



## **Yidarra Catholic Primary School Composition of Classes Policy**

### **RATIONALE:**

At Yidarra the classes are constructed in the best interests of the children. This happens on a yearly basis. Teachers have excellent knowledge of how the children relate, work and socialise in current classes and the playground, and all of this information is used in the composition of classes. We believe it is in the best interests of the children to experience different social groups as they move through various phases of development. This is based on the Christian principles of honouring and respecting each individual's goodness and that as our Christian faith is built on a relationship with Jesus we can seek to develop Gospel values through our relationships with each other.

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### **PRINCIPLES:**

1. The process that Yidarra follows in mixing classes is not a random one. A great deal of thought and care goes into preparing the class lists. Staff considers social, emotional, academic and behavioural factors.
  2. As we can experience movement of families (and staff members) in and out of the school community over the Christmas holidays, the school reserves the right to make any adjustments to the class lists.
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### **PROCEDURES:**

1. Consultation may occur with the Special Education Team at the Catholic Education Office and teaching staff.
2. Parents are invited to advise the Principal in writing of any significant circumstances that are not known to teachers that should be considered when constructing the new class groups. This invitation does not extend to "lobbying" staff so that the child is placed with friends.
3. The school makes the final decision about which class the student is placed in.
4. Parents are asked to respect the decisions made and trust that the school has taken all factors into consideration.
5. Classes may be formed before teachers are allocated teaching positions for the forthcoming year, therefore, requests for a particular teacher are inappropriate and cannot be taken into account.
6. Teachers will meet with year level colleagues to consider the best combinations for new classes taking into account social, emotional, academic and behavioural factors.
7. Class lists will be published on the Monday of the last week of Term 4. All classes will be given the opportunity to meet with their new class and teacher (if known or available) on this day.