of children in Catholic Schools;
- (g) ensure all children receive an equitable share of public money to support a high quality education;
- (h) collaborate closely with the Bishops and Catholic Education Authorities to promote the principles of Catholic education; and
- (i) be a resource and provide a forum for Parent bodies.

3.2 The Guiding Principles of CSPQ are:

- (a) Christ is central to its work;
- (b) strong Catholic identity;
- (c) faithfulness to the mission of the Church;
- (d) recognition of Parents/carers as having the primary and natural responsibility for their children's education;
- (e) collaboration with Church and families is needed to fulfil the Church's mission in the education of each child;
- (f) inclusiveness; and
- (g) embracing the poor and marginalised.

3.3 Limitations

- (a) CSPQ shall not seek to have any control, nor shall it purport to exercise any control over the management and administration of any School.
- (b) CSPQ shall not affiliate with any political party.

4. Membership of Catholic School Parents Queensland

4.1 CSPQ membership shall consist of the following:

- (a) the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools in the Brisbane Archdiocese represented by the Brisbane Archdiocesan recognised parent body;
- (b) the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools in the Toowoomba Diocese represented by the Toowoomba Diocesan recognised parent body;
- (c) the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools in the Rockhampton Diocese represented by the Rockhampton Diocesan recognised parent body;
- (d) the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools in the Townsville Diocese represented by the Townsville Diocesan recognised parent body;
- (e) the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools in the Cairns Diocese represented by the Cairns Diocesan recognised parent body; and
- (f) such other Catholic entity or group as the CSPQ Board may agree to admit as a member (provided that membership under this category shall automatically be cancelled if the Bishops of Queensland so resolve at any time).

5. Powers of CSPQ

5.1 In performing its objectives and/or functions as an incorporated Church entity, CSPQ has all the powers and legal capacity of an individual. In particular, CSPQ may:

- (a) enter into contracts;
- (b) acquire, hold, deal with and dispose of property;
- (c) borrow moneys; and
- (d) do other things necessary or convenient to be done in carrying out its affairs.

6. Empowerment and Accountability

6.1 CSPQ is empowered by the Recognised Parent Organisations in Catholic Schools through the respective Diocesan Parent Body.

6.2 The CSPQ Board acknowledges the authority of the Bishops of Queensland which grants CSPQ its charter as an organisation and approves the Constitution of CSPQ [*Can. 299 §3*].

7. Board of Catholic School Parents Queensland

7.1 Functions of the CSPQ Board

Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution and subject to resolutions of the members of the CSPQ Board carried at any General Meeting, the CSPQ Board shall:

- (a) have the general control and management of the administration of the affairs, property and funds of CSPQ;
- (b) have authority to interpret the meaning of this Constitution and any matter relating to CSPQ on which this Constitution is silent; and
- (c) formulate advice for consideration by CSPQ on any issue involving new policy or a significant deviation from existing policy.

7.2 Establishment of Committees

The CSPQ Board may delegate any of its powers to a committee consisting of such persons as the CSPQ Board thinks fit. Any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations and parameters that may be imposed on it. These committees must report to the CSPQ Board.

7.3 Membership of the CSPQ Board

- (a) The membership of the CSPQ Board will consist of:
 - (i) an Independent Chairperson (independent of the Arch/Diocesan Parent Bodies);
 - (ii) a nominee of the Bishops of Queensland;
 - (iii) one delegate from each member body nominated by the Arch/Diocesan Parent Body and agreed by the Arch/diocesan Bishop and the Arch/diocesan director of Catholic Education. The person nominated will be a parent/carer of a child in a Catholic School in Queensland.
 - (iv) up to five Co-opted Members appointed from time to time. All co-opted members will be a parent/carer of a child in a Catholic School in Queensland.
and
 - (v) the Executive Director as an Ex-officio non-voting Member.

7.4 Chairperson of CSPQ Board

- (a) The Independent Chairperson of the CSPQ Board will be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the CSPQ Board. The Chairperson will be independent of any Diocesan Parent Body which means that the Chairperson cannot be a member of a

Diocesan Parent Body. The Independent Chair should be a parent/carer of a child in a Catholic School.

