

# Industrial School for Girls, Woolloowin

1904 – c. 1966

## Details

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The Industrial School for Girls, in Woolloowin, was operated by the Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation. It opened in 1904 and in around 1966 the name was changed to the Holy Cross Home. The girls worked in the laundry which was located on the same site. Very young children were not taken into the home after 1959.

The Industrial School was established and licensed in 1904 under the *Industrial and Reformatory School Act* 1865. Subsequently it was licensed under the *State Children Act* 1911 on 31 December 1911.

It was located on the same site as the [Holy Cross Retreat](#), a maternity home also run by the Sisters of Mercy.

The Industrial School was a large dormitory-style facility. Like the other denominational institutions for juvenile offending girls, it had a laundry 'for the instruction of the girls', which was a major source of income.

## Gallery

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**Holy Cross entry/despatch section of laundry building**

**Description:** This image is from page 144 of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Child Abuse in Queensland institutions and the image is an Inquiry photograph. The Holy Cross laundry was located on the same site as the Holy Cross Home and Holy Cross Retreat.

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## More info

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### Chronology

- **Industrial School for Girls, Woolloowin (1904 – c. 1966)**
  - Holy Cross Home (1965 - 1973)

### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation \(1861 - current\)](#)

#### Related Legislation

- [State Children Act 1911, Queensland \(1911 - 1966\)](#)
- [Industrial and Reformatory Schools Act 1865, Queensland \(1865 - 1911\)](#)

### Related Organisations

- [Holy Cross Retreat \(13 October 1889 - 1978\)](#)

The Holy Cross Retreat was located on the same site as the Industrial School for Girls, Woolloowin.

## Resources

- Queensland. Dept of Children's Services, [Centenary of care for children 1879-1979](#), 1979

## Records

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For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

### Records

- [Records and Archives, Children's Institutions, Sisters of Mercy Brisbane \(c. 1900 - c. 1995\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/industrial-school-for-girls-woolloowin/>