

# Class Allocation

## Guidelines & Procedures

*Determining the very best for all children who attend St Pius*



### Class Allocation

At St Pius we encourage all children to achieve the fullest possible development of their intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual needs. As an integral part of the process of creating positive learning environments, we will strive to achieve the best possible class placement for every child.

We value ongoing communication between parents/guardians and teachers as a fundamental element and source of information in this process.

If there is a **valid educational reason** for a preferred teacher request, this should be done in writing and addressed to the Principal and/or your child's current teacher. The request will be listened to and discussed with the appropriate personnel, however **no promises are made that it will be acted upon.**

In some instances the local knowledge of the school staff must take precedence in determining what is the very best for the students at St Pius.

### Rationale

At St Pius parents/guardians and school staff work together in a partnership arrangement, for the good of the children in our care. In some instances however, the local knowledge of the school staff must take precedence in determining what is the best class grouping for a child.

### Aims

These guidelines aim to provide parents/guardians of the St Pius school community with information regarding the process of class allocation.

### Class Allocation Guiding Principles

St Pius staff are committed to nurturing all aspects of every child to their absolute potential. Parents/guardians should trust the school to do the very best for their child. If there is a **valid educational reason** for a preferred teacher request to be made, this should be done in writing and addressed to the Principal and/or your child's current teacher. Such requests would ideally be received in Term 3 when class allocations are initially considered.

Parents/guardians who make such requests should do so on the understanding that the request will be listened to and discussed with the appropriate personnel, but not necessarily acted upon. **No promises are guaranteed.**

The teachers who form the grade team, in collaboration with the Learning Support team, and other key stakeholders, when and where appropriate, will work together to determine classes for the following year.

Placement of children in classes will always be done considering the following:

- Class size
- Academic ability
- Even gender mix
- Friendship groups
- Sibling divisions
- Behavioural needs
- Previous grade history
- Specific learning needs.

The Principal, in conjunction with the school's Leadership Team, will have the final say in the placement of children in classes.

## Points to Note

- Whilst the concerns of parents, if based on valid educational reasons, are important to the school, **'teacher shopping' is discouraged.**
- The guidelines outlined above have been explained to all teachers and there is an expectation that they will be used correctly and fairly at all times.
- The welfare of all St Pius children is paramount in all discussions and actions with respect to class placements.