- (b) The CSPQ Board will elect a Deputy Chairperson from the membership of the CSPQ Board at the first CSPQ Board meeting following each Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Whenever an absence or casual vacancy occurs in the office of Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson shall fill the vacancy.
- (d) When the Deputy Chairperson is a Diocesan delegate and is required to take the Chair, his/her Diocesan Parent Body may provide a proxy to another person who is a member of their Diocesan Parent Body to fulfil the role as their delegate to the CSPQ Board at the meeting the Deputy Chairperson is presiding over. Such Proxy may be for the period of time, or whenever their delegate is acting as Chairperson.
- (e) The Deputy Chairperson, when acting as Chairperson, shall have:
 - (i) the same powers and authority as the Chairperson; and
 - (ii) the same voting rights as the Independent Chairperson would otherwise have if present and voting at any meeting (clause 7.6).
- (f) Functions of the Chairperson include:
 - (i) represent CSPQ and act as spokesperson in conjunction with the Executive Director
 - (ii) convene and chair the meetings of the CSPQ Board
 - (iii) control CSPQ Board meetings and Annual General Meetings so that they are at all times functional and effective;
 - (iv) expel anyone in attendance at any meeting he/she is chairing if the person is, in the opinion of the Chairperson, disruptive to the proper functioning of the meeting;
 - (v) ensure the CSPQ Board undertakes appropriate planning to implement CSPQ's objects;
 - (vi) ensure, with the CSPQ Board, the effective management of CSPQ's resources; and
 - (vii) oversee and support the work of the Executive Director on behalf of the CSPQ Board.

7.5 Tenure of CSPQ Board

- (a) Tenure of membership of the Diocesan Parent Body delegates to the CSPQ Board, shall be for two years from the date when the person was first appointed to the CSPQ Board. The date of appointment will be either, the date of the Annual General Meeting

at which the delegate was first appointed to the CSPQ Board, or, if appointed between Annual General Meetings, the date of the first CSPQ Board meeting attended.

- (b) A CSPQ delegate board member may serve a maximum of two consecutive two year terms (namely, up to four years in total).
- (c) CSPQ delegate Board members who have completed two consecutive two year terms are eligible to seek a further appointment after a break of two years.
- (d) If a CSPQ board member ceases to be a parent/carer of a child in a Catholic School then their term will end at the next AGM or upon their resignation.
- (e) Co-opted Members will be appointed to the CSPQ Board for a period determined by the CSPQ Board. The CSPQ Board has the power to terminate this appointment at any time.
- (f) The CSPQ Board will review any current Co-opted Member appointments at each Annual General Meeting.

7.6 Decision Making by the CSPQ Board

- (a) Decision making shall be by consensus but should an impasse occur, a vote of all members of the CSPQ Board present will be taken and a majority decision shall apply.
- (b) In the event of an equal vote, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote, in addition to the Chairperson's deliberative vote.
- (c) Decisions must be clearly stated and recorded in the minutes. They are binding on the members of the CSPQ Board and on the membership of CSPQ.

7.7 Meetings of the CSPQ Board

- (a) The CSPQ Board shall meet at least three times in each year additional to the Annual General Meeting. These meetings can be in person or by electronic means as agreed by the CSPQ Board.
- (b) The Chairperson shall convene a meeting of the CSPQ Board through the Executive Director by giving at least 14 days written notice to the members of the CSPQ Board.
- (c) Notices of meetings and other communications may be served electronically or otherwise as determined by the Chairperson.
- (d) The notice of a meeting shall clearly state the agenda for the meeting and the nature of the business to be discussed.
- (e) A quorum for any meeting of the CSPQ Board shall be 75 percent of voting members of the CSPQ Board.
- (f) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the Chairperson may begin the meeting as a non-binding general discussion only. If

a quorum is reached after the beginning of the meeting, the meeting may proceed in the usual way.

- (g) Each CSPQ Board member will be entitled to one vote at a meeting of the CSPQ Board.
- (h) If a diocesan delegate is unable to attend a meeting the Diocesan Council may nominate a proxy to attend. This must be advised in writing to the Chairperson in a timely manner.

7.8 Special Meetings of the CSPQ Board

- (a) The Chairperson shall convene a special meeting:
 - (i) if he/she determines a special meeting is necessary to deal with an important matter;
 - (ii) when directed to do so by the CSPQ Board; or
 - (iii) on the request in writing signed by not less than three CSPQ Board members.
- (b) Such a request or notice of special meeting shall clearly state the reason the special meeting is being convened and the nature of the business to be transacted.
- (c) The same rules that apply for meetings of the CSPQ Board shall apply to special meetings.

7.9 Vacancies on CSPQ Board

The CSPQ Board shall have the power at any time to seek a member from a Diocesan Parent Body to fill any casual vacancy for a delegate.

