

ST MARY'S SCHOOL – NORTHCOTE

POLICY:

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (FOREIGN FEE PAYING STUDENTS)

LATEST REVIEW DATE:

August 2014

REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Board of Trustees

CONSULTATION:

Board of Trustees, Staff, International Student Co-ordinator

RATIFIED:

21 August 2014

OBJECTIVES:

1. International students (also called Foreign Fee Paying students) are those foreign students who come to New Zealand on a student permit, and pay international students' fees, to be educated in New Zealand. They do not include exchange students, refugees or students who have been granted permanent status.
2. Foreign fee-paying students shall be considered as enrolments in accordance with the Enrolment Policy.
3. Pastoral - There is a need for Catholic schools to welcome students from other cultures. "This concrete means of overcoming the fear of others without doubt constitutes a decisive step towards peace within our society." (*Pope John Paul II, Congress of Catholic Schools in Europe, April 2001.*)
4. Equity - Foreign students develop New Zealand students' awareness of Third World, international, social, economic and justice issues. Awareness of Foreign Students also enables students to release some of the unconscious prejudices about foreigners.
5. Educational - Through contact with foreign students, New Zealand students develop their understanding of world geography and cultural differences. They therefore begin to develop an international viewpoint, and to create friendships which promote international understanding.
6. International relationships - New Zealand's positive international standing is enhanced in the long term by offering educational opportunities for overseas students.
7. School viability - The school is able to benefit from the earnings of foreign fee paying students.
8. The fee structure for foreign fee-paying students shall be calculated at the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees with reference to the formula provided from time to time by the Ministry of Education guidelines for primary and secondary schools and the Ministry of Education rulings and/or directions regarding payments from the fees to the Dioceses.
9. The enrolment of New Zealand resident students as per the school's Enrolment Policy takes precedent over international student enrolments.

GUIDELINES:

St Mary's School acknowledges the government regulations in respect to Foreign Fee Paying students, in particular:

1. The Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students (December 2003) of which St Mary's School is a signatory.
2. The Immigration Act, Section 6 1987 which outlines the documentation students must have - this includes a valid passport and visa/permit.
3. The Ministry of Education Circular issued from time to time outlines the rules for student enrolment and record keeping requirements.
4. Fair Trading Act 1986, which ensures St Mary's School provides fair and accurate information to prospective students.
5. International students must have current medical, travel and accident insurance while staying in New Zealand.
6. At enrolment time the International Student Manager must view the passport and associated student visas of the prospective international student.

Signed.....
Chairperson

Date: 21 August 2014

Next Review Date:  August 2015