



Teachers set to rally

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SCHOOLS REPORTER

CATHOLIC teachers will take to the streets today as their fight for higher wages escalates.

More than 1000 teachers are expected to strike across the state, with permanent bans on extra-curricular activities also planned.

About 45 schools will be affected, including more than a dozen of Brisbane's biggest Catholic schools.

The Queensland Independent Education Union warned last night further industrial action was likely if teachers' demands were not met.

They are calling for an additional pay step for senior teachers and earlier access to a leading teacher allowance.

But Queensland Catholic Education Commission executive director Mike Byrne said the extra claims were unaffordable, as the "resources we have available are limited".

Teachers will meet at Sebel and Citigate, King George Square at 10am before marching on the QCEC office in Edward St.



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Teachers to strike

CATHOLIC school teachers seeking better pay will strike at 85 schools across Queensland today.

Members of the Queensland Independent Education Union will also withdraw from co-curricular activities.

The planned strike comes after Catholic employers recently made what the union says was a 'disappointing' revised teacher wage offer.



School to stay open

CATHOLIC schools on the Cassowary Coast will remain open today despite industrial action called by the Independent Education Union.

The Catholic employing authority in the Diocese of Cairns, Catholic Education Services, said some schools would be affected by industrial action over pay issues being taken by members of the Independent Education Union QLD-NT but none were on the Cassowary Coast.

CES executive director Dr Bill Sultmann said strike action was traditionally seen as a last resort.

“It is therefore disappointing that the union has resorted to strike action when negotiations have been ongoing and the salary and conditions package being offered is fair and responsible,” Dr Sultmann said. “The offer is comparable with the offer accepted by the State school sector in Queensland.”



Teachers to strike after negotiations fail

TEACHERS will strike at St Edmund's College today after last minute negotiations between union and education officials broke down.

Parents of Year 10 and 11 students are being asked to keep their children at home after the Queensland Independent Education Union (QIEU) confirmed industrial action would go ahead.

QIEU president Andrew Elphinstone said the Religious

Institute Schools group could not come up with an acceptable pay offer in time for his union to call the strike off.

"Unfortunately there's been no change – the strike will go ahead as planned and teachers will pull out of extra curriculum activities indefinitely," Mr Elphinstone said.

St Edmund's College yesterday confirmed the contingency strike measures

they announced to parents and *The Queensland Times* last week had not changed.

Parents of Year 10 and 11 students are being asked not to bring their children to school if possible, but said supervision would be available. Classes will continue as normal for Years 8 and 9 students while Year 12 students will continue QCS practice or work placement.