

# **POLICY ON CLASS PLACEMENT**

The purpose of this document is to define the class placement policy at Primary School.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

Students are allocated to classes during Term 4 for the next year.

In the first place there is work done to determine the configuration and number of classes for that year, e.g., student numbers are used to determine the number of straight and composite classes. There should be up to 30 students in Primary classes and 26 in Junior Primary classes according to the DETE formula for staffing.

## **2. ALLOCATIONS**

Allocations are then made according to a number of criteria. These are:

- 2.1. Gender balance
- 2.2. A balance of students with learning difficulties (although at times it is important to group these students for more effective targetting with additional resources)
- 2.3. A balance of students with behaviour concerns
- 2.4. The distribution of students from non-English speaking backgrounds is discussed because grouping for targetted resourcing can be more effective.
- 2.5. Friendship groupings. This can be determined in 2 ways - one is to group friends together if all individuals are able to work effectively in that group. Occasionally friends are separated because their learning is paramount and they do not work well together.
- 2.6. Parent requests. In term 4 parents are asked for their views on class placement. Particular staff members can not be nominated as teachers because staffing is fluid until the year commences.
- 2.7. However parents can request that their children are with or not with particular individual students. In addition, discussions can be held about classroom type, e.g, open space, individual rooms. All of these requests are subject to availability and to staff information about student performance.
- 2.8. The final decision about class placement rests with the Principal.

Approved by the Governing Council 2003