



PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATIONS AND FUNDRAISING FOR OUTSIDE CHARITIES

The Parents & Friends Association in each Catholic School is set up to support the school. One of these support activities may be fundraising or a Levy. Whether you have a Levy or fundraise there are some rules about how you allocate the funds of the P & F.

As Charity/Not-for-Profit associations within the school – the P & F only exists because the school exists - we do not hold separate incorporation but exist under the Roman Catholic Church (Incorporation of Church Entities Act) as part of the school which is part of the Church.

Recently we have had numerous questions about fund raising for and donating to charities. We have also had a similar query from the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) about Catholic School P & Fs and this activity.

The ACNC are very clear that this does not fit within the objectives of the P & F which is set out in the constitution and therefore should not be occurring i.e. A charity/not for profit should not be fundraising for another Charity/Not for Profit. Our role is to support the school and any fund raising should contribute only to this.

We recognise that these other outside charities are very worthwhile but if parents wish to fundraise for outside bodies (e.g. Cancer Council, Beyond Blue etc) then this should be done outside of the P & F activities. Parents who arrange these activities may be able to advertise through the school newsletter (with agreement of the principal) but these activities should not be included in the financial accounts of the P & F.

In fact any fundraising activity should clearly state the purpose for the event and where the funds will be expended. Even if schools are running a fundraising activity as a joint event with the Parish then this should be clearly stated in any advertising or notices to families so that all who contribute are clear on the purpose.

If you have any questions about this please call the Federation Secretariat.

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EXTRACT FROM MODEL P & F CONSTITUTION

3. OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The Objectives of the Association shall be those that accord with the content of the documents 'The Catholic School' (Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome 1977), the Code of 'Canon Law (1983)', and "The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium" - Congregation for Catholic Education (For Seminaries and Educational Institutions).
- 3.2 In particular, the Association will participate in the optimum spiritual, intellectual, social and physical development of pupils in the School by:
- a. providing a medium of support, information and involvement of parents/carers in their children's education and the School community
 - b. developing collaboration between parents/carers and School staff.
 - c. promoting the principles of Catholic education.
 - d. fostering a distinctive Christian environment in the School.
 - e. providing a medium for parents/carers to participate at Diocesan, State and National levels.
- 3.3 The Association shall:
- a. affiliate with the Federation of Parents and Friends Associations of Catholic Schools, Queensland and thereby its respective Diocesan P&F Council by payment of the Annual Levy.
 - b. Work in partnership with the administration of the school in supporting all aspects of its operation.

The Association shall not:

- a. affiliate with any political body or party
- b. affiliate with any association whose objectives are inconsistent with the objectives stated in clause 3.1