Enrolment Policy

**Rationale:**
The first priority of the Catholic School is the provision of a Catholic education for Catholic children. Catholic Schools contribute to the Church’s mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We see ourselves as an integral part of the Parish of St.Peter's Epping, and all our endeavours as stemming from, and contributing to, the life of the parish.

Clear guidelines and procedures are in place to effectively assist those who wish to make application for enrolment.

**Principles:**
Catholic schools have been established primarily for Catholic children and Catholic schools should strive to be open and welcoming to all Catholic students, regardless of their background and needs, and do everything possible to accommodate a student's individual needs.

**Partnership between parents and school**
We believe that parents are the first and the most influential educators of their children, and that effective partnership between school and home is essential for any aspect of education. Such a partnership implies a shared responsibility between the family and the teachers, particularly in the education in faith. Parents should also assume a responsibility for maintaining this partnership by supporting the school in furthering the spiritual and academic life of their children.

**Definitions:**
**Catholic child**
For the purpose of enrolment in a Catholic school, a child is considered to be Catholic if they are a member of the Catholic Church, usually established by a Certificate of Catholic Baptism.

**Catholic school**
A Catholic School is one, which operates with the consent of the diocesan Bishop and is one where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

**Parish**
For the purpose of enrolment, the 'parish' comprises the geographical and broader definition.

**Procedure:**
- Enrolments are open to all baptised Catholic children of Parishioners living north of the O’Hearns Rd / power lines, as well as those children who have siblings already enrolled at St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School.
The minimum age for all admission 4.75 years prior to the beginning of the calendar year in which admission is sought; i.e. 5 years by the 30th April. All children aged 6 or more must attend school.

Children with special needs will be considered for enrolment within the guidelines of the CEOM Enrolment Policy.

_The school’s enrolment policy is consistent with CEOM Enrolment Policy 2.4 recommendations._