contents

our mission statement
our college prayer
our partnership agreement

statement of special religious character

our history
our philosophy
our students
to our parents
our curriculum

our co-curricular activities
care for our students

student leadership
our partnership with parents
our environment policy

McGarry family bursaries

Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton
A Catholic senior college administered by Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton.
our motto  “seek christ”

our mission statement
St Patrick’s College is a partnership between students, staff and parents providing an environment of learning, personal growth and faith development while recognising students as young adults.

our college prayer
God our Father, bless the community of St Patrick’s. Help us all - students, staff, parents and friends to grow in strength as Christians and be a good example to all. Encircle us with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity, and to those in sorrow, joy. Through the intercession and example of St. Patrick, our College Patron and Mary, our Mother of Perpetual Help, may we grow in faith and may our love for you and one another become deeper in our daily lives.
Amen.

our partnership agreement
In seeking to make the Mission Statement a reality St Patrick’s College proactively pursues the ideal of partnership.

Partnership at St Patrick’s College is characterized by:
• joint ownership
• active commitment.

Partnership needs:
• a willingness to work together
• good and growing relationships
• a respectful, listening attitude.

Partnership finds expression in:
• setting and pursuing common goals
• sharing joys and sorrows, successes and failures.
statement of special religious character

St Patrick’s Senior College holds as its central character the motto ‘Seek Christ’. This aspect informs and shapes every element of our spiritual, academic, cultural, sporting and vocational life. We are a Catholic community of educators working in partnership with a variety of stakeholders to provide excellence in senior schooling. While being a senior college is part of our recent history, we draw on many years of Catholic education dating from 1929, for both males and females, primary and secondary, on this site. The college is open to all who seek its values and encourages all to be part of and involved in the spirit and practice of a Catholic community of the 21st century.

To define our college as a unique entity in the current educational environment, the college seeks to be clear in presenting and describing the religious character and ethos of the college as both providing excellence but also expecting excellence in all aspects of the students’ life – in study, effort, attire, grooming, manner, attendance and attitude.

- We foster Partnerships within the college fraternity by recognizing the importance of, and forging relationships with, the parents, the staff, the parish and the local community.
- We promote Learning for life to the students so that they can achieve to the maximum level of their individual ability in a variety of areas.
- We foster Self Development of our students to become young adults who are accepted and respected members of the Catholic and wider community in which they live and work.
- We encourage the acceptance of Gospel Values of faith and respect plus a Catholic ethos to take with them as a guide on their journey of life.
- We bear witness to the memory, the elements, the caring and the teachings of the Christian Brothers and Edmund Rice their founder, from whom the unique Spirituality of the college has evolved and become the special religious character of the school as it exists today in association with the Sisters of Mercy, inspired by their founder Catherine McAuley, who gave many years of dedicated teaching on this site.

St Patrick’s Senior College charter is to educate its students for life, not just for two senior years.

“Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you.”
our history

The site on which St Patrick’s College stands is an integral part of the history of the Church in Mackay. In the 1860s the first church was built on the river side of the property. The Sisters of St Joseph founded the first Catholic school in Mackay on this land, which was taken over by the Mercy Sisters who conducted a primary school, and after 1930 a secondary school. In 1929, the Christian Brothers opened a school for boys on the Gregory Street side. Sub-senior classes were introduced in 1962. In 1981, when the parish primary school ceased to function, the primary section of Christian Brothers’ College was moved to the River Street site.

In June 1985, Bishop Bernard Wallace announced that the girls’ secondary school, Our Lady of Mercy College, would become a junior co-educational college, Mercy College, and that the all boys’ school, St Patrick’s Christian Brothers’ College, would become a senior co-educational college, St Patrick’s College. Each new college commenced in 1987.

our philosophy

At St Patrick’s College we have a number of core beliefs about our students as late adolescents in a senior school environment:

• they are beginning to see themselves as adults in an adult world
• they are beginning to see themselves as individuals separate from both their families and also peers
• they often use the move to St Patrick’s as an opportunity to reassess their attitudes and efforts – to make a new start if necessary.
• their relationships with teachers begin to be characterised by partnership rather than an us-them attitude.

