

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School Devonport

Enrolment Policy



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Responsible Person	Clynton Scharvi
Approved By	Clynton Scharvi
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Related Documents	TCEO Policy Enrolment 2014 Enrolment Procedures

Rationale

Catholic schools participate in the evangelising mission of the church. They support parents who seek a Catholic education for their children. Explicitly teach, live and celebrate the Word of God within a living Catholic tradition.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity for parents/guardians seeking to enrol children at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, Devonport.

Principles

Priority will be given to Catholic students, particularly those from the area of the Mersey Leven Parish.

The term ‘Catholic’ student is not necessarily restricted to a child baptised in the Catholic Church. The interpretation of who it to be termed ‘Catholic’ will be made by the Principal in consultation with the Parish Priest.

Catholic schools are committed to the inclusion of children with special needs subject to the guidelines set out in the Tasmania Catholic Education Commission’s Equity Policy. There are also guidelines available on the TCEO website for Enrolling students with disability.

Catholic children will not be excluded from a Catholic education due to the inability of their parents to pay school fees.

Non Catholic students will be enrolled when their acceptance would not exclude Catholic children from the school, when the enrolment application is considered in preferential order using the overarching criteria (below) and where class sizes are within acceptable limits.

Children from all families who are prepared to support Catholic ideals, principles and practices are eligible for enrolment in Catholic schools. Care will be taken to ensure that non-Catholic parents and students understand and support the ethos of the Catholic school, and that the Catholic identity of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School is respected. Non-Catholic students are expected to participate in the Religions Education programme.

Enrolment Criteria

Preference for enrolment will be determined by the following prioritised order of criteria:

Catholic children of families with demonstrable links to their parish community;

Children who have, or have had siblings enrolled in the school;

Children of families currently enrolled in a Catholic school who, have explicitly supported the Catholic ethos of the school;

Children of former scholars of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School;

Children of Catholic families who are not covered by points 1- 4; and

Children of families from other religious traditions who appreciate and are prepared to support the ethos of the Catholic school community.

Consistent with the enrolment guidelines schools may give priority to the enrolment of children with special pastoral, social or educational needs.

Nature and extent of 'demonstrable links to the parish community'.

Responsibilities

On enrolment, all parents/guardians and students will commit to supporting the Catholic ethos of the school.

Age of Enrolment

In accordance with the appropriate State Government legislation, the minimum commencement age for children entering Kindergarten is four years of age, on or before 1 January in the year of commencement. It is also expected therefore that prior to entry to Preparatory, a child will be five years of age on or before 1 January in the year of commencement.

Early entry may apply to students transferring from interstate/overseas where the student has commenced the entry year or has been granted early entry into Kindergarten.

Application for Enrolment forms are available from the school office at any time of the year.

A copy of the School Prospectus is given to all interested parties

Acceptance of applications for enrolment in any class during the year is always subject to the availability of vacancies

Policy Review