

INDIGENOUS ACCESS & SUPPORT POLICY

This policy is informed by:

- **CMS Student Welfare Policy 2015**
- Indigenous Access & Support Policy (*reviewed 2014*)

Statement:

To ensure that indigenous students enrolled at the school can benefit equally with other students from the programs provided.

Rationale:

CMS welcomes the enrolment of students of all cultural backgrounds, and endeavors to instill in all students an appreciation of the enrichment that diversity brings. Nevertheless it is recognized that indigenous students may experience particular difficulties in relation to school performance. The school must therefore be ready to provide support if necessary.

Definitions:

An *Indigenous* person is an *Aboriginal* or *Torres Strait Islander* person who:

- Is of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; or
- Identifies as an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; or
- Is accepted as such by the community in which he/she lives or has lived.

Implementation:

When an indigenous student is enrolled at the school, the Principal will consult with the family to determine whether any special support is required in relation to:

- School attendance;
- Issues of cultural sensitivity;
- Academic development.

Where an indigenous student is enrolled in a class, the classroom Director will maintain close liaison with the family to ensure that any special needs are identified and responded to in a timely and effective manner.

The classroom Director will report regularly to the Principal on the student's progress; in particular whether attendance and progress in literacy and numeracy are being maintained at a level comparable with that of non-indigenous peers.

If necessary, in consultation with parents, appropriate support programs will be provided to ensure that academic progress is maintained satisfactorily.

Approved by:	Date:	Next Review Date:
Principal	07/08/2020	07/08/2022