These assumptions mean that St Patrick’s College has an atmosphere different from many secondary schools in the way students are treated and how they respond.
our students

During your stay at St. Patrick’s, we hope to help you to:

- grow in relationship with God so that you make, or are working towards making, an adult choice in the area of your faith
- become qualified to pursue the next stage of your life be it further study or employment
- grow as a human being, respecting and caring for others and using all your talents to the fullest.

Ultimately, you are the only one who can accomplish these goals. The staff at St Patrick’s will certainly do all they can to help you but it is you who must take responsibility for your own life.

Some of the areas of your life we will be encouraging you to take charge of are:

religious belief

We hope that in these important years of your life you will learn to “Seek Christ” more closely by growth in prayer and faith. We require you to bring, at least, an open mind and attentive presence to all aspects of the religious education programme at St Patrick’s which includes class lessons, class prayer, liturgical celebrations and retreats.

learning

St Patrick’s aims to help you develop into a self directed learner. You will find academic work in the senior school challenging, both in the amount of study necessary for success, and the difficulty of the work covered.

To be successful, you should:

- achieve an appropriate balance between study, work, sport and social life
- study regularly at home
- co-operate fully with all your teachers
- organise your home time so that assignments are submitted on time.
student protection in catholic schools

Student protection and wellbeing are paramount in all Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton. By the very nature of their mission and ethos, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton place the highest priority on the safety and care of the children and young people who are their students. All students have a right to expect that the school will always do all that is possible to protect them from any kind of harm and create safe learning environments.

Catholic Education is committed to best practices in student protection and the development of proactive approaches to equip people with the skills and knowledge to identify risks of harm and respond appropriately.

http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/schools_protection.htm

adult relationships

Probably one of the aspects of senior secondary life you will appreciate will be the changed relationship you may develop with your teachers. Their role will become that of a guide who takes you through the subjects you choose. Certainly, their role will include challenging you if you are not using your time well or not fulfilling your potential. Primarily, the teachers are not disciplinarians who impose rules on you but people who outline the guidelines for successful study and living at St Patrick’s. They are there to assist you to develop self-discipline that is vital for success in any field.

non-academic activities

If you have a talent in any area - sporting, cultural, service, or leadership - you will be strongly encouraged to develop that talent at St Patrick’s. If you exercise this talent, you will certainly grow as a person and the rest of the St Patrick’s community will take pride in your achievements.

to our parents

Your son or daughter is embarking on a significant stage of life. You will be conscious of their great desire for independence and the need on your part to cut them loose from the apron strings or at least to lengthen those strings. The college would appeal strongly to you not to let these very valid and valuable feelings interfere with your involvement in your son’s / daughter’s education. Education is a three way partnership - parent, teacher and student. If any part is missing or weakened, the process will falter. Some of the ways that you can be involved with your son or daughter’s education are outlined in later sections.
our curriculum

While at St Patrick’s College, students will be challenged to grow in their relationship with God, so that they make, or are working towards making an adult choice in the area of their beliefs and values.

St Patrick’s accomplishes this on three levels:
• Education in religion
• Faith development
• Celebration, prayer and liturgy.

education in religion

All students study a religion subject which has the same status and importance as other subjects within the college. The religion lesson will ideally provide an opportunity for prayer and reflection and be part of a well planned and prepared sequential program. There will be consequent study and assignment requirements.

Students have a choice to study either:
• Religion & Ethics or
• Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology
• Study of Religion.

All subjects are approved by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and results from these subjects will appear on students’ senior statements. Results from Study of Religion will contribute towards tertiary entrance. Results from Religion & Ethics do not contribute towards tertiary entrance.
faith development

Because “faith is caught rather than taught”, St Patrick’s looks to the example of committed adults to provide for students models of faith in action. This example is reinforced by the experience of relationships that are characterised by respect and reconciliation and structures that emphasise justice and individual dignity. It is the aim of St Patrick’s to establish an atmosphere that continually recognises and appreciates the values of respect and justice. Thus students come to see Christian faith as a natural and integral part of life.

