



EDUCATION POLICY MANUAL

Category:	STUDENTS
Policy:	501
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STUDENT ADMISSION: GENERAL Policy 501

The Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Prince George (CISPG) recognizes that each person is created in the image and likeness of God. As such, everyone must be treated with respect.

Students, staff and families of CISPG Schools are integral members of a safe, caring, respectful, Catholic environment.

CISPG Schools recognize that students may come from family situations that do not conform to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church. The personal family background of a student is not an absolute obstacle to enrolment in a CISPG school. If parents choose a lifestyle directly opposed to the Church's deeply held moral teachings, they should recognize that the school is not the right place for their child, since the home and school would be giving contradictory teaching.

The mission of CISPG Schools is the education of young people in a faith-filled environment in order to promote academic, personal and spiritual growth. Parents and guardians must understand that the school will remain faithful to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and steadfast in proclaiming them. A coherent witness to Catholic moral teaching is expected at all times from every member of the community, especially in the public forum.

A. ADMISSION

All schools must have a process for admitting students. The Principal and the Pastor shall meet with each new family. From the interview and the information available the Principal (and if necessary in consultation with the Pastor and/or School Council) will determine if the school can provide a program and resources that meet the needs of the student and whether the family meets the requirements for admission to the school. In cases where students are accepted, the family shall sign the Family Statement of Commitment prior to being accepted into the school. These families will be accepted according to the established priorities set by CISPG policy. For purposes of this policy, "practicing Catholics" shall mean those individuals who are registered in a parish and attend Sunday Mass faithfully.

In the case of Catholic families, the following must be presented at the time of registration:

- a. Baptismal certificate (copy to be retained on file)
- b. First Communion and Confirmation certificates (where applicable)
- c. Reference from the pastor

1. PRIORITIES FOR (RE) ADMITTANCE INTO CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE SCHOOLS

- 1.1 Students presently enrolled in the school.
- 1.2 Students with siblings presently enrolled in the school. (It is understood the school will make every effort possible to accommodate Catholic students)
- 1.3 Students whose families are parishioners (defined as practising Catholics)
- 1.4 Students whose families are not practicing Catholics, but accept the goals and philosophy of the school and sign the Family Statement of Commitment.

B. PARTICIPATION

Once a student has been admitted to the school, parents will be required to participate in the various activities of the school, including fundraising.

C. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If a family is experiencing financial hardship, they should contact the principal and pastor. With due respect for privacy, the School Council will determine the amount of financial assistance available.

FAMILY STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

"Motivated by a Christ-centered vision of humanity and human history, our school promotes the formation of the whole person. Such formation embraces not only intellectual, but also physical, emotional, moral and spiritual dimensions of human growth in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Intellect, emotions, creative ability and cultural heritage have a place in the life of the school. Human knowledge and skills are recognized as precious in themselves, but find their deepest meaning in God's plan for creation." From the PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE OF BC by Catholic Bishops of BC.

Catholic Schools are committed to fidelity to Jesus Christ, Who said, "Seek first the kingdom of God." The school emphasizes first and foremost the teaching and practice of the Catholic faith. All students, regardless of their religious affiliation, must participate in all the religious instruction and activities of the school community.

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Partners (home, school, parish) in Catholic education must work together to provide an environment where faith and learning go hand in hand, leading young people to fullest development. Parents and guardians who enrol their children accept that the school will at all times uphold the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. While present on the school campus and in school-related activities offsite, every adult must demonstrate conduct that upholds the school's declared mission. A coherent witness to Catholic moral teaching is expected at all times, especially in the public forum.

The following statements confirm parental support of the goals and philosophy of our Catholic school and need to be accepted by all members of the community. Read them carefully. They ask you to make a commitment to the values of our Catholic School community. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this family commitment form, please bring them to the Principal or Pastor who will gladly discuss them with you.

By returning the signed statement with your completed application, you accept the responsibility of this commitment.

1. Parents and guardians agree that they and their families will exhibit conduct consistent with Catholic denominational standards. The determination of whether any conduct contravenes these standards is the right of the CISPG Board of Directors.
2. All students are required to participate in our religious education curricular and co-curricular programs, including liturgical celebrations, prayer, retreats and other spiritual activities.
3. Parents/Guardians are expected to participate in the religious education program as required.
4. Regular school attendance and full participation in all aspects of the academic program of the school are required of every student. Each student is expected to strive toward the development of his/her full academic potential. Parents are expected to support the academic program as required.
5. Each family is expected to support and participate in the fund-raising activities of the school.
6. Each student is expected to know and follow school policies on behaviour.
7. Parents/Guardians are expected to know and support school policy and procedures.
8. Parents/Guardians are expected to attend program-related events including but not limited to parent/teacher conferences and meet the teacher events.
9. Parents/Guardians agree to accept the responsibility for the cost of tuition, supplies, and other school activities.
10. If any of these conditions are not met, the school reserves the right to refuse admission, or remove a student from the school.

I have read and understand the above expectations and commitments and I hereby accept them as stated.

Family Name (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____