



Operational Policy 17

Enrolment Policy

Purpose - To clarify the policy around enrolling students at Miramar Christian School and ensure the school complies with Schedule 6 s26 of the Education and Training Act 2020 and requirements of Miramar Christian School Integration Deed. Miramar Christian School is an integrated school. Schedule 6 s26 of the Education and Training Act 2020 states that children of parents who have a particular or general philosophical or religious connection with a state-integrated school must be preferred to other children for enrolment at the school.

Enrolment Definitions

Preference - Particular Connection: The parent/s of the child identify as Christian and sign the Statement of Faith. Supporting evidence should be requested and can include;

- evidence of a longstanding commitment to and regular attendance at an evangelical Christian church having a Biblical basis of faith consistent with the school's Statement of Faith.
- a reference from their pastor, minister or senior member of their church who knows them well.
- testimony of their personal faith journey.

Preference - General Connection: Parent/s identify with Christian values and lifestyle and sign the Statement of Faith. Supporting evidence should be requested and can include:

- credible references that affirm that they live lives demonstrably aligned to and
- supportive of Christian values as explained in the school's Statement of Faith,
- a statement from the parent/s confirming a discipline of regular bible devotions/prayer etc for themselves and family,
- can establish that their children have been raised with the beliefs and values that are aligned with the Special Character of the school,
- testimony of their personal faith journey.

Non-Preference: Parents who have no particular or general connection with Christianity but appreciate the values and beliefs of the school and wish their children to receive the education we offer.

Commitment to supporting the School and its Special Character: All parents are required to indicate in writing their willingness to support the school's special character and programmes. Schedule 6 Education and Training Act 2020 s27 - Participation in general school programmes states that by enrolling a student at Miramar Christian School, 'a parent(s) is taken to have accepted as a condition of enrolment that the student is to participate in the general school programme that gives the school its special character'. The ratio of preference students required by the Proprietor for Miramar Christian School is 95% or greater of the student roll.

SCHOOL ZONE DEFINITION

As an integrated school with a special character, school zones that are applied to state schools do not apply to our enrolments.

For the purpose of this policy, 'school zone' is determined as being the residential areas of closest reasonable convenience to either Miramar Christian School (including the Johnsonville School site) and Maranatha Christian School.

PRIORITY AT ENROLMENT

Applications for enrolment of children of preference applicants will be processed in the following order of priority.

FIRST PRIORITY will be given to the children of preference applicants for whom Miramar Christian School is the closest Christian School of reasonable convenience, offering the level of education sought for the student.

If including the children of all first priority applicants would exceed the school's maximum roll, then criteria for selection for these children will be based, in sequence, on the second priority through to the seventh priority.

SECOND PRIORITY will be given to preference students who are siblings of current students.

THIRD PRIORITY will be given to preference students who are children of current permanent Board employees (half-time or greater).

FOURTH PRIORITY will be given to preference students from Maranatha Christian School for either of the following reasons:

(a) The student is graduating from their current school's graduating year level.

(b) A change in residential address, which moves the student into the school zone.

(NB Where families are applying (for Years 1-8) at Miramar Christian School, that live closer to Maranatha Christian School, Miramar Christian School will consult with Maranatha before placing them at priority 4.)

FIFTH PRIORITY will be given to preference applicants from the school's zone who are any of the following:

(a) applying to enrol a student already attending a school which is either:

- a member of the New Zealand Association for Christian Schools
- a similar school overseas [and at the time of enrolment will be a domestic student]; or
- (b) applying to enrol a student currently receiving homeschooling
- (c) siblings of former students
- (d) students whose parents are past students
- (e) applying to enrol a student graduating from a Christian Preschool that is aligned to our statement of faith.

SIXTH PRIORITY will be given to all other preference students from the school's zone.

SEVENTH PRIORITY will be given to all other preference applicants.

EIGHTH PRIORITY Non-preference applicants. Non-preference students will be enrolled only if:

- (a) enrolment places remain after all preference students have been enrolled; and
- (b) doing so will not cause the school to exceed the number of non-preference students allowed in its integration agreement.

Priority in enrolment among children of non-preference applicants will be given to applicants who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (a) Who are siblings of current students;
- (b) Who are students graduating from Maranatha Christian School or Christian Kindergarten

YEAR LEVELS

Where the number of places available at any year level runs out within any of the priority levels two to eight above, a ballot may be conducted;

OR

The Principal may use their discretion based on the alignment of the family to the special character ethos of the school.

Children of unsuccessful applicants at each year level will have their names recorded on a waiting list, within their relevant priority category, ranked in the order in which they were drawn in the ballot. The waiting list at each year level will remain current until the board notifies the public that it is inviting applications for a new enrolment intake.

ATTENDANCE DUES

The Education and Training Act 2020 allows the Proprietor to charge parents Attendance Dues whose children attend Miramar Christian School and is a condition for their enrolment. They are mandatory and set by the Proprietor up to the maximum agreed by the Ministry of Education. The income from Attendance Dues is used to meet the costs of providing land and buildings for the school including funding borrowing for new classrooms, insurance on school buildings, lease payments, building warrants of fitness, etc. Failure to pay Attendance Dues may result in a student being withdrawn from the school. Dues are not a donation, and they are not tax deductible.

PRE-ENROLMENT

Each year, applications will be sought by a date, which will be published in a daily or community newspaper circulating in the area served by the School. No enrolments will be confirmed more than one year prior to the proposed date of entry.

COHORT ENTRY

Miramar Christian School is a Cohort entry school . Under Cohort entry ākongā (students) are able to start school in cohorts after they have turned five.

There will be two entry points per term:

- one on the first day of term
- one at a mid-point during a term as specified by the Ministry of Education.

All children must be enrolled by their 6th birthday

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Wilding', written over a horizontal line.

Signed by Presiding Member:

(Name): Peter Wilding

On behalf of, and with the authority of the School Board on Date: 11 December 2023

Next review date: December 2026