Students are also given formal opportunities to share and develop their faith. These opportunities occur as part of some religion lessons and also on camps and retreats. Some of these camps and retreats are compulsory. Students should understand that enrolment at the college presumes a commitment to compulsory retreats.

Above all St Patrick’s is conscious that parents have the prime responsibility for the faith development of their children and that the college acts as the agent of the home.

celebration, prayer and liturgy

St. Patrick’s College is a Catholic community. As part of the general atmosphere of the college many of St Patrick’s celebrations are structured in the framework of Christian celebrations or Catholic liturgy. Prayer is an integral part of each day. Students are expected to participate at the least, with reverent attention in such prayer and celebrations.

At St Patrick’s the wider curriculum seeks to develop students mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. To this end, St Patrick’s College offers a comprehensive curriculum for students undertaking post compulsory education. In preparing students to take their part in the wider society, students are encouraged to see education as a life long process with schooling as a beginning not an end in itself.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop as independent learners. As students are encouraged to develop to their maximum potential, they are encouraged to strive for excellence in all that they undertake. The college community values academic, general and vocational education and students are encouraged to select courses that relate to their individual needs.

Full details about subjects and courses are contained in the booklet ‘Choosing Subjects’. Our College Curriculum Framework is also readily available to all.
overall position (op) subjects

These are academic subjects where the course content is determined by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and subject results contribute toward the calculation of the overall position (OP) which is the score used to gain entry to tertiary institutions at degree or diploma level. Subject matter and assessment are academic in nature and achievement is measured against criteria. The work covered in the subject, the assessment program and the criteria for levels of achievement are outlined in the school work programs which are available in the library for student and parent perusal.

vocational education & training (vet) subjects also known as study area specification (sas)

These are vocationally oriented subjects which aim to prepare students for apprenticeships, direct entry into the workforce or for subsequent vocational courses. These subjects incorporate assessment in workplace competencies and modules that may contribute toward later study.

Students following a Vocational Education and Training course select at least three (3) VET subjects and take part in structured work placement as part of their course.

These subjects appear on the senior statement but do not contribute toward an OP score. Nationally accredited competencies attained in individual subjects will be listed on the senior statement. All these subjects can lead to gaining a QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education).

school based apprenticeships and traineeships (sats)

Students may access part time apprenticeships and part time traineeships while completing their senior studies. These students may have modifications to their subject timetables to allow them to complete the ‘on the job’ training component of the course.
our co-curricular activities

student committees

Committees currently operating within the college are Christian Leadership, Community Service, Cultural, Indigenous and Sport. Students working through these committees make a very positive contribution to college life. Students are also involved as members of the college Board. Planning, organizing and conducting of activities are in the hands of the students, with direction and assistance coming from staff.

camps and retreats

Within the college various camps and retreat experiences will be offered. Year 11 students attend orientation activities during Semester 1, and a leadership development course is held near the end of the year. Year 12 students have a Retreat near the end of their schooling. These are an integral part of college life and are therefore compulsory. There are optional retreats open to all students at various times throughout the year. Year 11 and year 12 Indigenous students are offered the opportunity of attending a camp organized by the Diocesan Catholic Education office.

cultural interests

There is a rich array of cultural activities conducted within the college. Many students exhibit talent in public speaking, drama, music and the visual arts. The college provides students with avenues to further their creative skills, and encourages participation in cultural activities both in the college and the wider community.

The college participates in interschool debating and encourages student entries in public speaking competitions. The college has established an enviable record in the areas of dramatic performance, debating and public speaking.

