



St Brigid's Catholic School

New Norfolk

EQUITY POLICY

RATIONALE

St. Brigid's Catholic School should ensure that all students have equitable access to the benefits of education for life. 'All in the school...community should recognise it as a place where all people, including those who live in poverty or who are marginalised, disenfranchised or suffering from health conditions, have their rights and dignity upheld.' *Archbishop's Charter for Catholic Schools, 2008*. We believe that an equitable education provides for the needs of each and every student, and celebrates the achievements of everyone.

AIMS

- To provide teaching and learning practices which are inclusive, culturally sensitive and socially responsible, to ensure that every child has the chance to succeed.
- To allow each child to reach their potential regardless of social, economic, personal or geographic circumstances.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- St. Brigid's Catholic School's Equity Policy will reflect and work in line with the Tasmanian Catholic Education Commission's Equity Policy.
- St. Brigid's Catholic School's Equity Policy is guided by the following legislation: Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (1992), Commonwealth Disability Standards for Education (2005), Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Act (1998).
- Working for equity in education is the responsibility of all personnel at St. Brigid's Catholic School, and permeates all other policies and practises.
- St. Brigid's Catholic School staff will, where appropriate, work collaboratively with parents, carers, therapists, special learning needs consultants and the students themselves to plan for and deliver the best possible educational outcomes for each student.
- St. Brigid's Catholic School staff will be given opportunities for Professional Learning to build their understanding of equitable practices.
- Where appropriate, learning data will be used to evaluate student progress and develop future learning goals.

- Where the needs of particular students require it, evidence of diagnostic testing, classroom learning, planning, goal setting and evaluation of progress will be documented, to aid collaboration in catering for the particular needs of the student.
- Students experiencing disadvantage arising from intellectual, social, cultural or economical situations will be catered for in a way that is as close to the norm as possible, while allowing for their particular learning needs.
- Particular learning needs of individuals will be supported by human and material resources, as determined by classroom teachers, special learning needs staff and other professionals.
- All students at St. Brigid's Catholic School will be given an education that matches their capabilities and their needs. Curriculum and other provisions will be made where they are needed.

These guidelines will be reviewed as part of the St Brigid's Catholic School policy review cycle.

Implemented October 2013