

## ENROLMENT POLICY

### SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This policy is applicable to the following entities within the Tyndale Group of Christian Schools Ltd (trading as Tyndale Group of Christian Schools):

- Tyndale Christian School – Kadina Inc (trading as Harvest Christian College)
- Tyndale Christian School – Murray Bridge Inc (trading as Tyndale Christian School – Murray Bridge)
- Tyndale Christian School – Salisbury East Inc (trading as Tyndale Christian School – Salisbury East)
- Tyndale Christian School – Strathalbyn Inc (trading as Tyndale Christian School – Strathalbyn)

### DEFINITIONS

**School or schools** shall mean all or any one of the Tyndale Group of Schools as identified under the 'Scope of Application'.

### POLICY

Enrolment at Tyndale Christian School is, as far as its resources shall permit, open to all students providing that the parents/caregivers support the School's Vision, Statement of Faith and Core Values and accept that the School will be operated in accordance with that statement.

Parents acknowledge and accept that the School is a Christian school based on the doctrines, tenets, beliefs and values of the Christian faith as set out in the School's Vision, Statement of Faith and Core Values. Parents further accept that the School will conduct its activities, including the delivery of the school curriculum, co-curriculum and public events, in a manner that is consistent with the School's Vision, Statement of Faith and Core Values and the Christian beliefs and ethos of the School more generally. Parents acknowledge and accept that the tuition provided by the School is structured and will be delivered to provide Students with a Christian world view based on the religious beliefs of the School.

Subject to the conditions listed in this policy below, all families can enrol their children at the School irrespective of their sex, race, culture, religion, family background, socio-economic capacity, physical or intellectual capacity or their own personal beliefs and values.

Notwithstanding the religious background of the Student and their family parents/caregivers will need to support their children being fully involved in all aspects of school life, including biblical studies programmes and chapel services which will be informed by the School's fundamental commitment to the Christian Faith.

These activities reflect our founding purpose, being the advancement of the Christian religion through the provision of education. Our schools offer a distinctive Christian ethos that is itself an extension of our Christian beliefs. This ethos flows from the teaching, modelling and upholding of those Christian beliefs within the school community. It is our belief that true freedom and our eternal identity is found in the person of Jesus Christ, as Risen Lord and Saviour. It is to this firm and unchanging hope that we continually direct children within our schools.

### Enrolment

Admission to the School will be subject to the following conditions:

1. The child must turn five (5) before 1 May. If the child turns five (5) on or after May, they will start the following year;
2. A position must be available in the relevant year and year level;



3. There must be no outstanding monies owing to the School, unless there is an approved payment plan in place.
4. Consideration will be given to any behavioural issues at previous schools, where applicable.
5. Any factors that may impact Tyndale's provision of education to the applicant and what reasonable adjustments may need to be implemented.
6. Agreement on the level of extra support to be provided to the student, if required.
7. Where a propensity for violence is identified, a risk assessment must determine that accepting the enrolment does not place the safety of staff and other students at risk (see below).

### **Categories of Enrolment**

There are five categories of priority for admission to the School. These are:

1. First priority will be given to a child of a Christian family where a brother or sister is already attending or enrolled at the School. The application for enrolment must provide evidence of regular Church attendance.
2. Second priority will be given to a child of a family not professing the Christian faith, but where a brother or sister is already attending or enrolled at the School.
3. Third priority will be given to a child where either one or both parents/caregivers is/are committed Christians, and where there are no other siblings already attending the School. The application for enrolment must provide evidence of regular Church attendance.
4. Fourth priority will be given to children of Old Scholars of Tyndale Christian School not professing the Christian faith but who support the Christian ethos of the School.
5. Fifth priority will be to any other family applying for a position in the School where the parents/caregivers are able to support the Christian ethos of the School.

There shall be no exceptions of entry to the School outside of the guidelines set out above, except in special cases, such as children of pastors, missionaries, or teachers appointed to the School or other similarly placed persons. However, only the Principal will decide whether a child in this category can be admitted ahead of students already waiting on the list. Other than as otherwise set out in this policy, the admission order of students in each category will be determined by the date which the School Office received the original application.

The School will not discriminate against students on the basis of their sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, race, religion, beliefs or impairment in relation to either:

1. refusing or failing to accept an application for admission as a student; or
2. discontinuing the enrolment of a student.