The college is committed to providing opportunities for students to develop their musical talents and to provide opportunities for performance. Students have the opportunity to play in the stage band, percussion group and ukulele group. The St Patrick’s chorale and male and female vocal ensembles have attained a high reputation in the community and the handbell ensemble is a unique and challenging musical experience for students.
The College also hosts a Cultural Showcase to highlight and acknowledge students’ talents and achievements. The Comedy Night is one of the year’s attractions as is participation in the Mackay Festival of Arts. St Patrick’s musical productions glow with energy and talent.

**social**

One of the roles of the student leaders is to help organise social opportunities. Year 12 students can participate in a senior Formal and the interschool Mocktail event. Year 11 celebrate a Semi-Formal at the end of Term 4.

**sport**

Students are encouraged to participate in sports offered within the college. Students can elect to study the subjects Physical Education or Recreation Pursuits in Years 11 and 12, which cover the theoretical and practical sides of sport.

An aquatics carnival, athletics carnival, triathlon, and a cross-country involve students in inter-house competition. Attendance at these carnivals is an important part of school life and is compulsory. In addition, there are inter-school carnivals and trials days in these sports.

The college fields teams in local and / or school competitions in the following sports: netball, touch, basketball, rugby union, rugby league, soccer, tennis, hockey, volleyball, futsal, and rowing.

St Patrick’s reputation for sporting excellence has been hard won and provides a source of pride not only for immediate members of the college community but the wider community as well.

**tours**

Some years an educational and Arts tour is organised. The tour may be international and is timed to coincide with vacation periods. Destinations to date have been: India, China, America, South America, Germany and Russia. Such tours are entirely optional. There are also sporting exchanges with other colleges held within the school term.
care for our students

Care for students is about establishing and maintaining a climate in which students feel secure, are positive about their future and are challenged to maximise their potential. At St Patrick’s we endeavour to provide this climate by:

• the experience of quality teaching and learning
• encouraging positive relationships between staff and students and between students
• procedures and structures which are characterised by justice and compassion.

a care structure

The care structure strives to meet the needs of students at their particular stage of development through formal pastoral care lessons and through the interaction of staff and students. The College has policies and procedures in place to help ensure students safety and to protect against harassment. These are available on the college web site or from the office. Some people have particular roles and these are listed below.

learning support teacher

An important part of the role of the learning support teacher is to provide assistance to and support the learning of students who have been ascertained as special needs students. At enrolment, needs in this area should be discussed and an appointment will be made with the learning support teacher to set up any necessary arrangements. Assistance is also available for students who are encountering difficulties in the areas of literacy and numeracy. This assistance may be negotiated but can take the form of in-class help, tutoring or assistance with assignments.

college chaplain

The close relationship between the college and the College Chaplain is a reflection of St Patrick’s role in the mission of the wider church. The college appreciates the support received from the chaplain who is available to speak with students, staff and parents.
**campus minister**

The Campus Minister works closely with the Assistant to the Principal – Religious Education to provide opportunities for the ongoing faith and spiritual development of members of the St Patrick’s College Community. The Campus Minister supports students’ pastoral care needs and assists with planning and delivery of retreats, camps, liturgies and ceremonies.

*Acknowledgement*

This project was funded by the Australian Government Department of Education under the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program.

*Disclaimer*

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education.

**indigenous liaison officer**

The college Indigenous Liaison Officer works with our indigenous students and families to assist in their senior studies. The diocese organises leadership camps, NAIDOC week activities and an annual Graduation Mass for indigenous students. The college recognises Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day and has a Reconciliation Action Plan. A number of students access QATSIF scholarships each year.

**sports coordinator**

This role involves the coordination of all sport, both internal and external, at the college.

**cultural coordinator**

Any concerns or comments about cultural activities at the college could be directed through this coordinator.

**vocational education & training (vet) coordinator**

Students engaged in vocational educational courses are the responsibility of the department head who monitors their progress, behaviour and attitude. Enquiries about industry placement and school based apprenticeships are best directed here.