The CSPQ Board shall have the power, upon resignation of a co-opted member, to seek another parent/carer to appoint as a co-opted member.

7.10 Discipline

- (a) If any CSPQ Board member or their nominating body, or other person associated with CSPQ refuses or neglects to comply with the provisions of this Constitution or, in the opinion of the CSPQ Board or the Independent Chairperson, acts in a way which is considered to be unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of CSPQ, the CSPQ Board has the power by resolution to censure the nominating body or censure or suspend or permanently remove the CSPQ Board member from the CSPQ Board or prohibit the person's attendance at any CSPQ meetings or functions for such period as is stated in the resolution.
- (b) Any action taken in accordance with clause 7.10(a) is effective only if:
 - (i) the member and the member's nominating body have first been given not less than 14 days written notice of the intention of the CSPQ Board to consider

and, if thought fit, pass a resolution to censure, suspend or remove the member or person; and

- (ii) the member or person who is the subject of the proposed resolution is given the opportunity to be heard at the meeting at which the resolution is being proposed.
- (c) Upon the person being given the opportunity to be heard, the person must then leave the meeting and the CSPQ Board may then proceed to consider the matter and make its decision. The person affected shall not have a right to make further submissions to the CSPQ Board as to the appropriate outcome of CSPQ Board's decision.
- (d) Any action that has censured, suspended or removed a member from the CSPQ Board must be reported to the Bishops of Queensland within 14 days of the passing of the resolution.
- (e) The Bishops of Queensland may by resolution censure, suspend or remove any member body or CSPQ Board member by notice in writing issued to the CSPQ Board without limitation. Such censure, suspension or removal shall take effect from the date stated in the notice and there shall be no appeal from any decision made by the Bishops of Queensland.

8. Annual General Meeting of CSPQ

- 8.1** The Annual General Meeting shall be held within six months of the close of the Financial Year when Annual reports will be provided by The Independent Chair and the Executive Director and an audited/reviewed financial report shall be presented to the CSPQ Board.
- 8.2** A copy of the annual reports and audited/reviewed annual financial report shall be provided to the Bishops of Queensland.
- 8.3** Unless the General Meeting shall decide otherwise, the order of business at the Annual General Meeting shall include:
 - (a) presentation of Chairperson's report;
 - (b) presentation of the Executive Director's report;
 - (c) presentation of audited/reviewed financial report;
 - (d) election of the Chairperson of the CSPQ Board;
 - (e) Confirmation of Co-opted membership for the following year; and
 - (f) motions on notice.

9. Arch/Diocesan Parent Conferences, General Meetings and Annual General Meetings

- 9.1** Annual General Meetings of each Diocesan Parent Body shall be held every year on an agreed date. General Meetings will be held at least 3 times per year.
- 9.2** Educational and development conferences of CSPQ shall be held in each diocese at such times and places as may be determined by the CSPQ Board in collaboration with the Diocesan Parent Body. These must be held at least once every two years for each Arch/Diocese.
- 9.3** The delegate to the CSPQ Board and parents/carers from each school in the Diocese shall attend conferences. Other people with a common interest may also attend at the discretion of the CSPQ Board.
- 9.4** Non-members of CSPQ may be excluded from educational and development conferences at any time by the Chair of the Arch/diocesan Parent Body or agreed by the executive of the Diocesan parent body.
- 9.5** Where the Annual General Meeting of the CSPQ Diocesan Parent Body is being held in conjunction with an educational and development conference, the Diocesan Parent body Chairperson shall have the right to remove any person from the General Meeting component who is not entitled to be present and vote..
- 9.6** Decision making will be by consensus but where an election is required or an impasse occurs, a vote of all voting delegates present will be taken and a decision carried by the majority shall apply.
- 9.7** A quorum for the Annual General Meeting of CSPQ Diocesan Parent Bodies shall consist of at least 10 parents/carers from schools within the Arch/diocese.
- 9.8** Unless the General Meeting shall decide otherwise, the order of business at the Annual General Meeting shall include:
- (a) presentation of Chairperson's report;
 - (b) presentation of CSPQ Board member's report:
 - (c) election of the Chairperson of the Arch/diocesan Parent Body; and
 - (d) motions on notice.

10. Secretariat

- 10.1** The CSPQ Board shall have the power to administer the Secretariat and to employ an Executive Director in accordance with relevant laws and the funds available.
- 10.2** The terms and conditions of employment of the Executive director shall be determined and administered by the CSPQ Board through the Chairperson, provided that such terms and conditions shall not contravene the minimum provisions of the relevant laws.

