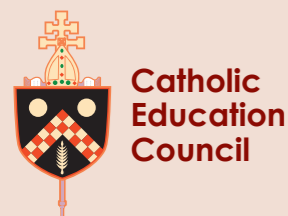


Footnotes

- ¹ Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic school N.S.W.*, 1977 n7, p7
- ² *Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*, 2008, Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs.
- ³ Archdiocese of Brisbane, *Queensland Bishops' Catholic Schools Research Project Archdiocese of Brisbane 1998-2001*, Brisbane, 2001, p.6.
- ⁴ Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, N.S.W., 1998,n14, p17.
- ⁵ Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, N.S.W., 1998,n15, p18.
- ⁶ Catholic Education Council (2008). *Students with Disabilities Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane
- ⁷ Brisbane Catholic Education (2006) *Enrolment Application and Support Procedures for Students requiring Significant Educational Adjustments*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
- ⁸ Catholic Education Council (2008). *Financial Accessibility of Catholic Education Schools Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
- ⁹ Catholic Education Council (2009). *Students who are the Margins of Society and/or Out-of-Home Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
- ¹⁰ Archdiocese of Brisbane, (2008) *Guidelines for the Religious Life of the School*, Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane

References

1. Archdiocese of Brisbane, *Guidelines for the Religious Life of the School*, Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane, 2008.
2. Archdiocese of Brisbane, *Queensland bishops' Catholic schools research project Archdiocese of Brisbane 1998-2001*, Brisbane, 2001,
3. Brisbane Catholic Education (2006) *Enrolment Application and Support Procedures for Students requiring educational adjustments*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
4. Catholic Education Council (2008). *Financial Accessibility of Catholic Education Schools Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
5. Catholic Education Council (2009). *Students who are the Margins of Society and/or Out-of-Home Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane
6. Catholic Education Council (2007). *Students with Disabilities Policy*, Brisbane Catholic Education, Brisbane.
7. Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic school on the threshold of the third millennium*, N.S.W., 1998
8. *Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*, 2008, Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs.
9. Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic school N.S.W.*, 1977 n7, p7



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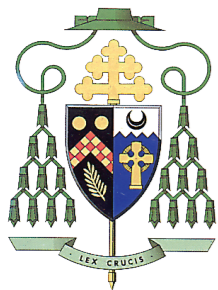
Archdiocese of Brisbane
Catholic Education Council

Enrolment of Students POLICY

JULY 2012

Policy Statement FOR BRISBANE CATHOLIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS





FOREWORD

I commend to parish and school communities this new Archdiocesan policy on Enrolment of Students endorsed by the Catholic Education Council. This policy, addressing the changing nature of the local communities that our Catholic schools serve, replaces the earlier policy statement, Enrolment of Students in Catholic schools.

The diverse nature of students enrolled in our Catholic schools and colleges has an impact on the identity and mission of a school community. The enrolment policy assists in determining the profile of the school community which, in turn, influences the pastoral and educational foci of the school.

This policy invites principals, priests and parish communities to ensuring that our schools;

- are truly Catholic in their identity
- are centres of evangelisation
- enable students to achieve high levels of Catholic religious literacy and challenge them to live a holy life that is sacramental and prayerful.

In developing this policy it is timely to recognise that Saint Mary of the Cross was named as Patron Saint of the Archdiocese of Brisbane 2010. It was Mary MacKillop's desire that her schools were open to anyone who wished to learn. Mary's dreams for educating children continue to inspire us today. It is good that this policy promotes the ideals of Mary MacKillop and challenges schools to extend particular assistance to students at the margins of society.

I ask that school communities reflect upon this enrolment policy and review their own policies and enrolment procedures. I ask similarly that they engage with the consequences of the policy to promote our schools as creative places of mission and learning.

As always in the Lord

Most Rev Mark Coleridge
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

July 2012

ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS POLICY

When enrolling students schools give priority to those who are baptised Catholic or, if enrolling in an ecumenical school, baptised in the faith of sponsoring churches. Schools may also enrol students from other faith traditions whose families demonstrate that they share the expressed values of the school and who are willing to support and contribute to the school's vision and ethos.

INTRODUCTION

The vision of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Brisbane is to Teach Challenge and Transform. Catholic schools are guided by the gospel of Jesus Christ in furthering the evangelising mission of the Church by "*proclaiming the good news of salvation to all*" and encouraging students to "*...live knowingly as Children of God*"¹

Catholic schools are committed to providing high quality contemporary education in a Christian context. Schools support and encourage all students to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens, fully enabled to contribute to, and participate in, the life of their faith community and society.²

RATIONALE

This policy provides direction and assistance for schools in the formulation of a just and equitable enrolment policy and the development of procedures applicable to the local context extending particular assistance to students at the margins of society.

Schools are part of the Church's mission to educate and support the faith of its members.

Catholic schools are called to be open and accessible to all who seek to share and support their values.³ In response to this call, schools strive to ensure authenticity in offering an invitation to share in the Gospel message.

*"The endeavour to interweave reason and faith, which has become the heart of individual subjects, makes for unity, articulation and coordination, bringing forth within what is learnt in school a Christian vision of the world, of life, of culture and of history."*⁴

Guided by principles of respect, dignity and openness, Catholic schools respond to an ecumenical and multi-faith society.

CONSEQUENCES

In accordance with this policy Catholic schools, in collaboration with their parish or local faith community, as appropriate, will:

- Develop a clear enrolment policy, procedures and timelines in response to their local context
- Clearly articulate and communicate the policy, procedures and timelines at local school level.
- Be guided by principles of justice and equity that support Catholic ethos and vision⁵
- Be respectful of and responsive to the diverse needs of students for whom enrolment is sought

Make reference to:

- *Students with Disabilities Policy*⁶
- *Enrolment Application Support Procedures for Students requiring Significant Educational Adjustments*⁷
- *Financial Accessibility of Catholic Education Schools*⁸ Policy and the subsequent local fee concession processes.
- *Students who are at the Margins of Society and/or Out-of-Home Policy*⁹

Ensure that patterns of enrolment support the authentic Catholic identity of the school community.

Clearly outline the school expectations of parents and students to:

- Share in the expressed values of the school
- Contribute positively and actively to enhance the spiritual life of the school
- Commit to and support the *Guidelines for the Religious Life of the School*.¹⁰
- Participate in and contribute to the achievement of the school mission.