### **Mid-year Intake Requirements**

Where a TGCS School has instituted a mid-year intake, enrolled students must:

1. complete eighteen (18) months of the foundation class unless an alternative has been recommended and approved by the Principal.
2. turn five (5) at some stage during the calendar year that they commence school.

### **Maintenance of our Christian Ethos**

The Tyndale Group of Schools aims to spread and strengthen the teaching of the Christian religion, including as set out in the School Vision, Statement of Faith and Core Values, the maintenance of the doctrines upon which that religion rests, and the observances that promote and manifest that religion. In



the context of Christian schooling, conduct that is inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets, beliefs, principles or teachings of the Tyndale Group of Schools, including on the part of the student body, can impact detrimentally on the School's ability to:

1. conduct education in accordance with, or conform to, those religious doctrines, tenets, beliefs, principles or teachings.
2. maintain its religious ethos; and
3. model a biblical standard of conduct to each individual student and the wider student community.

Accordingly, parents agree to support the School's efforts to ensure that it's provision of education:

- a) is conducted in accordance with its religious doctrines, beliefs or principles,
- b) maintains its religious ethos; and
- c) models a Christian standard of conduct to the student body.

Parents agree that the student must do the same and agree to encourage the student in this.

### **Advocacy**

The School will ensure that School property is not put to any use that would be inconsistent with the School Vision, Statement of Faith and Core Values. This includes avoidance of any events which advocate for positions contrary to those statements. Conduct or events which promote or advocate for positions that are inconsistent with those statements will not be permitted. This policy applies both in respect of the School's dealings with students and student groups, and also in respect of the use of School facilities by external groups.

### **Risk Assessment regarding the enrolment or continuation of an enrolment where there is a propensity for violence.**

#### 1. At Enrolment

If during the enrolment application information is provided regarding a propensity for violence on the part of the student being enrolled, a risk assessment will be instigated prior to any offer of enrolment being made. The risk assessment will consider such matters as:

- the age of the child
- the type of behaviour
- the level of violence
- the frequency of violence
- the likely risk to staff and other students
- access to risk minimisation strategies
- the level of support from allied health professionals, where applicable
- the level of behaviour support plans, staffing and resources required.

If the risk assessment determines that the safety of others (both physically and/or psychosocially) will be significantly compromised, the enrolment may not be confirmed. This decision will rest with the Principal, and the decision will be final.

If the enrolment is confirmed, the behaviour of the student will be reviewed on a regular basis. If the behaviour of the student either escalates or changes to such an extent that staff and/or other



students are at significant risk of injury (both physical and/or psychosocial), the ongoing enrolment of the student will be reviewed.

## 2. During Enrolment

If a propensity for violence that has not been identified during the application for enrolment process becomes apparent post-enrolment, irrespective of whether the student has a complex need, the School reserves the right to pause the enrolment to ascertain:

- whether information regarding a propensity for violence has been deliberately withheld from the School, including formal diagnoses and/or previous incidents at a prior educational facility.
- whether a risk assessment regarding the student's behaviour needs to be actioned.
- whether a formal diagnosis should be sought for the student in question.
- what appropriate behaviour management support/programmes and/or risk minimisation strategies are in place.

Where there is an ongoing propensity for violence (both physical and verbal), the School reserves the right to enact its Behaviour Management Policy (S2.02).

This process will be applied to all students.

While the School understands and accepts that some violent behaviour may be a response due to a complex need or disability, ongoing significant violent behaviour by a student, despite the implementation of both learning support and behaviour management strategies, will not be tolerated if the workplace, health and safety rights of staff are compromised and the School's non-delegable duty of care to the safety of other students is placed at significant risk. The School will, at times, therefore, be required to make a determination about the enrolment or on-going enrolment of a student based on balancing the rights between inclusivity and staff and student safety.

## REFERENCES

- A2.01 Vision, Mission, Statement of Faith, Core Purpose and Core Values
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth.)
- Disability Standards for Education 2005 (Cth.)
- Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986 (Cth)
- Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (SA)
- Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Commonwealth)
- Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 (Commonwealth)
- Workplace Health and Safety Act 2012
- S2.02A Risk Assessment for students with a propensity for violence template

## REVIEW

The policy will be reviewed biennially. Review will be conducted by the responsible officer, drawing upon input and feedback from:

- Executive Leadership
- Directors of Learning and Curriculum Leaders
- Interested Parties
- External changes, such as changes to legislation, good practice



### **POLICY INFORMATION**

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Officer responsible for this policy	CEO