



Schools and Residential Colleges Commission Directions Paper Post 34th Synod



schoolscommission.ucaqld.com.au

The Commission

The Schools and Residential Colleges Commission assists and advises the Synod Standing Committee of the Queensland Synod of the Uniting Church in fulfilling its obligations relating to the oversight of schools and residential colleges in which the church has an interest by way of ownership, or power of appointment to relevant boards or by way of ecumenical collaboration.

In respect of Schools and Colleges, the Commission has specific responsibilities and accountabilities as outlined in the Schools and Residential Colleges Commission [charter](#)¹.

The Schools and Residential Colleges Commission has developed the following [principles](#)² to guide the participation of the Synod in schools and residential colleges.

Priority Actions for 2019–2020

- Encourage our schools and colleges to be places of worship, witness and service that bear witness to Jesus Christ and the fullness of life that He offers.
- Participate fully in Project Plenty and engage with the findings as they emerge.
- Facilitate the development and implementation of the Schools Strategy.
- Provide a briefing paper to Synod Standing Committee twice each year.
- Develop resources and review and approve policy and governance documents to support the work of school and college Boards, Councils and Executives.
- Develop a template for constitutions for schools and colleges which incorporates the guiding principles of the SRCC and review constitutions as and when requested.
- Continue to monitor risks and ensure procedures are in place to mitigate risks as identified.
- Strengthen relationships with schools and colleges to ensure productive governance oversight and timely exchange of information.
- Monitor schools and colleges to ensure compliance with educational, legislative and community requirements.
- Maintain rigorous recruitment, selection and appointment processes for vacancies on affiliated Boards and Councils.
- Collaborate with schools and colleges to adequately oversee operational and financial performance of the schools and colleges.
- Work closely with Uniting Church schools to monitor any financial risk to the UCA.
- Provide opportunities for on-going Governance training for appointees to schools and colleges Boards and councils.
- Provide advice to and receive information from the Finance, Investment and Property Board on property matters relating to Uniting Church schools and residential colleges.

¹ Schools and Residential Colleges Commission charter retrieved from <https://schoolscommission.ucaqld.com.au/download/1243>

² Schools and Residential Colleges Commission principles retrieved from https://schoolscommission.ucaqld.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Policy-Statement_Education-and-Ministry-in-Uniting-Church-Schools-and-Residential-Colleges.pdf