



Saint Mary's Catholic College Enrolment Policy

Rationale

Saint Mary's Catholic College offers education within the Catholic tradition with a specific focus given to the Benedictine traditions of the Good Samaritan Sisters. It is intended that through the educational experience, the College seeks to renew and empower students, staff and parents in the ministry of the Church. The Catholic education offered to those enrolled at Saint Mary's Catholic College is intended to complement and support the role of the Catholic Church community of the South Burnett. The College acknowledges the value of the partnership with parents/carers who are the first educators of their children. The Benedictine values of respect, responsibility, safety, justice and being your best underpin the mission of the College and every aspect of College life. We seek to be a Catholic College where all members of the community are invited to grow in their knowledge and love of God and embrace the Gospel.

It is intended that these guidelines provide a transparent and consistent reference point to both those seeking enrolment and those responsible for enrolment at the College.

Principles

1. Enrolment at Saint Mary's Catholic College involves an application and enrolment process. The College recognises and celebrates the uniqueness of each student and is committed to meeting the diversity of strengths and needs of our students.
2. In selecting students for enrolment, primary consideration will be given to Catholic children of St Mary's Parish families for Prep to Year 6 classes and children from the local Catholic communities for students seeking education from Years 7 to 12.
3. Priority for the remaining vacancies will be given to:
 - a) Siblings of students currently enrolled at the College.
 - b) Catholic children transferring from other Catholic schools.
 - c) Non-Catholic children whose families express a genuine desire to be part of the College community.
4. In living the partnership commitment with parents/carers, the College expects that all parents/carers will be actively involved in their child's education. This involvement may take a variety of forms.
5. Acceptance of an application form will not guarantee an enrolment interview or an offer of enrolment.
6. Parents/carers will be required to declare that to the best of their knowledge they have:
 - a) Disclosed any special needs of the prospective student, including learning, medical or physical.
 - b) Provided a copy of any parenting or court orders that relate to the prospective student.
7. If a parent/carer deliberately withholds information relevant to the application process, the Principal reserves the right, in consultation with Brisbane Catholic Education, to refuse or terminate the enrolment.
8. It is expected that the enrolling parents/carers formally accept the responsibility for the payment of all school fees. Where this commitment would cause personal difficulty for the enrolling family, it is expected that this be clarified at the time of the enrolment. It is noted that children are not refused enrolment on the basis of not being able to address this commitment.
9. On acceptance of a place at Saint Mary's Catholic College, parents/carers are deemed to have accepted the College's values and expectations and to endorse and support them including involvement in Camps and Retreats; positive standards of uniform and behaviour; and the College's Catholic and religious programs.
10. The decision on whether a student is to be enrolled will ideally be made in partnership with the parents/carers based on the College's ability to cater for the student's needs. The final decision in matters of enrolment rests with the Principal.