



ENROLMENT POLICY

Rationale:

Catholic education is intrinsic to the mission of the Church. It is one means by which the Church fulfils its role in assisting people to discover and embrace the fullness of life in Christ.

Catholic schools were established as a key instrument of catechesis and sacramental preparation for Catholic children. St Mary's Parish Primary School strives to offer a broad, comprehensive curriculum imbued with an authentic Catholic understanding of Christ and his teaching, as well as a lived appreciation of membership of the Catholic Church.

The first priority of a Catholic school is the provision of a Catholic education for Catholic children. St Mary's also provides for the inclusion of those applicants who are not Catholic, but who desire for their children to be educated in a Christian environment and who willingly recognise, accept and value the Catholic nature of our School. Such enrolments must not cause the exclusion of a Catholic applicant and must be kept within the CEOM Policy 2.4.

It is important that applicants understand that acceptance into St. Mary's School does not give them automatic right of admission into a Catholic Secondary School (CEOM Policy 2.4).

Goals:

It is our aim that all who join our community, value our educational aims, which have been developed and lived in the spirit of the Gospel based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

To ensure that there is access to Catholic Education to all families, contribution from parents for the maintenance of our Catholic School should be at a level that enables parents to exercise their choice of schooling without undue financial hardship.

ENROLMENT PROCESS:

Application for Enrolment must be made using the official Enrolment Form. Those students commencing their first year of school must be five years of age by 30 April of the year in which they start school.

Following lodgement of application, confirmation of application for enrolment will be acknowledged in writing. When a position is available an offer will be made in writing. To accept the position, the place of offer must be acknowledged along with payment of a non-refundable fee.

All families are formally invited to an interview with the Parish Priest and Principal to complete the enrolment process. An Orientation Program is offered in Term 4 of the year prior to commencement.

School Secretary is responsible for maintaining and updating the Enrolment Register and reporting on this to the Principal.

Priority Acceptance:

Applicants will be accepted in the following order:

1. Siblings of children already enrolled in the school.
2. Catholic children who are residents of the parish.
3. Catholic children who do not reside in the parish but are recognised as parishioners by the Parish Priest.
4. Catholic children from other parishes (for pastoral reasons).
5. Others who meet the requirements as set out in the CEOM Policy 2.4.

The parents/guardian, as the prime educators of their children in faith, must demonstrate a commitment to upholding the teachings of the Catholic Church in practical ways and agree to support the school in all aspects of the total education of their child.

On enrolling your child at St. Mary's School, parents and guardians are expected to abide by all policies and support and uphold the core values of the school community and adhere to the culture of respectful relationships

The Parish Priest is the final authority in accepting an enrolment application.