



St Patrick's School Board of Trustees Enrolment and Cohort Entry Policy

St Patrick's School Board of Trustees is aware of its responsibility to comply with the maximum roll and number of non-preference students as stated and governed by the school's Integration Agreement with the Ministry of Education. The number of places available for non-preference students will be governed by the maximum allowable in the schools Integration Agreement which is 10% of the maximum roll.

Criteria for granting preference shall be determined by the Proprietor in accordance with the Integration Agreement for St Patrick's School and to Section 29 (1) of the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975, which states that preference shall be given 'only to those children whose parents have established a particular or general religious connection with the Special Character of the school'.

The conditions for granting of preference are also stated in the 'Handbook for Boards of Trustees, Principals and Staff of New Zealand Catholic Integrated Schools', Part 5: Enrolment.

The interpretation of the agreement must consider the following:

- a) The nature of the church which is essentially missionary and has special care for those who are deprived of God's word or of material resources;
- b) The importance of religious education;
- c) The responsibility of parents to educate their children into the community of faith;
- d) The nature and purpose of a Catholic school.

St Patrick's School has a cohort entry policy which refers to children starting school in line with the requirements of The Education Act 2019.

Therefore at St Patrick's School:

- Children may start school only after they have turned five years old
- Children will be able to start school on the first day of term, or at a mid-point during a term in line with dates set by the Minister of Education, once they have turned five years old.
- Parents' have the choice of waiting for the next entry point if they believe their child is not ready to start school. Once their child has enrolled at school they must attend school.
- Parents who choose not to start their child until the age of six must ensure they start school on their sixth birthday.
- Students' already enrolled at another school who move to St Patrick's do not have to wait for the next cohort intake.

Approved by Board on the 14th day of August 2019