

Policy **INCLUSIVE PRACTICES IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

Preamble The *Defining Features* and the *Diocesan Learning Framework* provide Catholic schools and colleges in the Diocese of Rockhampton with a vision for learning. Central to this vision is the notion of inclusive practice which aligns with the principles and premises of an outcomes approach to education.

Rationale This policy clarifies the particular approach that has been adopted with regard to inclusive practice in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

Values “*The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ’s teaching; this is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school.*” (John Paul 11, 1991)
Defining Features of Catholic Schools 2004 p9

Inclusive practice reflects the belief that each person is uniquely created in the image and likeness of God.

Inclusive practice values uniqueness, diversity, the dignity and rights of all.

Policy Statement All Catholic schools and colleges in the Diocese of Rockhampton are responsible for:

- Engaging with the vision of inclusive practice as defined in the diocesan *Statement of Inclusive Practice* (see attachment)
- Actively and systematically promoting inclusive practice in their communities according to this vision.

Implementation Issues The St Mary’s community respect the Catholic identity of the school and agree to support and contribute to it, acknowledging that religious education and the spiritual life are integral to the St Mary’s existence, Catholic schools and colleges:

- engage as a school community with the diocesan *Statement of Inclusive Practice*
- promote professional learning in the area of inclusive practice
- review:
 - role statements
 - curriculum framework
 - curriculum programsto ensure they align with the diocesan *Statement of Inclusive Practice*
- ensure the vision of inclusive practice informs decision-making.
- Children will be accepted if St Mary’s can adequately meet the needs of the child through funding, resourcing and infrastructure.

Reflection Material Diocese of Rockhampton “*An encounter with Christ*” *Defining Features of Catholic Schools in the 21st Century 2004*

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton *Learning Framework 2003*

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton *Statement of Inclusive Practice 2005*

Diocesan Education Council Diocese of Rockhampton (*Enrolment Policy No: 2004/11/2004*)

Diocesan Education Council Diocese of Rockhampton *The Religious Education Curriculum in Diocesan Catholic Schools and Colleges Policy No: 2004/18 2004*

Diocesan Education Council Diocese of Rockhampton *Curriculum in Catholic Schools and Colleges Policy No.: 2005/02 2005*

Queensland School Authority Information Sheet: *An outcomes Approach to the Queensland Years 1 to 10 Curriculum – Summary of Principles of an Outcomes Approach to Education*

Spady, W.G (1994) *Outcomes-Based Education Critical Issues and Answers*. Arlington, Virginia: American Association of School Administrators

School Curriculum Frameworks

School mission/vision statements

School profiles

Replaces Policy No.	2006/02 Inclusive Practices in Catholic Schools and Colleges
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