



ENROLMENT POLICY

1. CONTEXT

St Paul's College is a Catholic school for boys in the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice, established by the Christian Brothers in 1959 and now operated by Edmund Rice Education Australia.

2. PRINCIPLES

As a Catholic school St Paul's College shares in the mission of the formation of the human person in the image of God. Parents are the primary educators of their children, particularly in the area of faith education. On choosing enrolment of their child into St Paul's College, parents enter into partnership with the school focussed on the child's faith development and education.

Key principles guide the enrolment of students at St Paul's College. These include:

- 2.1. St Paul's is an integral part of the Church community and mission of the Church;
- 2.2. The preferential option for the poor and marginalised is fundamental;
- 2.3. Welcome for all Catholic families, as well as families from other churches and faith traditions, and non-religious backgrounds who are prepared to value and respect the ethos, values, liturgical and sacramental practices and traditions of the Catholic Church within the context of the school;
- 2.4. to offer to all students a rich sense of Christian community and companionship, in the spirit of Edmund Rice as expressed in the Charter for schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition;
- 2.5. to provide an open and inclusive enrolment process that enables each enrolment to be judged upon its merits, in accord with the criteria outlined below;
- 2.6. Commitment to the inclusion of children with special needs where possible;
- 2.7. Consultation with other schools when a student currently attending another Catholic school applies to enrol at St Paul's outside the normal transition year from primary to secondary;
- 2.8. To recognise the collegial and interdependent nature of Catholic schools by considering the impact of this Enrolment policy and practices on sustainable enrolment levels at other schools;
- 2.9. to require acceptance and support from parents and students for the above principles and the other policies, rules, programs and expectations of the college;
- 2.10. to ensure that withdrawal of any student enrolment will be the province of the Principal, and will be the result of a clear violation of established expectations, policies and procedures of the college.

3. ENROLMENT PRIORITY CRITERIA

The Enrolment Priority Criteria are used in circumstances at St Paul's where demand exceeds the number of available enrolment places. The Principal will exercise discretion in relation to the enrolment of children of families who have special pastoral circumstances.

- 3.1. Decisions about enrolments are informed by the following criteria (not presented in order of priority):
 - 3.1.1. Baptised Catholic children within local parishes
 - 3.1.2. Siblings of children already enrolled at St Paul's whose families have demonstrated ongoing support for the ethos of the school
 - 3.1.3. Children already enrolled in a Catholic school whose families have demonstrated ongoing support for the ethos of the school:
 - 3.1.4. Other children of Catholic families who are not in the above criteria:
 - 3.1.5. Children of old scholars.



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- 3.2.** For enrolment of children from families who belong to other churches and faith traditions or from non-religious backgrounds and are prepared to support, including via participation and/or attendance, the ethos, values, liturgical and sacramental practices and traditions of the Catholic Church, decisions about enrolments will be informed by the following criteria:
- 3.2.1. Children of other Christian denominations who have a commitment to their faith tradition and a desire for a Catholic education;
 - 3.2.2. Children of other faith traditions whose families indicate a demonstrated commitment to their own faith, an openness to the religious development of their children and who want a Catholic education;
 - 3.2.3. Children whose families indicate openness to the religious development of their children and who want a Catholic education.
- 3.3** Enrolment into Reception
- 3.2.4. From 2014, children who turn five before May 1st will be admitted into Reception on the first day of Term One in that year.
 - 3.2.5. Children who turn five on or after May 1st will be admitted into Reception on the first day of Term One of the following year.

It is the responsibility of the Principal and delegated staff to enrol students into the college and apply these guidelines. In certain circumstances the Principal may exercise discretion in making the final decision.

Enrolment applications should be submitted at least 18 months prior to the activation of the enrolment. Successful applicants who adhere to this will be notified by the end of Term 3 of the year of application. If there are more applications than places available, those applications submitted 18 months prior to activation will have priority over applications lodged after this time, in association with the Enrolment Priority Criteria provided in this policy.

St Paul's College accepts students with widely varying abilities and needs, and all students have equal access to the education opportunities provided by the College. The College aims to support students with special needs; however, recognising that resources are finite, assessment of the full needs of any year level in context of the special needs of a student and the capacity of the college to respond to those needs will be taken into account during the enrolment process.

Reference: SACCS Enrolment Policy and Procedures 2012