Cognia® supports and embraces Catholic schools' mission and identity in the accreditation experience. Aligning Cognia Performance Standards and the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Elementary and Secondary Catholic Schools (NSBECS) represents the unique context of Catholic education and provides a nationally accepted recognition of quality. Every six years, you will renew your accreditation to ensure ongoing, continuous improvement.

Cognia School Accreditation

Bringing the standards to life through a Catholic lens

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Our process works because your context matters.

—Dr. Mark Elgart
President and CEO, Cognia

1 Self-Assessment
- Participate in orientation and training from Cognia
- Reflect and collaborate on your school's current status
- Administer Cognia Catholic Identity Program Effectiveness and Culture and Climate Survey
- Identify, collect, and analyze meaningful evidence and data
- Complete Cognia Self-Assessment Workbook using the Cognia/NSBECS Standards Alignment as a guide
- Complete Cognia Diagnostics and Assurances

2 Engagement
- Cognia evaluators schedule the Leadership Overview Presentation, review submitted evidence, and rate Performance Standards
- Following evaluation, you’ll receive an Engagement Review Report that details Cognia’s findings, highlights your noteworthy practices, and identifies areas for improvement
- Cognia Global Commission confirms that the findings in the report demonstrate your institution's commitment and quality and confers your accreditation

3 Progress
- Cognia evaluators schedule follow-up for your institution to assess the status of your continuous improvement efforts
- Receive continued collaboration and guidance from your Cognia team
- Toward the middle of your accreditation term, complete the institution's part of the Progress Report, describing your improvements in the areas outlined in your Engagement Review Report

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