



Isolated Children's Parents' Association Queensland

Portfolio

Boarding Schools

What we're working on

- Building and maintaining strong communications with Queensland boarding schools and hostels to support the adoption and implementation of the Australian Boarding Standards.
- Strengthening our partnership with the Australian Boarding Schools Association (ABSA) to continually improve the boarding experience for rural and remote students.
- Collaborating with ICPA Australia to advocate for an increase to the Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) allowance.
- Active participation in the Boarding School Standards Working Group as part of the Non-State Schools Accreditation Framework Review.
- Engaging with Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) and Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) and their associated parent networks.
- Working on ensuring that students have access to subjects, support and suitable pathways during their secondary years of schooling.
- Advocating for an increase to the Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme (LAFHAS) to better support families managing the costs of boarding for rural and remote students.

Boarding schools

- There are 49 boarding schools in the Non-State School sector in Queensland, which play a crucial role in providing education for rural and remote students.
- Outside of the 49 boarding schools, there are 3 state-run boarding facilities; 6 student hostels (listed below), and 2 facilities for First Nation students.
- The cost of educating children is one of the biggest issues facing rural and remote families who have no access to local secondary education.
- In rural and remote Queensland boarding is often a necessity due to lack of access to senior schooling.
- There are 12 local government areas that do not have a secondary school and a further 7 that do not offer Years 11 and 12.



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Hostels

- There are 6 School Term Hostels throughout Queensland providing residential accommodation for geographically isolated children, enabling them to access secondary education.
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- Bollon
- Clermont
- Georgetown
- Chinchilla
- Roma
- Thursday Island
-
- These facilities play a critical role in supporting rural and remote families by ensuring their children can attend school despite the challenges of geographic isolation.

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Advocating for equitable education, opportunities and support for rural and remote students

