

	Topic:	Provision of Services for Full Fee Paying Overseas Students
	Policy No:	2-D10
	Policy Area:	Community
	Standing Committee:	School Resources Committee
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RATIONALE

St Mary's School exists to further the mission of the Church and the Gospels remind us that "anyone who welcomes a child in my name welcomes me" (Luke 9:48).¹

The Mandate Letter of the Bishops of Western Australia requires that education be made available to all Catholic children in so far as this is possible.

Children from other countries should also be given an opportunity to access Catholic education in Western Australia where appropriate.

In addition to the above, the provision of services for Full Fee Paying Overseas Students (FFPOS) will be provided according to the following principles and procedures which recognise the fact that Australian society is multicultural and inclusive.

DEFINITIONS

FFPOS is a person from another country who has been granted entry into Australia on a visa allowing them to enrol only at an Australian educational institution which is registered in the first instance with the Department of Educational Services as a FFPOS Provider. The student does not attract Government Funding. The school will also have been granted a Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) provider code and courses code by the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations.

PRINCIPLES

St Mary's School shall endeavour to ensure that international students have access to the same services provided to all other students and, where necessary, shall provide additional services to address their unique needs and characteristics to ensure an equitable and inclusive education.

1. The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child states that the best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his/her education.
2. St Mary's School shall ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) who have contact with FFPOS have an understanding of the pedagogy and practice of teaching English an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D) and an awareness of cross cultural perspectives.
3. The overall provision of services shall be consistent with State and Australian Government legislative framework as outlined by the following, as amended:
 - The Education Service Providers (Full Fee Paying Overseas Students) Registration Act 1991 (ESPRA)
 - The National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (ESOS) (The National Code of Practice 2007)
 - Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS) 2000 (Australian Government)
 - National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2007
 - Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia (CEWA) Student Enrolment Policy Statement
 - Catholic Education Western Australia Clarification of Procedures for Enrolment in Catholic Schools of Students From Overseas (International Students)"
4. The Principal pf St Mary's School shall bear in mind to what extent the school can meet the individual needs of the student and other students before enrolling the FFPOS.

PROCEDURES

1. The procedures for enrolment of FFPOS in this policy shall be carried out in conjunction with the procedures involved in the CECWA and St Mary's School Enrolment Policies.
2. School fees shall be set, taking into consideration the visa status of the family seeking enrolment and the socioeconomic situation of the family as per the CECWA and St Mary's School Enrolment Policies.
3. The family will be required to provide the school a copy of the passport section showing the status of visa entry into Australia.
4. In placement of the student, consideration will be given to the age, learning background, language proficiency level as well as the socio-cultural context, linguistic and academic demands that will be placed upon him or her.

5. Appropriate professional development shall be provided to ensure that all relevant teaching and non-teaching staff are aware of how best to respond to the FFPOS unique needs.
6. The Principal shall bear in mind to what extent the school can meet the individual needs of the student and other students before enrolling the FFPOS.
7. The Principal and the Administration Officers shall jointly be the International Students Coordinator.
8. It is the Principal's responsibility to ensure the relevant legislative requirements and procedures are followed.
9. FFPOS shall receive the same opportunities to access school support services as other enrolled students.