PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR – FULL FEE PAYING OVERSEAS STUDENTS POLICY

RATIONALE
Catholic schools exist to further the mission of the Church and the Gospels remind us that “anyone who welcomes a child in my name welcomes me” (Luke 9:48). The Mandate Letter of the Bishops of Western Australia requires that education be made available to all Catholic children in so far as this is possible. Children from other countries should also be given an opportunity to access Catholic education in Western Australia where appropriate. In addition to the above, the provision of services for Full Fee Paying Overseas Students (FFPOS) will be provided according to the following principles and procedures which recognise the fact that Australian society is multicultural and inclusive.

DEFINITIONS
1.1 FFPOS (Full Fee Paying Overseas Students) is a person from another country who has been granted entry into Australia on a visa allowing them to enrol only at an Australian educational institution which is registered in the first instance with the Department of Educational Services as a FFPOS Provider. The Student does not attract Government Funding. The school will also have been granted a Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) provider code and courses code by the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations.

PRINCIPLES
2.1 The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child states that the best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his/her education.

2.2 Catholic schools shall endeavour to ensure that FFPOS have access to the same services provided to all other students and, where necessary, provide additional services to address their unique needs and characteristics to ensure an equitable and inclusive education.

2.3 Schools shall ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) who have contact with FFPOS have an understanding of the pedagogy and practice of teaching English as a Second Language and an awareness of cross cultural perspectives.
2.4 The overall provision of services shall be consistent with the following, as amended from time to time:

- The Education Service Providers (Full Fee Paying Overseas Students) Registration Act 1991 (ESPRA).
- Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS) 2000 (Australian Government).

PROCEDURES

3.1 The procedures for enrolment of overseas students in this policy shall be carried out in conjunction with the procedures involved in the Enrolment Policy of the school.

3.2 School fees shall be set taking into consideration the visa status of the family seeking enrolment and the socioeconomic situation of the family as per the Enrolment Policy.

3.3 The family will be required to provide the school a copy of the passport section showing the status of visa entry into Australia.

3.4 In placement of the student, consideration will be given to the age, learning background, language proficiency level as well as the socio-cultural context, linguistic and academic demands that will be placed upon him or her.

3.5 Appropriate professional development shall be provided to ensure that all relevant teachers and administrators are aware of how best to respond to the overseas student’s unique needs.

3.6 The Principal shall bear in mind to what extent the school can meet the individual needs of the student and other students before enrolling the FFPOS.

3.7 One Assistant Principal (education matters) and the Finance Officer (fees) shall jointly be the International Students Coordinator.

3.8 It is the Principal’s responsibility to ensure the relevant legislative requirements and procedures are followed.

3.9 FFPOS shall receive the same opportunities to access the School Social Worker and Support services as other enrolled students.