

# Star of the Sea Cleveland Enrolment Policy

effective May 2008

## 1. Policy Statement

The Star of the Sea Catholic Parish, founded the Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School to enhance the faith of the people of the Parish, particularly the children and to evangelise members of the parish community with restricted geographical access to the worshipping community. Therefore the school has as its main task, enriching the Catholic faith of the students within an environment that nurtures the gospel values through word, action and example.

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School has provision to cater for students from Prep to Year Seven. The parameters for enrolment have been collaboratively developed by the Parish Priest, School Board and Parish Community, in consultation with Brisbane Catholic Education. Our enrolment policy has been formulated in keeping with the mission and purpose of a Catholic school within the Brisbane Archdiocese. It takes into account its unique geographic location, rapidly growing population within the Parish, need to be part of and facilitate additional Catholic education provision in the Redlands, and overall existing buildings, facilities, resources and staffing.

## 2. General Principle

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School is a faith community that exists to educate young people through the teaching and learning of Gospel values. Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School draws its enrolment of students from Cleveland, Ormiston, North Stradbroke Island and a sizeable part of Thornlands bounded by Boundary road.

Enrolment policies will be in place that will, as far as possible, not reduce numbers at the Catholic Primary Schools located at Birkdale, Alexandra Hills and Capalaba schools but lessen pressure on Victoria Point, which will concentrate more on the region south of the Thornlands boundary line to address future growth in that area.

## 3. Definition

To be a member of Star of the Sea Parish Community you need to participate in the worshipping community and be registered in the Parish. To be a member of other Parishes you need to have participated and been registered in that Parish where that Parish holds registration. Students are considered enrolled in Star of the Sea Primary School when they have been accepted into the school and paid the applicable enrolment fee.

## 4. Scope

This Policy applies to all current and prospective members of the Star of the Sea faith community:

- \* Students
- \* Staff
- \* Parents/Guardians
- \* Clergy and members of Religious Orders
- \* Parish community members

## **5. Responsibilities**

- a. The Principal and administration team are responsible for the adherence to this Policy and relevant Catholic Education Policies and Guidelines.
- b. The procedures and practices will be communicated to all members of the school community and Parish Priest by the Principal.
- a. The Parish Priest is responsible for providing current Parish community records.
- b. Parents/Guardians of Star of the Sea's students are responsible for adhering to all Star of the Sea's Catholic School policies.

## **6. Procedures**

*Enrolment will be offered in the following order of priority:*

1. Siblings of children already enrolled.
2. The child is baptised Catholic whose family lives within our Parish boundaries and can demonstrate involvement in the life, worship and service of this Parish with a preference to those who have siblings already enrolled.
3. The child is a baptised Catholic whose family can demonstrate involvement in the life, worship, service of another parish and now seeks to participate actively in the life, worship and service of this parish.
4. The child is currently enrolled in another Redlands Catholic School:
  - a. St Anthony's School, Mary MacKillop Primary School, St Luke's School or St Rita's Primary School and is seeking enrolment at Star of the Sea School. Consultation between principals will occur in the case of such transfers.
5. The child is baptised Catholic whose family resides in a Redlands Catholic parish and whose family is committed to and guided by the values of the Gospel and the traditions of the Catholic Church.
6. The child is a baptised Catholic whose family can demonstrate involvement in the life, worship and service of the parish community other than a Redlands Catholic Parish and has appropriate reasons for not enrolling in their own parish school.
7. The child, though not baptised a Catholic, belongs to a family that can demonstrate some meaningful relationship with a Christian tradition and is committed to and guided by the values of the Gospel and accepting the traditions of the Catholic Community.
8. The Principal, in consultation with the Parish Priest, may exercise discretion regarding applications where pastoral considerations apply and, therefore, may determine a child's eligibility beyond the stated criteria.

*Such consideration would be considered in the following situations:*

- i. Catholic Aboriginal children from Stradbroke Island who have restricted access to the worshipping community as a result of geographical boundaries.
- ii. Children of families living within our Parish boundaries whose Christian faith is not of the Catholic tradition, but who practice their faith within Parish boundaries.
- iii. Enrolment will be reliant on a vacancy existing in the relevant year level. When a vacancy exists, order of acceptance regarding the above priorities is according to date of enrolment application.
- iv. Children will not be excluded from Star of the Sea's Catholic school for economic reasons related to the inability of the family to pay fees. It would be an expectation, however, that all families would be able to make a contribution towards such fees.
- v. Where families have given little or no support to Star of the Sea Catholic School and have demonstrated a lack of commitment to its ethos, the Principal will discuss with such families, after consultation with the Parish Priest, the merits or otherwise of the continuation of their child's enrolment.
- vi. Whilst the priorities in 6(a) still apply, students with special needs will only be enrolled in accordance with Brisbane Catholic Education's Policy on Enrolment and Support Procedures for students with Special Needs.