

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) functions and powers are set out in the [Queensland Education Act 2014 \(last revision\)](#).

QCCA supports student needs and interests with a variety of courses in a range of learning areas. QLD joined with the Australian Government and all other states and territories to develop an [Australian Curriculum](#).

The school year begins late-January. Children can be enrolled in pre-school at the beginning of the school year if they turn 5 on or before 30 June of that year. They must be enrolled by their sixth birthday. Public schools are free to attend for Australian citizens, permanent residents and temporary visa holders.

Public school enrolments are based on the suburb of residence, often referred to as the ‘catchment’ and so the enrolment process for public school can be commenced only after securing a property, according to eligibility criteria. Most QLD Government schools have specific local enrolment catchment areas. These schools ensure that there are enough places for students who reside in their local enrolment area. School enrolment can be arranged throughout the year. All public schools are co-educational.

More information can be found on enrolment processes at education.qld.gov.au

CHILDCARE (PRE SCHOOL SYSTEM)

Education Queensland regulates early childhood education and care. It assesses providers against the [National Quality Standard](#) and gives them a [quality rating](#). The department also offers help on what to look for when choosing a [quality service provider](#).

Access to free Kindy (Kindergarten)

Kindergarten, also known as Kindy, is a part-time educational program for children in the year before Prep. Kindy is 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year and as of 1 January 2024, [is free for Queensland children attending a government-approved kindergarten program](#).

Children of families with a temporary resident visa which is exempt from State School fees as listed on the Department's [International schedule of visa subclasses and enrolment conditions](#) will also be eligible for free kindergarten.

If you are looking for early childhood education and care, we can help you find a provider near your home, workplace or other location. Below are costs associated with long day care services.

Average Cost Per Day	Age
\$145	Baby under 12 month
\$148	2 to 3 year old



PRIVATE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Private schools in Brisbane include Catholic schools, independent schools, non-denominational (no religious affiliation) and other religion-based and operated schools. The cost of private schooling varies considerably depending on the curriculum and facilities offered. School recommendations can be offered based on academic and curriculum criteria. There are generally strict admittance criteria. Secondary private schools are mostly single gender (boys or girls), very few co-educational facilities exist.

Fees will vary from school to school, the fees below are an average, per child, per year

Kindergarten to Year 6	Year 7 to Year 12
\$8,000 to \$22,000	\$16,000 to \$27,000

In most instances Catholic Schools have lesser fees than the above, mostly between \$4,000 and \$10,000 per child, per annum. There is considerable variability between schools.

In additional to yearly fees there may also be fees such as:

- A non-refundable Application Fee
- A non-refundable Enrolment Fee

