

St Lucy's School is an independent Special School which is part of Dominican Education Australia (DEA). In the Catholic Dominican tradition, it is a community enriched by difference; inspiring learning for a life of purpose.

Purpose: This Policy document is to be provided to parents or carers who are considering enrolment of their child at St Lucy's School or whose child is enrolled at the school.

The Policy: St Lucy's was established as a special school for Catholic children, but no student will be denied a place on religious or socio-economic grounds provided that the Catholic ethos of the school is accepted and respected.

Gospel values underpin all the programs and practices within St Lucy's School. The Catholic ethos is maintained by the participation of students and their families in the religious life of the school.

Important Considerations: Enrolment is at the sole discretion of the Principal who will take into consideration the school's capacity to educate the student without unjustifiable hardship to the other students or the school.

The decision to enrol a student will involve consideration of the following:

- a) The availability of class placement which is based on student numbers and their level of educational need
- b) The suitability of school programs and resources as well as teacher resource/specialist support
- c) The provision of comprehensive information regarding the student's eligibility for enrolment
- d) The parent(s) full disclosure of the student's support needs including those required to support behaviour and other specific requirements/adjustments. Failure to comply may jeopardise an offer or continuation of enrolment
- e) Proof that the student meets eligibility criteria for enrolment.

Eligibility Criteria for Enrolment

Kindergarten to Year 6

To be eligible for Years K- 6 at St Lucy's School, students must meet the DSM-5-TR criteria for Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability) and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder. In addition, students may have one or more diagnoses including a physical disability, sensory impairment, language disability, or mental health condition.

Years 7 – 12

To be eligible for Years 7-12 at St Lucy's School, students must meet the DSM-5-TR criteria for Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability). In addition, students may have one or more diagnoses including Autism Spectrum Disorder, physical disability, sensory impairment, language disability, or mental health condition.

The curriculum to be offered at St Lucy's School from Years 7 – 12 will be based on NESA Life Skills courses. NESA Life Skills courses are designed particularly for students with an intellectual disability who cannot access the regular outcomes and content.

Students who are in Year 6 at St Lucy's will have automatic enrolment into Year 7 if they meet the eligibility criteria for Years 7-12.



Required documentation

Applications for enrolment can be made at any time through the Enrolments Manager.

Applications for Kindergarten or Year 7 for the year following, must be submitted before May 15 of the preceding year.

Documentation must be provided at the time of application and should be recent, an adaptive assessment having been conducted **within the last 2 years**.

An adaptive assessment, such as an Adaptive Behaviour Assessment System Third Edition (ABAS-3) or Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales Third Edition, is required with each application for enrolment and must be dated within 2 years of enrolment.

Evidence of diagnosis for:

Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability)

Diagnosis of Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability) confirmed by a clinical assessment and standardised intelligence testing such as the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV), Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children Fifth Edition (WISC-V), or Wechsler Nonverbal Scale of Ability (WNV).

Primary School: There may be exceptional circumstances where the above assessments are unable to be completed due to associated sensory or physical impairments, as in blindness or prelingual deafness; locomotor disability; or presence of severe problem behaviours or co-occurring mental disorder. In these instances, a diagnosis of *Global Developmental Delay* will be considered with an accompanying assessment report that includes a standardised test such as the Griffiths Scales of Child Development 3rd Edition (Griffiths-III) or Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development Fourth Edition (Bayley-4).

High School: There may be exceptional circumstances where the above assessments are unable to be completed due to associated sensory or physical impairments, as in blindness or prelingual deafness; locomotor disability; or presence of severe problem behaviours or co-occurring mental disorder. In these instances, a diagnosis of *Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability)* may be confirmed through a clinical assessment with a written statement from your child's treating professional outlining the reasons why a standardised test was unable to be completed.

Autism Spectrum Disorder

Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder signed by a clinical psychologist or paediatrician using the DSM-5-TR criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder. Please provide any associated assessment reports including results from standardised tests such as the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Second Edition (ADOS-2), Monteiro Interview Guidelines for Diagnosing the Autism Spectrum, Second Edition (MIGDAS-2), or Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised (ADI-R).



Non-Australian citizens

Non-Australian citizens must comply with additional requirements, and are required to provide ORIGINAL passport, visas and citizenship documents to be sighted by the Principal or Enrolments Manager.

In addition, temporary visa holders will need to provide documentation for verification by the Enrolments Manager and the Association of Independent Schools. If the applicant holds a bridging visa, they will need to provide evidence of the visa for which the student has applied.

All documents must be in English or accompanied by certified copies in English.

Enrolment may be terminated if the student's visa status changes or if any information or documents provided at enrolment are false.

Monitoring the Policy

St Lucy's monitors the implementation of this policy regularly, reviews its contents to ensure relevance and accuracy and updates as needed.

Date Approved/Reviewed	May 2020, August 2022, Sept 2024
Approval Authority	St Lucy's Board