



CLASS FORMATION POLICY

Rationale

- A clearly defined, collaborative process for the placement of students into classes will lead to greater understanding and improved opportunities for learning.

Aims:

- To provide each child with the opportunity to be part of a class of students that will allow them the best opportunity to learn.
- To form well-balanced classes of students that take into account the social, emotional, academic and physical characteristics of each child.
- To ensure that optimum use is made of the prior knowledge that teachers, parents and education support staff have of each child prior to class placement.

Implementation:

1. The Victorian Government Schools Agreement will provide the basis for determining class size.
2. While the allocation of students to various classes, class structures and class compositions are all ultimately responsibilities of the Principal, a collaborative process will be employed.
3. The process of forming classes will commence in November the previous year.
4. The Principal will seek input from parents prior to the class formation process. All parent input must be directed to the Principal and placed in writing before the nominated deadline. The Principal will inform staff of relevant parent input prior to the formation of classes.
5. Parent requests regarding individual teachers will not be considered and parents/carers are unable to select their child's friends on their behalf.
6. The Principal, in consultation with staff and after considering student numbers, will determine the number of classes for the following year, class sizes and the year levels of each class.
7. Staff members will be required to work collaboratively to create draft classes of students.
8. Consideration will be given to gender, each child's ability, work habits, behaviour and friendship groups. Individual needs and a whole school perspective will be considered.

9. In term 4, teachers will facilitate a process where students are asked to list five friends, where the school is able to guarantee that every student will have at least one of those five friends in their class for the following year.
10. The Principal will make any final alterations.
11. Under exceptional circumstances the Principal may reorganise classes throughout the year.
12. Staff members will not disclose the composition of the proposed classes prior to any formal announcements.
13. Students who enrol at the school during the year will be temporarily allocated to classes, with the possible need to alter the placement once further information regarding the child is known.
14. Details relating to the school organization, classes of students, and the roles of teachers will be disseminated to parents.
15. Concerns regarding the placement of specific students in classes or the overall structure of classes must be directed to the Principal.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.

This policy was endorsed by the School Council on October 2023 and will be reviewed in two years.