- 10.3** The employment of Secretariat staff shall be the responsibility of the Executive Director in conjunction with CSPQ Board decisions on staffing numbers.

11. Funding and Finance

- 11.1** CSPQ shall be financed by such means as are determined from time to time by the CSPQ Board.
- 11.2** The CSPQ Board shall determine the Annual Levy.
- 11.3** CSPQ Board shall ensure that there are kept proper records of the transactions and affairs of CSPQ and any decisions on expenditure shall be approved or ratified at CSPQ Board meetings.
- 11.4** The CSPQ Board must cause financial records capable of being audited/reviewed to be kept that:
- (a) correctly record and explain its transactions, financial position and performance; and
 - (b) enable true and fair financial statements to be prepared and audited/reviewed, and must allow all members of the CSPQ Board and the auditor to inspect those records at all reasonable times.
- 11.5** The CSPQ Board is accountable for all expenditure of CSPQ and shall ensure that CSPQ is able to pay its debts and obligations as and when they fall due.
- 11.6** An annual budget showing estimated receipts and disbursements shall be prepared, not later than two months before the start of each Financial Year and such budget shall be submitted to the CSPQ Board for approval.
- 11.7** The CSPQ Board must cause the Secretariat to prepare CSPQ's financial accounts for each Financial Year, to have those accounts audited/reviewed and obtain an auditor's report.
- 11.8** The income and property of CSPQ shall be used and applied solely in promotion of its objectives and in the exercise of its powers and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of CSPQ except as genuine compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of CSPQ.

12. Life Membership

- 12.1** A person may be appointed a Life Member of CSPQ by a decision of the CSPQ Board.
- 12.2** A person recommended for Life Membership of CSPQ must have rendered extraordinary service to CSPQ and will also normally have:
- (a) served at least three years on the CSPQ Board; or
 - (b) served at least three years as a representative of CSPQ.
- 12.3** A Register of Life Members is to be kept by the Secretariat.

13. By Laws and Code of Conduct

- 13.1** The CSPQ Board may from time to time make, amend or repeal by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution.
- 13.2** The CSPQ Board may adopt, amend and repeal the Charter for Catholic School Parents in Queensland. CSPQ and CSPQ Board members, and persons associated with CSPQ, shall comply with the CSPQ Charter for Catholic School Parents in Queensland.

14. Amendment to the Constitution

- 14.1** This Constitution may be amended, rescinded or added to from time to time by a special resolution (carried by 75 percent of those present and entitled to vote) at an Annual General Meeting of CSPQ.
- 14.2** Any such amendment will only become valid and effective upon approval in writing by the Bishops of Queensland.
- 14.3** Notice of any proposed amendment must be given to the CSPQ Board at least one month before the General Meeting at which the amendments are being proposed.
- 14.4** Within one month of the receipt of any such notice, the CSPQ Board shall circularise the terms of the amendment to each Diocesan Parent Body and to each individual member of the CSPQ Board.

15. Documents and Records

- 15.1** The CSPQ Board shall provide for the safe custody of records, books, documents, instruments of title and securities of CSPQ.
- 15.2** The CSPQ Board may maintain such records electronically if appropriate.
- 15.3** Such documents and records shall be kept in a safe and central location and with appropriate backups and procedures adopted as approved by the CSPQ Board from time to time to prevent accidental loss or corruption.

16. Execution of Agreements

- 16.1** Any agreement binding on CSPQ shall be executed, following a decision through agreed processes, by the Executive Director or, alternatively, if two signatures are required by the Executive Director and the Independent Chair of the CSPQ Board pursuant to a resolution authorising such execution on behalf of CSPQ.
- 16.2** Agreements executed by the Independent Chairperson and Executive Director may be executed without a formal resolution authorising execution in cases of urgency, but the said signatories shall seek ratification of their actions by the CSPQ Board as soon as possible thereafter.

16.3 The Secretariat shall keep a record (and a copy) of all agreements executed on behalf of CSPQ and any member of the CSPQ Board shall be at liberty to inspect such record and agreement upon request.

16.4 Copies of agreements may be kept electronically in a safe and central location and with appropriate backups and procedures to prevent accidental loss or corruption.

