Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

ENROLMENT

Scope: This policy applies to all Catholic schools and colleges conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Catholic schools and colleges are open and accessible to all families who are supportive of the school's Catholic identity.

2. DESCRIPTION

From *The Queensland Bishops' Project – Catholic Schools for the 21st Century* the six *Defining features of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton* are:

- Give witness to the message of Jesus and the mission of the Church
- Have a clear Catholic identity
- Be open and accessible to all who seek their values
- Offer a relevant and holistic curriculum of quality teaching and learning
- Be communities of care
- Be characterised by inclusive partnerships within a community of faith.

As a ministry of the Catholic Church, Catholic identity is integral to Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR). CEDR assists all in their search for meaning for life by engaging with Christianity in the Catholic tradition, taking into consideration personal experiences and the contemporary cultural context.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

1. Schools and colleges will accept students for enrolment on the understanding that they and their family respect and support the Catholic identity of the school, commit to the school's values and accept that religious education and the spiritual life are integral to the school's existence.
2. Families seeking enrolment must be willing to accept and support all the obligations for enrolment outlined in the Enrolment Agreement.
3. Schools and colleges will strive to make a preferential option for the poor, marginalised and those most in need.
4. Financial hardship will not be an impediment to those families who genuinely seek a Catholic education. Further information can be obtained by referring to the policy relating to payment of fees.
5. CEDR Enrolment Application Procedure provides information regarding the enrolment of students who require significant educational adjustment.
6. Subject to the discretion of the Principal with respect to implementation items 1 to 5 above, the order of priority for enrolment at a school or college is:
   a) Students with siblings who currently attend the school or college.

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b) Baptised Catholic students with a preference for families who have a connection to parish.
c) Students whose families have demonstrated a commitment to the Catholic identity of Catholic education.
d) Students whose families demonstrate a willingness to accept and commit to the Catholic identity of Catholic schools and have a desire for the student to be educated in the Catholic tradition.

7. All schools and colleges will develop and follow a set of enrolment processes that reflect this policy and are consistent with the application and enrolment procedures developed to support this policy.
8. Schools and colleges will act with fairness and compassion in implementing this policy.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- *Catholic School Community* 2023/03
- *Inclusive Education* 2022/07
- *Termination of Enrolment of Students* 2023/12
- *Enrolment Application Procedures Version 2 July 2024*
- *Enrolment Procedures - Transitioning from a Catholic Primary School to a Catholic Secondary College Version 1 November 2019*
- *Enrolment Procedures - Transitioning from a Catholic Kindergarten to Catholic Primary School Version 1 October 2019*
- Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton (2019) *Defining Features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century*

RESOURCES

- National Catholic Education Commission *Life to the full: The mission and purpose of Catholic schools* 2024
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The identity of the Catholic school: For a culture of dialogue*., Rome 2022
- Congregation for Catholic Education *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium,* Rome 1997
- Queensland Catholic Education Commission Policy Statement *Inclusive Practices in Catholic Schools* 2019
- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace *Compendium of the social doctrine of the Church Vatican* 2006

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