



## Exemption from Particular Classes Policy

### **Aims**

- A. For all students to achieve all planned educational outcomes.
- B. For students to be part of the school community and to form cohesive class groups.
- C. To respect beliefs of individual families.
- D. To cater for individual capabilities and interests.

### **Principles**

- A. As much as possible we wish for all students to participate in the activities of the school.
- B. We respect the beliefs of families and the individuality of students. We will consider exemption from class, on reasonable grounds, in consultation with families, teachers and the Principal. For example, exemptions may be granted on religious or cultural beliefs and/or family values.
- C. When appropriate, teachers will provide adequate information to parents about a program. Parents can then make an informed decision about the participation of their child in that program.
- D. Parents can request that teachers provide additional information regarding class programs.
- E. Personal preference or interest is not considered grounds for exemption, however if it can be shown that an alternative individual program would be in the best interests of the student and could be achieved without undue hardship to the teacher and the class, it will be considered. This is particularly relevant for extension work.
- F. Exemptions may be granted with conditions. For example, it will not always be within the power of the school to provide an alternate activity or supervision for the student.
- G. For whole school excursions and camps, no formal exemption is required, however the school strongly recommends all students attend.

### **Responsibilities**

#### **A. Board**

1. Monitoring and revising this policy as needed.

#### **B. Principal**

1. Consider requests for exemption from a particular class. In particular:
  - i. the reasons for the request and whether they may be addressed without exempting the student from the class;
  - ii. how to achieve the planned outcomes in an alternate way; and
  - iii. alternative supervision if required.
2. Oversee and advise on various options for alternative curriculum if required.
3. Follow up on non-attendance.

### **C. Teaching Staff**

1. Be understanding and creative about ways to achieve outcomes for particular students, while keeping firmly in mind the needs of the group and extra demands upon teaching staff.
2. Liaise with Principal, parents and students if alternative curriculum experiences are decided as the best course of action
3. Document and provide alternate programs to achieve outcomes for an exempted student if required and within reason.
4. Inform parents if a student's individual education plan requires a student to regularly be absent for a particular class/learning area.
5. Approach the family in the case of a student not attending a particular class regularly.

### **C. Parents**

1. Formally request, in writing, exemption from a particular class for their child, giving reasons and offering possible alternatives for achieving the relevant outcomes and options for supervision.

### **D. Students**

1. Participate in school activities, except when exemption has been granted by the Principal.

## **Related Legislation**

- A. School Education Act, 1999

## **Reference**

- A. Exemption from Particular Classes Guidelines - [Department of Education](#).

## **Related Kerry Street Documentation**

- A. Procedures and Forms including:
  1. Exemption from Particular Classes Procedure
  2. Form - Request for exemption from a particular class
- B. Policies including:
  1. Attendance and Truancy Policy

2. Assessment and Reporting Policy
3. Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
4. Curriculum Policy
5. Duty of Care Policy
6. Students at Educational Risk Policy

## Contact Person

Enquiries relating to this policy should be directed to the School Principal.

## Breaches of this Policy

Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

## Authorisation and Review

- A. This policy was read, discussed and authorised by the Kerry Street Community School Council on 12/1/05
- B. Policy reviewed by meeting of staff and council on 13/1/06.
- C. Reviewed by Coordinator and Council, Accepted May 17th, 2016
- D. Reviewed and Accepted December 2017
- E. To be reviewed S2 2021.

## Revision History

Date	Revision	Detail
07/12/2017	V.1	Minor edits and formatting.
April 2021	V.1.1	Formatted. Policy list updated.