17. Special Provisions Required by Canon Law

17.1 CSPQ shall permit the Bishops of Queensland (or their nominated delegates) to visit upon CSPQ to inspect all and any records, books, accounts and proceedings of CSPQ or the CSPQ Board to ensure that integrity of faith and morals is maintained and that abuses in ecclesiastical discipline do not occur and otherwise to ensure proper financial administration is occurring within CSPQ and that the objectives of CSPQ are being met and nurtured to the satisfaction of the Bishops of Queensland in all respects. [*Can. 305; Can. 325*].

17.2 CSPQ shall permit the Bishops of Queensland (or nominated delegates) to take the records (or copies thereof) of CSPQ for further examination or independent audit or other review, as considered appropriate and necessary in the circumstances.

17.3 The CSPQ Board will arrange for the financial records of CSPQ to be audited/reviewed annually and a copy shall be provided to the Bishops of Queensland.

17.4 CSPQ is solely responsible for its debts, obligations and other liabilities.

17.5 The Bishops of Queensland, employees and holders of offices thereunder, including the Bishops and the members of CSPQ, do not guarantee and are not personally liable for any debts, borrowings, obligations or other liabilities of CSPQ.

17.6 The liabilities and obligations of CSPQ shall be satisfied from the assets of CSPQ and the liability of CSPQ is limited accordingly.

17.7 CSPQ, the CSPQ Board (or any member thereof) and any other committee of CSPQ (or any member thereof) have no authority to legally or morally bind or represent the Bishops of Queensland, employees and holders of offices thereunder in any respect and for any purpose.

17.8 Any proposed amendments to the existing Constitution cannot be approved by the Bishops of Queensland prior to the amendment being placed before CSPQ [*Can 299 §3*].

17.9 No dividend shall be paid to, and no income or property shall be distributed amongst any individuals or members of CSPQ.

18. Dissolution

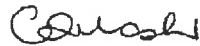
18.1 The CSPQ Board may dissolve CSPQ provided that a resolution has been passed by a 75 percent majority vote of delegates at a special General Meeting of CSPQ convened solely

for this purpose, and provided that 60 days' notice has been given of the proposed resolution and that prior notification of at least six months has been given to the Bishops of Queensland.

- 18.2** If CSPQ is dissolved, decisions concerning its goods, rights and liabilities are to be made by the CSPQ Board provided that after the satisfaction of all its liabilities, any remaining funds are to be used for the promotion of education and/or the promotion of religion at the direction of the Bishops of Queensland.

Authorisation

We the undersigned certify that at the Biennial general Meeting conducted on 18 August 2024 that the voting delegates to the Biennial conference agreed to adopt this amended constitution.



Carmel Nash
Executive Director



Wayne Crase
Chair

APPROVAL OF THIS CONSTITUTION

We, the Bishops of Queensland, having been advised that on 18 August 2024, by special resolution at a validly called meeting of Catholic School Parents Queensland, the Constitution of June 2018 of Catholic School Parents Queensland was amended, HEREBY APPROVE the within Constitution of Catholic School Parents Queensland, with effect from the 1st April 2025.



Most Reverend Mark Coleridge DD
Archbishop of Brisbane



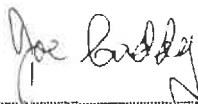
Most Reverend Michael McCarthy
Bishop of Rockhampton



Most Reverend Timothy Harris
Bishop of Townsville



Most Reverend Ken Howell DD SLL
Bishop of Toowoomba



Most Reverend Joe Caddy AM
Bishop of Cairns

Schedule 1 - By-laws

By-law 1 – Creation, Amendment and Repeal of By-laws

1. The constitutional authority for the existence of By-laws is in clause 13.1.
2. Notice of a motion to create, amend or repeal a By-law must be given at least 2 weeks before a CSPQ Board meeting for discussion at that meeting. The Motion will be resolved at the next CSPQ Board meeting.
3. Every By-law will be reviewed at the first meeting of the CSPQ Board following the biennial General Meeting. A By-law which is not confirmed (including by amendment) at this meeting will lapse.

By-law 2 – Creation, Amendment and Repeal of Code of Conduct

1. The constitutional authority for the existence of Code of Conduct is in clause 13.2.
2. Notice of a motion to create, amend or repeal a Code of Conduct must be given at least two weeks before a CSPQ Board meeting for discussion at that meeting. Motion will be resolved at the next CSPQ Board Meeting.

