



Good Counsel Parish Schools Board POLICY DOCUMENT

Good Counsel Parish Schools Board
(incorporating Good Counsel Primary School, Good Counsel College and St. Rita's Primary School)

Enrolment Policy

Policy Domain: Stewardship

Adopted: 14 October 2014
To be reviewed: 12 months

STATEMENT

Application for enrolment is open to all students whose parents/guardians are committed to the support of the Mission Statement of the relevant schools. Acceptance and ongoing enrolment are dependent upon discernment.

In seeking this participation, all who join the school community demonstrate a commitment to further understand, and support the values of the Catholic tradition, and to continue life's journey in, and respect for, Gospel values which are at the heart of Catholic beliefs and practices.

Enrolment is dependent upon the capacity of the schools to provide the physical and human resources and environment necessary for the care and education of the student.

CONTEXT

Enrolment procedures will reflect the need to maintain the Catholic spirit and identity of Good Counsel Primary School, St. Rita's Primary School and Good Counsel College.

The intention of this policy is to ensure that the interpretation of the Catholic identity of our schools is inclusive in nature, whilst, at the same time, continuing to be faithful to the original mission of Catholic schools to educate children of Catholic families.

The development of an Enrolment Policy within schools and colleges will show care and respect for the learning needs of students and reflect the highest standard of accountability.

The policy also takes into account cultural diversity and family backgrounds with sensitivities to human rights and relationships.

Luke 4:18-19 "***The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.***"

We are invited to have the eyes of Christ in welcoming members into the school family.

RATIONALE

The Good Counsel Schools are a faith community, maintaining a Catholic identity in serving the mission of Christ. Students are nurtured both in their faith in Christ and in their total development.

Ongoing enrolment is dependent upon the capacity of the schools to manage successfully the education of the student.

Parents/guardians and enrolling students will be given adequate access to information at interview, about the mission and defining features of a Catholic school.

Parents/guardians must make themselves aware of, endorse and where appropriate, undertake to participate in all activities of the school curriculum and community.

Parents/guardians will be given the opportunity to contribute their time and support to the various active groups in the school community, for example P & F meetings, fund-raising activities and other extracurricular events.

Parents/guardians must permit their child/children to participate in all the activities of the school, including religious education and liturgical celebrations.

Parents/guardians must agree to pay in full, all fees and levies in accordance with the Fees Schedule detailed in the School Prospectus/Handbook, as a minimum contribution to the running of the school. A fee structure exists for both schools.

Schools will develop procedures to inform their communities of special provisions for those in genuine hardship, and shall implement processes for fee relief that respect the dignity and privacy of families.

Failure to meet the conditions of enrolment at one Catholic school, including the non-payment of fees, may be used as grounds to decline enrolment at a new school. This consideration includes the transition from primary schools to secondary colleges.

PROCEDURES

Enrolment is dependent upon the capacity of the school to provide the physical and human resources necessary for the education of the student. A discerning group consisting of Principal, Parish Priest, Professionals, Parents, Staff, CES Office will assist the Principal in discernment.

Enrolment procedures, modelled on Diocesan guidelines, are inclusive and accepting of students with diverse needs.

Consideration in enrolment priorities should be given to:

- Catholics who commit to the values of the Catholic Church;
- Siblings of existing student members of the community;
- Persons who participate regularly in the celebration of the Eucharist;
- Participating members of other Christian Churches;
- Christians who commit to the values of the Catholic Church.
- Those persons not affiliated with any Christian church, who commit to the values of the Catholic Church.
- Persons transferring from another Catholic School.

DEFINITIONS

- Discernment for enrolment may mean consultation by the Principal with the Parish Priest Professionals, Parents, Staff and/or CES Representatives.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- School Enrolment Forms
- Refer to Primary and Secondary School Procedures and CES Website.
- All other related documents as outlined by Catholic Education Services Cairns.