

Education in Queensland

State Library of Queensland's John Oxley Library holds a wide range of material that documents the history of education in Queensland.

Under the State Education Act of 1875, primary education for children aged 6-12 became compulsory and free. A Department of Public Instruction was created and this became the Department of Education in 1957. Explore books and other resources on education in Queensland.

State Library resources

Books

Use books to find published histories of schools and other educational institutions.

Titles include:

- [Education in Queensland: a history of education in Queensland and in the Moreton Bay district of New South Wales](#) By E.R. Wyeth. 1955. **Request to access from level 4 or level 3**
- [Fifty years of education in Queensland](#) By J.D. Story. 1910. **Request to access from level 4**
- [Looking back: the first 150 years of Queensland schools](#) By Hector Holthouse. 1975. **Request to access from level 4 or level 3**
- [Secondary education in Queensland, 1860-1960](#) by Rupert Goodman. 1968. **Request to access from level 4 or level 3**

Search: Education – Queensland in State Library's [One Search catalogue](#).

Journals

Use journals for information about a wide range of topics including bush schools, slates, free milk scheme and the professional lives of teachers.

Titles include:

- [The Educational Historian](#) 1988–2008 **Request to access from level 4**
- Queensland Teachers' Journal
 - [Aug 1936–current](#) (print) **Request to access from level 4**
 - [Feb 1978–31 Dec 1994](#) (microfilm) **Request to access from level 3**

Search: Periodicals – Education – Queensland in [One Search catalogue](#)

Directories

Use directories to find the address of state schools, private schools, colleges and lists of private teachers for music, painting and dancing.

[Queensland Post Office Directories](#) 1868–1949

- **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 FICHE/B 919.43 que**
- **Open Access, level 4 REFJ 919.43 QUE**

- **CD-ROM Please see staff at level 3 desk to view QCFS 919.430025 2010**
- **Ancestry Library Edition**

Government Publications

Use government publications for information about state schools, new schools, schools being re-opened or closed. The Queensland Government Gazettes and Blue Books also list the appointment of teachers to the public service.

- [Annual Reports of the Queensland Department of Education](#)
Request to access from level 4
- [Queensland Government Gazettes](#)
 - Microfilm (1859–1998) **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 MFL 328.934**
 - Microfiche (1895-2006) **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 FICHE/B 328.943 QUE**
 - Online ([1859–1900](#)) and ([2003– current](#))
- [Queensland Blue Book for the year...](#) 1869–1916 imperfect **Request to access from level 4**
Selected volumes 1869–1916 available at State Library of Queensland online viewer
- [Education office gazette](#) (1899–1991) **Request to access from level 4**
Selected years also available on CD-ROM Please see staff at level 3 desk to view QCFS 370.9943 2008

School Magazines

State Library holds school magazines for some state and private schools. These can be found through [One Search catalogue](#) by searching the name of the school.

School Readers

The Queensland School Readers were first published in 1913. They came to an end in the 1970s when schools began to select reading material from other sources.

[Queensland School Readers](#) (1913–1914, 1933, 1934–1956, and 1960–1967)

Ephemera

Ephemera refers to material which has a limited life span. Find educational ephemera like newsletters, brochures, programmes, certificates and prize lists.

Search the catalogue using the keyword 'ephemera' with other keywords such as 'schools', 'adult education', 'TAFE' and 'universities'.

Original materials

Original materials are unpublished materials like manuscripts and letters. Examples include:

- [Brisbane School of Arts Records: 1866-1969](#) **Request to access from level 4**
- [Coolum State School Records 1967](#) **Request to access from level 4**
- [Florence Kindergarten Minute Books: 1965-1968](#) **Request to access from level 4**
- [Roma Primary School Collection 1981-1985](#) **Request to access from level 4**

Photographs

The John Oxley Library collection includes photographs of Queensland school buildings, class groups, universities, and portraits of educators and teachers. Search [One Search catalogue](#) under the name of the school.

Additional resources at State Library

- [Queensland school pupils index](#)
Please see staff at level 3 desk to view CD-ROM QCFS 371.8025 2003-
- [State school committee members in Queensland, 1876-1889 an index to appointments and resignations in the Queensland Government Gazette](#) **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 FICHE 379.152 STA**
- [State school committee members in Queensland 1890-1899 an index to appointments and registrations in the Queensland Government gazette](#) **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 FICHE 379.152 STA**
- [Queensland newspapers](#) **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3 and online via [Trove](#) and [Newsbank Access Global](#).**

Other Sources of Information

- [Queensland State Archives](#) have Pupil Admission Registers for some state schools, Registers of Teachers Employed 1860-1886 and photographs of schools
- [History of education in Queensland](#)

Need further information?

(07) 3840 7810 | slq.qld.gov.au/ask

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