







# 14. THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION NETWORK IN SA



*There are a number of bodies and structures in the Catholic Education network.*

*Each has a specific role and responsibility.*

FUNCTION	BODY	
▪ Authority	 <b>Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC)</b> Receives reports and recommendations from the CIE for consideration and approval	
	 <b>Bishop of each diocese</b> Any Catholic school exists with the consent of the local Bishop	
▪ Ownership ▪ Policy ▪ Responsibility for developing and sustaining Catholic education	 <b>Catholic Schools Proprietors Association (CaSPA)</b> Made up of the owners of Catholic schools (mostly dioceses and religious teaching congregations) Sets vision and direction for Catholic schools	
	<b>National CaSPA</b>	<b>Regional CaSPAs</b>
	 <b>Catholic Schools Boards (CSB)</b> Made up of the owners; representatives of principals, school boards, the CIE and CSO; chairpersons of the CSCs, and lay experts in legal and financial matters. Among the aims of the CSB are ensuring that the religious character of Catholic schools is developed, ensuring financial sustainability, and responding to the needs of schools.	
	<b>Diocesan Schools Council (Archdiocese of Johannesburg)</b> Established by the Archdiocese of Johannesburg and ten Diocesan Schools to oversee governance, religious ethos, financial management and quality assurance of education in these schools. Employs a co-ordinator to assist these Diocesan Schools to fulfil the process of overseeing.	
▪ Service provision ▪ Co-ordination ▪ Monitoring of schools' needs	 <b>Catholic Institute of Education (CIE)</b> To address the severe disparities in the provision and quality of education amongst South African Catholic schools, the SACBC established the CIE in 1985. The CIE has opened offices in several parts of the country and has extended its operations to the development and implementation of educational policy, and the building of capacity through strengthening local leadership. The CIE serves CaSPA, CSOs and schools by co-ordinating national mandates and strategies.	
	 <b>Catholic Schools Offices (CSO)</b> Each regional Catholic Schools Board has a Catholic Schools Office which is its operational arm. The CSO carries out the directives of the CSB in providing services to schools.	
▪ Local involvement and interaction amongst schools and teachers	<b>Catholic Schools Councils (CSC)</b> The Catholic Schools Councils are a forum for Catholic schools to come together for fellowship, to grow professionally, to collaborate on matters of common interest and to seek unity of vision.	
	<b>Sub-groups of the CSC</b> <b>Principals, teachers, RE teachers, pre-school teachers, board members, parents</b> The sub-groups arrange events which meet the professional needs of their members.	

This pamphlet is part of a series on aspects of Catholic education for teachers, parents and board members, produced by the Ethos Committee of the Catholic Schools Board of the Archdioceses of Pretoria and Johannesburg



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