**college counsellor**

The counsellor is qualified both as a careers and personal counsellor and is available to assist students, parents and staff in career, educational and personal matters. Discussions with the counsellor are confidential. The counsellor may refer students to other agencies as appropriate. The counsellor offers professional advice in the following areas:

- Tertiary entrance, course details, applications, prerequisites etc
- Vocational courses: information, applications
- Life after school e.g. accommodation
- Study timetable and organisational skills
- Assistance with finding employment, preparing applications and interview preparation
- Some diagnosis of learning difficulties
- Advice concerning school assessment and reports
- Assistance with applications
- Personal problems.

Parents may make appointments with the counsellor by phoning the college on 4944 7219.
pastoral coordinators

The Pastoral Coordinators have overall responsibility for the welfare of students.

Pastoral Coordinators monitor the academic and general progress of students. Following formal reporting or acting on general information from staff they will interview students with concerns and encouragement. As necessary coordinators will contact parents to keep them informed and seek their assistance in dealing with a student.

The Pastoral Coordinators would normally be the first point of contact if there are any questions of a serious nature about a student’s progress, attitude or behaviour.

subject coordinators

Department heads are responsible for the overall organisation of teaching and assessment within the subjects of their department. While normally the first point of contact concerning subject specific matters would be the classroom teacher of the subject, the department head is a valuable contact to clarify policies and procedures within the subject. The department head will contact parents with any ongoing problems concerning students’ attitude and behaviour within a subject.

the leadership team

The Leadership Team are responsible for the following:

religious education
Religious Education oversees the operation of the religious education program, coordinates retreats and liturgical celebrations and helps maintain the religious climate of the school.

student welfare
Student Welfare is responsible for student welfare at the college. In this capacity the APSW coordinates the pastoral care program within the college, oversees the work of the year coordinators, and initiates non-routine communication with home. Discipline is part of this role.

administration
Administration is responsible for the routine operation of the college. Questions concerning subject choice, assessment, timetabling and general organisation are best directed to the APA.

curriculum
Curriculum oversees academic programs at the college. Information about subject choice, tertiary entrance, change of subjects, academic progress, uniform/grooming etc can be handled by the APC.

principal

Students and parents are encouraged to contact the Principal with questions they may have concerning any area of the college’s operation.

student welfare website

Part of the college web site is devoted to information concerning harassment and care for students and provides the opportunity for students to record matters of concern.
student leadership

One of the distinguishing features of St Patrick’s College and a reason for its success in many fields is the sense of personal involvement and ownership that the students develop in their time at the college. The ownership and involvement is particularly expressed in the active encouragement of students to exercise their leadership skills and the programs running within the college to develop these skills. The ongoing emphasis in all student leadership is one of service not only within the college but also directed to the wider community. St Patrick’s is very proud of the calibre and the generosity of its student leaders.

Designated leadership positions within the college are:

• College captains: 2 male, 2 female
• Committee chairs: one for each of the Christian Leadership, Community Service, Cultural, Indigenous and Sport Committees
• Student Council members: several from Year 12
• College Board representatives: 2 or more

Students who are not elected to formal leadership positions are encouraged to be part of committees and groups such as the Vincent de Paul.

Drugs

The use or possession of non-prescribed drugs, the possession of implements to use drugs, encouragement of others to use drugs, and boasting of drug use are strictly prohibited. Students failing to observe these prohibitions are likely to be suspended or excluded from the college. The prohibition applies to any occasion when students can be reasonably deemed to be participating in college activities.

Alcohol

The use or possession of alcohol by students, even if aged 18 or over, on any occasion when they can be reasonably deemed to be participating in college activities (e.g. when in uniform, travelling to and from school, at school related functions etc.) is strictly prohibited, as is attendance at any college-related activity while affected by alcohol. Students failing to observe this prohibition may be suspended or excluded from the college.
our partnerships with parents

At times senior schooling can be stressful for students. They will need your support. Overall senior secondary education will be a time of growth, excitement and development for your son or daughter. Don’t miss out on sharing it.

