

## Admissions Criteria

Northside Christian College considers the wellbeing of the whole College community, the College's Christian ethos and the capacity of the College to cater for the individual needs of an applying student.

Northside Christian College strongly encourages parents/ guardians to enrol Prep students who will be 5 years of age by the end of January in the year they commence school. In keeping with Government guidelines, students may be enrolled in Prep if they will turn 5 years of age by 30<sup>th</sup> April of the year they are enrolled in Prep.

If there is a vacancy, the College will offer enrolment places based on a number of criteria. The following criteria may be used to prioritise enrolment placements at Northside Christian College.

- A sibling of a current Northside Christian College school family
- A child of an active member of Encompass Church
- A child of a staff member at Northside Christian College
- Children of families regularly attending other local churches, and who demonstrate Christian beliefs and commitment.
- A child transferring from another Christian School
- Children of any other families/carers where the Principal believes that the family actively supports the distinctively Christian basis of the College and the College Statement of Faith and College policies.
- Special circumstances as approved by the Principal.

At the discretion of the Principal, some applications may be given preference on the application list on the basis of criteria such as:

- The age of the applicants and their starting year level; and
- Academic balance of classes; and
- Gender balance of classes

Where two or more applications, in consideration of all of the above categories, have equal priority and the position cannot be filled from a higher category, the earliest date of application for enrolment will take precedence.

Families who are not Christians are very welcome to apply for enrolment and to join our College community. Such families do so agreeing that their children will receive an education that is firmly and authentically grounded in the Christian faith – a faith that is relevant to all areas of College life. All parents and guardians will be required to acknowledge, on the Enrolment Form, their support and willingness to encourage the Christian belief and character of the College, both directly and indirectly.

The College requires that all parents and guardians allow their child to engage in the full life of the College, including its promotion of Christian belief and character, with due consideration to the student's abilities and background. This includes spiritual, academic, physical, cultural, off-site and social events.

The College reserves the right to terminate the enrolment of a student who, for example, undermines the College's Christian ethos or policy, engages in serious unacceptable behaviour, repeatedly disrupts learning or jeopardises the welfare of other students and staff. See Appendix F of this policy document.

Students with disability have the right to enrol at Northside Christian College on the same basis as students without disability as outlined in the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*. Schools are expected to make reasonable adjustments so that enrolment processes are fair to all students. Some of the ways Northside Christian College can comply with the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* during enrolment include:

- Meeting the student with disability and their family in person to explain the enrolment process
- Providing enrolment brochures in large print for someone with low vision, to ensure the information is accessible
- Ensuring online enrolment forms can be read by specialised computer programs that make the information accessible for people with low vision
- Offering a personal tour of the College, or providing previous samples of class work to assist a student with disability to make an informed decision about whether to enrol in a school or course of study, based on information they can understand.

The College may not be able to meet the needs of all prospective students in the short or long term, and hence, may decline enrolment. Due consideration will be given to duty of care, child protection, discrimination and other relevant laws, including the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*.

Permission to consult third parties regarding a child whose family is applying for enrolment will be sought in writing with due consideration to discrimination, privacy and other relevant laws. (An Information Release Form will be provided)

One term's notice of intention to withdraw enrolment from the College is required. If one full term's notice of intention to cease enrolment is not provided, the College reserves the right to charge a full terms fees in lieu of this notice.

A position will not normally be reserved for a student who leaves the College temporarily. Any changes to this procedure are at the Principal's discretion.

Any requests for financial assistance or fee relief will be referred to the Principal at the time of application for enrolment.