



St Peter's College Gore

Eligibility for Enrolment at St Peter's College

Preference of Enrolment

Catholic schools are bound by law to enrol a majority of students (usually 95%) for whom it can be established there is "a particular or general religious connection with the Special Character of the school". A Parish Priest must decide on preference before the school's Principal may consider enrolling a student. The criteria the Parish Priest may select from to determine preference are:

- The child has been baptised or is being prepared for baptism in the Catholic Church.
- The child's parents or guardians have already allowed one or more of their siblings to be baptised in the Catholic faith.
- At least one parent/guardian is Catholic, and although their child has not yet been baptised, the child's participation in the life of the school could lead to the parents having the child baptised.
- With the agreement of the child's parent/guardian, a grandparent or other significant adult in the child's life, such as an aunt, uncle or godparent, undertakes to support the child's formation in the faith and practices of the Catholic Church.
- One of the child's non-Catholic parents/guardians is preparing to become Catholic.

If you believe your child qualifies for preference you should visit the Parish Priest in your area (the school can give you contact details if you need them) so that he may consider your case. He will have a copy of the relevant form. If he can be presented with sufficient evidence he will sign that form to grant preference. You can then bring that form to the school so that your child might be considered for enrolment.

Non-preference places

By law St Peter's College is allowed to enrol only 26 students whose families do not have "a particular or general religious connection with the Special Character of the school". Such students are described as *non-preference*. Each year, due to student graduation, a small number of places become available. Prospective parents are encouraged to approach the school prior to the end of June to be considered for one of these places.

Our procedure involves an interview of the parents and child by the Principal and school Chaplain. The interviews are held early in the year (August) so that unsuccessful families are able to make other arrangements.

During the interview the Principal and Chaplain endeavour to establish that the family:

- Has a wish for a Special Character education
- Will support the school in matters relating to Special Character
- Is willing to pay Attendance Dues (Primary \$74.25/term, secondary \$149.50/term)
- Would benefit from having their child at St Peter's College rather than another school.

This last criterion is important since our selection is based on student need rather than academic, cultural or sporting giftedness.

Once enrolled a non-preference student is treated no differently to any other.