How can you be involved?
• Meet the staff, especially your student’s subject teachers, and get to know them.
• Attend the welcome function and Success in Senior Schooling evening held early in term 1.
• Attend parent/teacher evenings that are usually held in terms 2 and 3.
• Be involved with the Parents’ and Friends’ Association or College Board.
• Feel free to approach the College if you feel concern over any aspect of your son’s / daughter’s education. It is much better to air a concern than to let it develop into a grievance.
• Read the weekly newsletter. The link for the newsletter is emailed Wednesday of each week and is also available on our web site. Be interested in the happenings at St Patrick’s.
• Visit the college web site on www.stpats.qld.edu.au
• Support St Patrick’s in conversation at home and with your friends.

college board

The educational mission of the Church is the responsibility of the entire Catholic community. This means that, more than ever before, parents should be involved in making decisions about the direction the school should take and the values and the principles by which it is run.

The Board’s function is to involve parents in the making of policies which will guide the principal and staff in the everyday running of the college.

The board is also responsible for overseeing the annual budget and planning for the provision of facilities. It carries out these functions through consultation with the Parents’ and Friends’ Association and the parents in general.

parents’ and friends’ association

The activities of the P & F Association include:
• acting as a sounding board for the principal for events and policies within the school.
• disposal of the association’s funds to the benefit of the college e.g. purchase of equipment, funding projects.
• allowing discussion of topics of educational interest.
• responding to educational issues in the wider community and political context.

Meeting dates and times will be advertised in the college newsletter. The P & F is not intended to be a fund raising organisation. The association funds are raised by means of a parent levy which is issued with the college term accounts.
web site

The college Web Site can be accessed on www.stpats.qld.edu.au and contains general information about the college, policies, procedures, dates as well as a section on the recent happenings at St Patrick’s.

newsletter

The Newsletter has information on college happenings and notification of forthcoming events and is uploaded to our web site each Wednesday afternoon. The link is emailed to parents and students to the email address given on the student enrolment form.

assessment schedule

A schedule, giving dates for assignments and exams, will be issued to students to be passed on to parents each semester. While it may be difficult for parents to assist with senior studies, students can benefit from reminders and support as assignment due dates approach. Individual Assessment schedules may be downloaded from the college web site.

tuckshop

The college operates a tuckshop. Parents who can help are requested to contact the tuckshop convenor.

reports

Reports are sent home three times a year:

- End of term 1
  This is a report of the work of term 1. It is not meant to be comprehensive but to act as an early warning or as a reassurance and thus encourage parents to attend the parent/teacher interview evening.
- End of term 2 and term 4
  These are comprehensive reports on students’ progress through their entire course. The reports will contain an overall level of achievement and comments on students’ attitude, behaviour, work habits etc. At the end of Year 12, students receive an Exit Statement and reference from the college.

interviews

Parents have the opportunity following term 1 and term 2 reports for a scheduled interview with teaching staff. Forms that allow parents to request interviews accompany reports home. Parents will be notified of the appointment time. Students are strongly encouraged to accompany parents to the interview.

Following reports in terms 1 and 2, year coordinators will speak to students individually about their report. The year coordinator will interview all students who either appear to be encountering difficulty or whose attitude, effort or behaviour is not satisfactory or whose progress or effort deserve particular commendation.

Interviews concerning student progress are by no means restricted to the scheduled parent / teacher nights. Parents are encouraged to contact the college and arrangements can be easily made for personal interviews or telephone contacts.
our enrolment policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>policy area</th>
<th>enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PREAMBLE</strong></td>
<td>Enrolment refers to the formal agreement by the Principal on behalf of the school community to place a student’s name on the school’s enrolment register, thereby conferring on that student and his/her family, all the rights and responsibilities that normally pertain to any enrolment. <strong>“Enrolment”</strong> as an unqualified term, refers to full enrolment, not subject to special conditions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>RATIONALE</strong></th>
<th>Contemporary issues that impact upon enrolment in Catholic schools include:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Enrolment demands for Catholic schooling;</td>
<td>Mackay offers a range of choices of both state and non-state secondary schools. There are also two catholic secondary colleges catering for Year 11 and 12 students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Changing church affiliation patterns by families;</td>
<td>While the college is inclusive of students with special needs or specific disabilities, care needs to be taken in assisting parents to select the best education available to meet the needs of that student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Disability and anti-discrimination legislation;</td>
<td>The college acknowledges that parents/care-givers are the primary educators of their children. The college, in partnership with the families and the church works to nurture the development of each individual. All parents seeking to enrol children at St Patrick’s College should be assisted to understand and accept the ideals and principles, upon which Catholic education is based.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Access for those who are poor and marginalized;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Responses to government education initiatives;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provision of religious education and faith development opportunities for all students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VALUES

