

Form 1: Enrolment Policy



St Patrick's Tongala Enrolment Policy

1. Introduction

St Patrick's Tongala is a registered Primary Catholic School which operates with the consent of the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst and is owned and operated by Catholic Education Sandhurst (CES) Limited, where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

St. Patrick's is a Catholic Primary School, with 60 students enrolled from Foundation to Grade 6. The Brigidine sisters opened the school in 1959 and conducted the school until the end of 1982. St Patrick's is located in Mangan Street in the township of Tongala. Students come from the Tongala township and surrounding rural areas. Our families have varied socio-economic backgrounds and structures. At St. Patrick's children are called to let their light shine as living witnesses to Gospel values. A quality education is provided to continually challenge each individual to achieve his/ her potential through co-operative teaching and learning.

This Enrolment Policy is part of the Enrolment Framework approved by the Board of CES Limited (the Board) which must be followed by all Sandhurst Catholic Schools. The Enrolment Framework is available at <https://www.sptongala.catholic.edu.au>.

2. Purpose

This policy sets out requirements for enrolment of domestic students at St Patrick's Tongala.

3. Enrolment Principles

St Patrick's Tongala welcomes enrolments from families of all faiths and non-religious backgrounds. Where enrolment interests exceed the number of placements available, St Patrick's Tongala will give priority to enrolment of Catholic children as outlined in the [Enrolment Priority Criteria](#) approved by the Board.

Families who enrol their children at St Patrick's Tongala do so on the understanding that they respect and agree to support the Catholic identity, ethos and mission of the school and acknowledge the importance of religious education for their children.

St Patrick's Tongala wants to make every effort to ensure Catholic education is accessible to every Catholic family through the provision of family-friendly fee payments and relief.

St Patrick's Tongala strives to accommodate children with diverse needs. In cases where a child requires significant adjustments in order for an enrolment to be possible, St Patrick's Tongala will consider its obligations arising from Disability Standards and related legislation; what is in the best interest of the child and whether the school can reasonably be expected to make the required adjustments to assist the child to take part in education courses and programs, on the same basis as a child without disability.

Enrolment is subject to the maximum capacity of St Patrick's Tongala. For those students not able to be offered enrolment, St Patrick's Tongala will support their families in finding enrolment with another Catholic school.

4. Enrolment requirements

Age requirements

A child is eligible to enrol in Foundation level at St Patrick's Tongala if they are five years old by 30 April in the year in which they begin school. If a parent/guardian is seeking to enrol their child at a younger age, a minimum age exemption is required from the Executive Director of CES Limited via the [Application for Early Age Entry to School](#). Approval for early age enrolment will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

It is expected that students seeking enrolment will normally reside in the designated parish or the agreed area that St Patrick's Tongala serves. Students may be accepted for enrolment outside their parish or agreed area, which the school serves if there are demonstrable circumstances which significantly disadvantage the student and/or family should the enrolment not occur or if St Patrick's Tongala meets their needs more appropriately than the student's designated parish school.

Documentary evidence

You are required to provide particular information about your child during the enrolment process, both at the provisional application stage and if the school offers your child a place. Please note that lodgement of the enrolment form does not guarantee enrolment at the school. If the information requested is not provided, St Patrick's Tongala may not be able to enrol your child.

St Patrick's Tongala require the following documents from parents/guardians for enrolment purposes:

1. evidence of the child's Australian citizenship or permanent residency or eligible visa details

2. birth certificate of the child
3. immunisation records and other health records
4. court orders, custody arrangements relating to the child
5. previous school reports

any documentation relating to specific medical, health, intellectual conditions that will trigger the need for the school to provide reasonable adjustments to the learning environment

Fees

School fees; fee schedules and payment options are outlined in the St Patrick's Tongala Fees document published on the school website.

The fees must be paid for a child to enrol and to continue enrolment at St Patrick's Tongala. The school has discretion whether to allow a child to participate in optional or extracurricular school events, such as paid school excursions or extracurricular activities, while fees remain due and payable.

In accordance with [CES Limited's School Fee Policy](#), any family facing genuine financial hardship should in the first instance speak with the Principal. Families facing hardships are encouraged to apply for a fee concession. This includes those families who hold a Health Care Card (HCC) eligible for Camps, Sports and Excursion Funds (CSEF). An application for a fee concession should be made to St Patrick's Tongala and all information provided will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

5. Enrolment process

St Patrick's Tongala enrolment process, including timelines and forms are published on the school website. The following enrolment related documents are published/available on our website:

[CES Limited Enrolment Framework](#)

[St Patrick's Tongala Enrolment Policy](#)

[St Patrick's Tongala Enrolment Procedure](#)

[Application for Enrolment form](#)

[Offer of Enrolment: Request for Additional Information form](#)

[Enrolment Agreement](#)

[Enrolment Priority Criteria](#)

[Insert school name Fee Policy](#)

[Application for Early Age Entry to School](#)

[Shared Behaviour Expectations/Code of Conduct](#)

6. Enrolment register

In accordance with requirements of the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (ETR Regulations), St Patrick's Tongala maintains a register of enrolments that contains at minimum the following information in relation to each student enrolled at the school:

1. The student's name, age and address
2. The name and contact details of any parent or guardian of the student
3. The date of enrolment of the student
4. The Victorian Student Number allocated to the student
5. The date that the student ceases to be enrolled at the school

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The information collected during the process of enrolment will be stored, maintained and shared in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth.)*. A copy of the enrolment information will also be maintained in each student profile.

7. Enrolment register procedures

St Patrick's Tongala collects enrolment data at the point of enrolling a new student. For all existing students, the school undertakes a process of confirming enrolment data, including health information and emergency contact information. The process of confirming enrolments typically occurs at the end of an academic year. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to inform the school of any changes to the enrolment information as soon as practicable. It is the responsibility of the Admin Officer member to collect, store and maintain enrolment information in the register in accordance with this Policy and procedures.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Position/Roles	Responsibilities
CES Limited Board	Approves Enrolment Framework
Executive Director	Approves contextualisation of school enrolment policies and procedures Make decisions in relation to enrolment appeals as outlined in the Enrolment Procedures document.
School Principal	Ensure St Patrick's Tongala Enrolment Policy and Procedure is aligned with CES Limited Enrolment Framework and implement the Framework. Make enrolment decisions as outlined in the Enrolment Procedures document.

Choose an item.	Collect, store and maintain Enrolment information in accordance with St Patrick's Tongala Enrolment policy and procedure. Provide prospective parents with the necessary information for the enrolment and admission processes.
Parents/guardians	Read and complete the Application for Enrolment Forms; the Enrolment Agreement, related Enrolment documents. Submit all requested information and disclose matters relating to the learning, emotional or physical needs of the applicant that may affect their education and notify the school of any changes to any enrolment information submitted as soon as practicable. Adheres to terms and conditions of the Enrolment Agreement.

	Description of revisions (s)
Responsibility for Policy	Executive Director School Principal
Approval Authority	CES Limited Board
Approval Date	October 2020
Date of next review	October 2021