By-law 3 – Co-opted Members CSPQ Board

1. The constitutional authority for the existence of Co-opted Members to the CSPQ Board is in clause 7.3 (b) and the term Co-opted Member is defined in clause 2.1. Clause 7.3(b) indicates that Co-opted Members have full voting rights and clause 7.5 and especially sub-clause (e) and (f) indicate the tenure of a Co-opted Member.
2. The CSPQ Board shall ensure that the following procedure is followed in considering and appointing a co-opted member:
 - a. The need is to be identified and the specific function the Co-opted Member is to undertake is to be recorded. A skills matrix is to be developed to co-ordinate appropriate co-option of members.
 - b. Co-opted members should be parents/carers of children in a Catholic School in Queensland.
 - c. The period of time for which the Co-opted Member is to be a member of the CSPQ Board shall be stated.
 - d. The specific characteristics or skills a potential Co-opted Member is to possess shall be identified and these may be designated either essential or desirable.
 - e. The means for searching, selecting and identifying the most suitable person is to be agreed.
 - f. A proposal and recommendation shall be submitted to the CSPQ Board for decision. As a minimum the recommendation shall include –
 - i. The role,
 - ii. time period of appointment,

- iii. details of the person including any referee reports on the recommended person's suitability for appointment.
- g. The authority to appoint a Co-opted Member shall be by resolution of the CSPQ Board.
- h. The function, expectation and term of the appointment will be explained clearly and given in writing to the co-opted member at the time of appointment.
- i. Unless the CSPQ Board resolves that this is a matter of urgency, the identification of the need for a Co-opted Member must be recorded at a CSPQ Board meeting prior to the resolution to appoint a Co-opted Member.

By-law 4 – Representatives

1. The constitution defines a Representative in clause 2.1. The function of a Representative is typically to represent CSPQ on bodies external to the CSPQ.
2. The CSPQ Board shall ensure that an effective process for identifying and appointing representatives is agreed and documented.
3. The secretariat shall ensure that a register of representatives is kept.

By-law 5 – Committees

1. The constitutional authority for Committees is in clause 7.2 and a specific limitation on Committees is identified in clause 17.7.
2. The CSPQ Board shall identify and record the purpose of the committee and the specific functions it is to undertake. All committees will have a terms of reference agreed to by the CSPQ Board. If the CSPQ Board delegates specific powers to a Committee, these are to be clearly stated in the Terms of Reference.
3. Committee membership may be open to people who are not members of the CSPQ Board.

By-law 6 – Access to correspondence by CSPQ Board

1. Clauses 11.3, 11.4 and 15 require that records be kept.
2. The Secretariat shall keep a register of the inwards and outwards correspondence and shall provide a listing of this correspondence at each meeting of the CSPQ Board. A CSPQ Board Member may request further information about any correspondence in the list and the Secretariat will provide information within 5 working days.

By-law 7 – Election of Independent Chair

1. The constitution, in clauses 7.3 and 7.4 creates the Independent Chair.
2. The election of the Chair is a requirement of clause 9.10(d) and shall follow the process described below.
 - a. Nominations for Independent Chair will open two months prior to the Annual General meeting (AGM).
 - b. Nominations close at 5pm on the day before the AGM.
 - c. Nominations received at least 14 days before the AGM will have their nomination papers included in the meeting papers for the AGM.

- d. Nominations are to be sent to the Executive Director on the prescribed nomination form
- e. All nominations must be signed by the nominee, the nominator and one other person as seconder. The nominator and seconder will be asked to describe their link to Catholic education (Delegates, P&F member, Principal, Parish Priest etc.)
- f. Nominations will include a short "CV" of Parent body involvement and a statement on why they would be a suitable Independent Chair.
- g. The nominations will be circulated to the CSPQ Board Members before the AGM.
- h. Nominees would be given a specified time to speak to the meeting before election (e.g. 3 minutes).
- i. Election would then be held by secret ballot.

By-law 8 – Appointment of members of CSPQ Board

1. The constitution refers to the appointment of CSPQ Board members in Clause 7.3 iii
2. The appointment process should be:
 - a. Arch/diocesan parent body calls for nominations to the CSPQ Board
 - b. At an Annual General meeting or a general meeting of the Arch/diocesan parent body nominations are considered and person/persons are nominated for this role.
 - c. These nomination/s must then be advised to the Arch/diocesan Bishop and the Arch/diocesan Director of Catholic Education for their approval and final decision on the form provided by CSPQ.
 - d. This form must be signed by the Diocesan Parent Body Chair, The Arch/diocesan Bishop and the Arch/diocesan Director of Catholic Education and forwarded to the Executive Director of CSPQ.
 - e. The nominee will be advised by the Executive Director of CSPQ of their appointment to the CSPQ Board.