

ENROLMENT

Scope: This policy applies to all staff employed in Catholic schools, colleges, kindergartens and outside school hours care centres conducted by Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (referred to as Catholic Education in the document).

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Catholic schools and colleges are open and accessible to all families who support the Catholic identity and ethos of the school and colleges.

2. DESCRIPTION

From *The Queensland Bishops' Project – Catholic Schools for the 21st Century* the six *Defining features of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton* are:

- Give witness to the message of Jesus and the mission of the Church
- Have a clear Catholic identity
- Be open and accessible to all who seek their values
- Offer a relevant and holistic curriculum of quality teaching and learning
- Be communities of care
- Be characterised by inclusive partnerships within a community of faith.

Catholic Education is intrinsic to the mission of the Church. It is one means by which the Church fulfils its role in assisting young people to discover and embrace the fullness of life in Christ.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

1. Schools and colleges will accept students for enrolment on the understanding that they and their family respect the Catholic identity of the school and agree to support and contribute to it, commit to supporting the school values, accept that religious education and the spiritual life are integral to the school's existence and meet obligations as detailed in the Enrolment Application Form.
2. Schools and colleges will strive to make a preferential option for the poor, marginalised and those most in need.
3. Schools and colleges will not deny enrolment to any family on the basis of inability to pay school fees and levies. Further information can be obtained by referring to the policy and procedures relating to school fee collection.
4. To enrol students who require significant educational adjustments, the Diocesan procedures



- provide clear advice when trying to ascertain the support required to support the student adequately or appropriately.
5. Order of priority for enrolment would be given as follows:
 - a) Students with siblings who currently attend or have attended the school or college
 - b) Students whose families worship in a Catholic parish
 - c) Students whose families demonstrate a commitment to the ethos and values of Catholic Schools and have a desire for faith education in the Catholic tradition
 6. All schools and colleges will develop a set of enrolment procedures that reflect the implementation issues.
 7. Schools and colleges will act with fairness and compassion in implementing this policy.
 8. Diocesan enrolment application forms and procedures support this policy.

4. REFLECTION MATERIAL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- [Inclusive Practice in Catholic Schools and Colleges \(2017/01\)](#)
- Diocese of Rockhampton (2004) “An encounter with Christ”: [Defining Features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century](#)

RESOURCES

- Congregation for Catholic Education (1997) *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, Rome
- Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane (2010) *Enrolment Application Procedures Including Students requiring Significant Educational Adjustments*, Brisbane
- Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) Policy Statement (2009) [Inclusive Practices in Queensland Catholic Schools](#), Brisbane
- Pope John Paul II (2001) *Ecclesia in Oceania*, St Pauls Publications Australia