PURPOSE:

In enrolling students at St. Andrew’s, we need to maintain the values of justice, community and our vision statement as a guide to the numbers of students we accept.

GUIDELINES:

To Whom do we say “Yes”?

1. Catholic parishioners of St. Andrew’s Community, South Clayton, without preferential enrolment of practising and non-practising families. This also includes members of other Catholic Rites. Oriental non-Catholics are to be considered as part of the Catholic community who will enrich our experience of church.

2. Children from families requiring pastoral care whether it be spiritual, social, financial or emotional need.

3. Children who are not Catholic but who have previously been enrolled in another Catholic parish primary school.

4. Children whose parents have expressed an interest in embracing the Catholic faith community.

5. Children categorised as “Integration Students” in terms of justice, but in accordance with the guidelines for Integration Enrolment Policy as we keep in mind the need of justice to mainstream children and class teacher. This will also depend largely upon funding and available support.

6. Enrolments according to the size of school and available accommodation without causing overcrowdings and teacher stress.

7. Accepting capacity number of enrolments, leaving no spaces/places for Catholic families who may move into the area during the year.

8. Children who are related or in close contact (e.g., culture groups), with families who have already gained enrolment at St. Andrew’s (family re-unification).

9. Opportunity given to families who by enrolling their child/children may benefit the school with an additional staff member.

10. Retain ceiling of 7% of Prep In-take or alternatively draw up submission to appeal for special consideration by Archdiocesan Committee for Exemption on the grounds of Pastoral an/or Evangelisation Policy.
CONSIDERATIONS:
Families who have demonstrated a commitment to the Catholic Church have already given some evidence that they want to respond to the “Come and See” of the gospel, and, therefore, have some priority.

On the other hand, many Catholics do not have an obvious allegiance to the church. However, they are searching for faith and meaning and want their children to hear the invitation of the gospel. We should trust that their search is genuine and respect their application for a place in the school for their children.

There will doubtless also be many people who are not Catholics who wish to respond to the invitation of the gospel and they have a right to do this in the light of the evangelising mission of the church and justice to all people. Therefore, if there is an opportunity to accept students from such families the school should do so.

There are students who for various reasons of rebellion, learning difficulties, physical handicaps, poverty and some for whom suitable places are not readily available in mainstream schools. Our school should seek out and positively invite such students to “Come and See” as Jesus did to many similar outcasts.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE ENROLMENT POLICY
Establish a ‘waiting list’ for those who meet the criteria but for whom there is no vacancy.

Enrolment of Orthodox, Eastern Rites, will entail a sensitivity on the part of staff for celebrations, feasts, fasts according to the specific tradition.

Families in greater need may not be in financial situation to afford levies – therefore a single class should not be disadvantaged by ‘non-payers’ – all monies to be shared equally by all classes.

The parents of such students applying for enrolment at a Catholic school must be aware of the nature and ethos of the school and undertake that the nature, life and identity of the Catholic school will be respected.

SCHOOL FEES AND BUILDING LEVIES
School fees and building levies are payable four times a year, and fees and levies are set in accordance with Catholic Education guidelines.

A family who may leave the school for a period of time due to an overseas trip or holiday will be required to pay the fees for the time they are absent.

A family who leaves the school during the year may be requested to pay the fees for the entire year. This may be waived under special conditions and is up to the discretion of the Parish Priest, after consultation with the Principal. These conditions may include the instance where a family is moving away from the parish area.

Any parent who is having difficulties paying the school fees and building levies is requested to make an appointment with either the Parish Priest of Principal and discuss the situation. No child is denied a Catholic Education due to parents being unable to pay school fees and levies. The school will always endeavour to assist those families who may be experiencing financial difficulties.