**State School catchments**

A state school’s catchment area is the geographical area from which a state school is to have its core intake of students. This means that a student is entitled to be enrolled at the school if their principal place of residence is within the school’s catchment.

All Queensland state schools have a catchment area, however, catchment areas are only enforced where a school operates under a [School Enrolment Management Plan (School EMP)](https://education.qld.gov.au/parents-and-carers/enrolment/management-plans).

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How are state school catchment areas determined?**

Catchment areas are determined using equal distance principles and specialist software. The Queensland Government Statistician’s Office (QGSO) calculates catchment areas by measuring the equal distance to and from the main entrance of neighbouring schools, using trafficable road networks by return journey.

**How often are catchments reviewed, and why?**

Each year the QGSO reviews and updates, if necessary, state school catchment areas to take into account changes such as, but not limited to:

* New roads and subdivision activity, and changes in land parcel structures in some areas
* Some parts of existing road structure have been modified/improved by the road infrastructure supplier
* New schools opening nearby
* Changes to the school site location point of the main entry for the school
* Changes to year level offerings by the school
* Updates to the latest State Digital Road Network data/software
* In some cases, due to local circumstances, the Regional Director may consider approving changes to a catchment area, in consultation with affected principals in neighbouring state schools. This is referred to as a negotiated catchment.

**Where can I view the changes?**

Each year catchment changes are published on the Queensland school catchment maps website, [EdMap](https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/).

The [EdMap](https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/) website can be used to determine the local school catchment/s by entering a residential address.

**How does the change impact students who are already enrolled at a school?**

Students already attending their current school are not impacted by changes to catchment areas.

**Who can provide further information about the catchment changes?**

For enquiries related to catchment changes you can contact the School EMP team via email at [schoolemp@qed.qld.gov.au](mailto:schoolemp@qed.qld.gov.au).