This policy statement reflects the Archdiocese of Brisbane’s commitment to the principles and practice of the Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995. It has been developed through a consultative process involving school principals, senior administration staff, clergy, school officers, classroom teachers, the Queensland Independent Education Union and other stakeholders.

In his encyclical letter Centesimus Annus (1991), Pope John Paul II wrote that he attributed to the “public authority” the “strict duty” of providing properly for the welfare of the workers, because a failure to do so violates justice.

In following this request of Pope John Paul II and as an employer, Brisbane Catholic Education recognises its obligations under the Workplace Health and Safety Act. Those who have responsibility for implementing this policy will be expected to continue to manage health and safety risks at Brisbane Catholic Education facilities according to legislative requirements where applicable. At all times Brisbane Catholic Education will take reasonable precaution and exercise proper diligence in this most important area.

This policy statement will assist in that task. It is an indispensable policy that I commend to all staff engaged in Catholic education throughout the Archdiocese. I have no doubt that it will assist us all in furthering our commitment to total education in the overall mission of the Archdiocese.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev John Bathersby DD
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE