



St. Bernadette's Primary School

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. The Australian bishops established Catholic schools in the 1860s as a key instrument of catechesis and sacramental preparation for Catholic children. St Bernadette's Primary School continues 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.

St Bernadette's has a diverse community socio economically, demographically and religiously. We celebrate this and believe that it is integral to the success of the students in our community. All who attend support the Catholic ethos of the school and fully participate in the religious life and expression of the school.

Implementation

The following list provides order of priority for enrolment at St Bernadette's.

The order of priority is:

1. Siblings of students already attending the school.
2. Catholic children who are residents of the Parish.
3. Children enrolled for pastoral reasons.
4. Catholic children from other Parishes.
5. All other applicants.

- ✚ Catholic is defined as Roman Catholic, Eastern rite Catholic and Greek Orthodox children.
- ✚ Applications are assessed by the Principal with reference to the School Education Advisory Board if necessary.

Application for Enrolment

Parents wishing to apply for enrolment at St Bernadette's Primary School need to complete an *Application for Enrolment* form with a date for return.

Parents or guardians acknowledge that the school is a Catholic school in which:

- prayer and liturgy are vital aspects of religious life in the school;
- the pastoral care and support programs for students, families and staff are based on the teachings of the Catholic Church; and
- the teachings and values of the Catholic Church are paramount.

Parental Responsibilities

Schools should ensure that at the time of enrolment, parents understand their responsibilities in providing ongoing support for their child's Catholic education. In particular, parents or guardians should be asked to make an explicit commitment to the following responsibilities:

1. All parents/guardians enrolling their children in a Catholic school should complete the school's *Application for Enrolment* form and return it by the due date. This does not guarantee enrolment in the school.
2. Parents/guardians must be prepared to support the school in the Catholic education of their children and involve themselves as much as possible.
3. Parents/guardians must recognise and be prepared to meet their financial responsibilities for the ongoing enrolment of the child. (Any difficulties in this regard should be discussed with the principal.)
4. Parents/guardians must advise the principal of any Court Order(s) that may exist in regard to the child, or any changes to such Court Order(s) and provide a copy of the Court Order(s) and any subsequent changes for the child's school file.
5. Parents/guardians must supply the school with a Birth Certificate.
6. Parents/guardians must supply the school with a Baptismal Certificate
7. Parents/guardians must supply the school with a Health Immunization Certificate
8. Parents agree to follow enrolment statements and Parent Handbook guidelines. (Documents are provided on enrolment and orientation)

Evaluation

The application of this policy will be monitored regularly. The policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle to ensure effective delivery and outcomes.

Reviewed by: Kathy Lowe, Michelle Darragh, Mary Nteris. October 2014

Review: 2017