McAuley Catholic College

ENROLMENT POLICY

Purpose
McAuley Catholic College exists as part of the evangelising mission of St Mary’s Parish, Grafton, within the Diocese of Lismore, New South Wales. In a spirit of total commitment to the person and gospel of Jesus Christ, McAuley Catholic College seeks to provide excellence in education for the whole person, providing a synthesis between culture and faith. Enrolling a student in the College involves a commitment to joining a faith community which is inextricably linked to the mission of the parish community.

McAuley Catholic College recognises the irreplaceable educational role of parents and, as such, works in partnership with them in providing quality Catholic education of boys and girls from Year 7 to Year 12. The College offers wide-ranging courses of study approved by the New South Wales Board of Studies, including full preparation for School Certificate and Higher School Certificate qualifications.

Eligibility:
Enrolment at McAuley Catholic College is non-selective and is open to students from all parishes in the area. Enrolment at McAuley Catholic College is dependent on the student’s willingness to take part in religious co-curricular activities that are considered essential in a Catholic school. This includes liturgies and retreats.

Should the situation warrant a distinction in enrolment, the order of preference will be as follows:

- Children of families of the associated feeder parish schools who are known, practising and involved members of those parishes, and who are currently enrolled in these feeder parish schools
- Children of families of the parish who are known, practising and involved members of a Catholic parish but who do not attend parish school
- Children whose siblings already attend the College.
- Children of families of the parish who irregularly participate in the life and worship of the parish.
- Children of families who are Catholic but do not participate in parish life
- Children of families committed to or who nominally belong to a Christian denomination and are open to the nature and mission of the Catholic school.
- Children of families who have no religious affiliation but who are open to the nature and mission of the Catholic school.

Notwithstanding the above, a limited number of non-Catholic students is accepted provided that:

- Their enrolment is not to the exclusion of Catholic students.
- Reasonable class sizes are maintained in keeping with Government recommendations without detriment to the enrolment of Catholic students.
- Parents/Carers of such students agree to support and uphold the Christian ethos and values of the College, including participation in all related activities such as Religious Education classes, liturgies and prayer.
- Proportionally, the numbers enrolled do not jeopardise the Catholic character of the school community.

Procedure
1. All applications for enrolment at McAuley Catholic College are to be made using the Application for Enrolment form available from the College Office. This is an application only and its
submission does not constitute automatic enrolment in the College (see below). All applications for enrolment are made directly to the Principal.

2. Following receipt of the *Application for Enrolment* form by the College, a formal interview involving the Principal (or nominated representative), the prospective student and his/her family is arranged.

3. Confirmation of enrolment is subject to:
   - A successful interview with the Principal
   - The preparedness of parents/carers to accept responsibility for the payment of fees as determined by the Parish. Any need for a fee reduction or other special arrangements is at the discretion of the Parish Priest in consultation with the Principal.
   - The prospective student agreeing to and signing the *Student Code of Conduct*.

4. Successful applications will be confirmed in writing at the latest during Term 3 of the year prior to the year of the student’s enrolment.

5. All students who have been enrolled for Year 7 for the succeeding year attend an Orientation Day at the College which is held in Term 4 of the previous year. Parents also attend a special meeting as part of the Orientation process. Students with additional needs may attend extra days prior to the Orientation Day or following it as arranged by the Additional Needs Coordinator of the College in order to assist them in their inclusion process at the College.

**Related Legislation**
Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)
Commonwealth Privacy Act 2001
Disability Discrimination Act 1992
Disability Standards for Education Act 2003
Mental Health Act 1990