



# JUBILEE SCHOOL

## ENROLMENT POLICY

### Introduction

The Catholic Education Council Policy on enrolment assists Catholic schools in supporting the implementation of the *Jesus Communion Mission* Vision of the Archdiocese. The policy outlines the priority in enrolment that our schools are to give to students who are baptised Catholics. The following regulations and guidelines articulate further this policy. They provide an orientation and direction to inform local enrolment policies regarding all students.

### Regulations

1. Each school's Enrolment Policy is based upon the Catholic Education Council *Enrolment of Students for Brisbane Catholic Education Schools Policy Statement* (June 2012) and is regularly reviewed.
2. As an Ecumenical school within Brisbane Catholic Education priority is given in enrolment to students who are baptised or dedicated within the Local Covenant Churches (Catholic, Anglican, Apostolic Australia and Uniting).
3. Principals are required to assess the impact on the school's religious ethos and school operations of the numbers of students who are not baptised or dedicated members of our local covenant churches both at a whole school level and by year levels. In doing so they will have reference to the guidelines below. This aspect of school life will be reviewed as part of the school's School Renewal Cycle.
4. Jubilee Primary School may enrol students from other Christian denominations and other faith traditions whose families demonstrate that they share the expressed values of the school. In such instances schools embrace Church teachings regarding respect for the faith journey of individuals within the religious dimension of school life.<sup>i</sup>
5. The process of enrolment is to be guided by principles of justice and equity that support Catholic ethos and vision.<sup>ii</sup>

### Guidelines

1. Catholic/Ecumenical schools are part of the Mission of the Church. Their primary purpose is to provide educational opportunities for students within the context of a faith based community. Nurturing of the Ecumenical school's faith traditions in students requires sufficient numbers of the school community to be of the local covenant church faith traditions for the identity of the community to be further enhanced.
6. In relation to the enrolment of other than children who are members of our Covenant Christian traditions (Catholic, Anglican, Apostolic Australia and Uniting), the principal and school board will have regard to the following factors:

- the location of the school (e.g. rural, provincial town) and the options for those students of other Christian denominations and other faiths for Christian schooling in the catchment area
  - the profile of the staff in terms of their Ecumenical nature and accreditation to teach Religious Education
  - whether the enrolment of students other than members of our Covenant Christian traditions (Catholic, Anglican, Apostolic Australia and Uniting) is necessary to ensure the educational and financial viability of the school
  - the impact of enrolling students other than members of our Covenant Christian traditions (Catholic, Anglican, Apostolic Australia and Uniting) on the educational and financial operations of the school including facility requirements.
2. A characteristic of any Christian community is that it be open to and welcoming of those who support its values. Attention is given in the enrolment process to families of other Christian denominations and other faiths regarding the manner in which they will “share in the expressed values of the school”. Students from families who express little or no willingness or capacity to “share in the expressed values of the school” should not be enrolled.
  3. The interview process is important in establishing with parents/care givers the expectations upon students and families of participating in the life of the Ecumenical school community. This is normally conducted by the school principal. Parents/care givers are to be made aware of the extent of involvement that can be asked of them in supporting the priorities and values of the school and its religious and educative life.
  4. Discussion should take place concerning the formal classroom religious education program of the school. It should be pointed out to parents/care givers that it is an expectation for students to take part as fully as possible in such a program. The religious life of the school, including prayer and worship and any social justice and service programs, are to be similarly discussed regarding expectations of participation.
  5. Principals are asked to keep in mind the Ecumenical identity of the school when enrolling students other than from our local covenant churches. The proportion of such students should not jeopardise the Ecumenical identity of the school community. Such students should not be enrolled if these enrolments necessitate the exclusion or likely exclusion of students from our local covenant churches who are seeking enrolment. This is particularly so in growth areas or in the early development of new schools
  6. A student other than from our local covenant churches, who has an active relationship with a church or faith community should be enrolled in preference to another student other than student whose family has no active with a church or faith community. The school should

recognise and respect the religious affiliation of the student. Similarly, although a family may describe itself as Catholic (and the student is baptised), if its values and life-style are so opposed to the gospel it may be better, both for the student and the school, if the student were not enrolled.

7. Enrolment of a student other than members of our Covenant Christian traditions (Catholic, Anglican, Apostolic Australia and Uniting) at Jubilee Primary School does not guarantee enrolment at a Catholic secondary school.
8. If one member of a family is to be enrolled then the school principal should determine and communicate whether it will be possible to enrol siblings when they become eligible.

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<sup>i</sup> *The Code of Canon Law*, 1984, canon 748.2

Congregation for the Clergy, *General Directory for Catechesis*, NSW, 1998, n 75, p.76.

Brisbane Catholic Education, *A statement on religious education for Catholic schools*, Brisbane, 1997, pp 12 – 17.

<sup>ii</sup> Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Catholic School on the threshold of the third millennium*, NSW, 1998, n 15, p.18.