When accepting students for enrolment, St Patrick’s College will endeavour to build a community that:

• Has respect for and supports the Catholic identity of the college.
• Is inclusive of varying significant circumstances and the diverse culture, gifts and ability of students.
• Welcomes those with need of mercy and support.
• “Jesus welcomed the crowds, spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed those who needed it.” Luke 9:11

POLICY STATEMENT

Enrolment at St Patrick’s College will be available to those students who are open to the values of the college as expressed through the College’s Mission Statement and Partnership Agreement.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

The College will at all times act with fairness and compassion. To ensure this, St Patrick’s College enrolment procedures must be followed.

The student and family must fully support the Catholic ethos and values of the college.

As a means of welcoming prospective students and their families, each student and their parents or guardian will be interviewed by the Principal or nominee.

• Mercy College is a partner school and St Patrick’s College maintains places for Mercy students who participate in the enrolment process. Students with a record of serious misbehaviour while attending Mercy College may not be offered enrolment.
• While some variations may occur the following preferences will act as a guideline:
  ➢ students from Mercy;
  ➢ students new to the area who are not currently enrolled in a school in Mackay;
  ➢ Catholic students in other schools;
  ➢ Non-Catholic students enrolled in other Catholic schools;
  ➢ students with a strong faith background in other religious traditions and who are willing to accept a Catholic education.
• Enrolment at St Patrick’s involves an undertaking to pay all fees and levies. In cases of genuine financial hardship, families may apply for a concession.
• The college will welcome students with disabilities in line with the Diocesan Policy for Students with Disabilities. Acceptance of those students will be made with due regard to the physical constraints of the College.
• A record or incident of serious misbehaviour or a chronic lack of academic application may preclude enrolment at St Patrick’s College. A final decision will be influenced by considerations of the welfare of the college community. The college may contact the previous school attended to ascertain attendance, application to studies, behavioural records etc during the enrolment process.
• Enrolment at the college may be cancelled in line with the Diocesan Policy on Suspension and Exclusion.
• The Principal is responsible for the implementation of the college’s enrolment policy and the final decision of acceptance or otherwise of an application, always remains with the Principal.
• The College reserves the right to offer places according to this enrolment policy.
mcgarry family bursaries

A bequest by the late Miss Joan McGarry has established perpetual bursaries to be presented each year to St Patrick’s College students. The trust is established in honour of Miss McGarry’s parents, the late Fred and Rose McGarry and her brother, the late Jim McGarry. Fred McGarry was a prominent hotelier and bookmaker, the licensee of the Queen’s Hotel which stood on the corner of Wood and Victoria Streets on a site now occupied by Westpac Bank. Jim McGarry was tragically killed in a motorbike accident in 1949 aged 19.

As per the guidelines of the bequest, bursaries are awarded in academic, cultural, sporting and social justice areas. In addition, in recognition of Joan McGarry’s lifelong dedication to her profession of nursing, bursaries are awarded to the student from St Patrick’s with the highest OP, who has enrolled in a nursing course.

The intention of the bequest is that students receive the bursary once properly enrolled in a course after Year 12.

The college is very thankful to Joan McGarry for her generosity and the bursaries are an important symbol of the link that St Patrick’s has with the history of Mackay. They represent a wonderful opportunity for outstanding students from St Patrick’s in academic, sporting and cultural fields to be substantially supported in their further studies and other endeavours.