



AQUINAS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Anzac Road,
Menai NSW 2234

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Aquinas Catholic College

Diversity of Student Needs Policy

(Students with Special Needs)

Aquinas Catholic College provides for the wide variety of student learning needs that exist at the College. It has programs and procedures in place to identify and assist both the gifted and talented students and the students who have special needs.

The term “special needs” refers to all students whose learning is affected by a particular need or disability. This includes those with sensory, physical, learning, and intellectual disabilities, as well as a language acquisition disorder, ADD or ADHD, a literacy deficit, a numeracy deficit and an English as an additional Language or dialect (EALD).

Certain members of staff are employed to oversee the educational programs for these special needs students:

- Itinerant teachers cater for students with a sensory impairment (hearing or visual impairment).
- Special Education teachers assist students with a physical disability, learning disability, intellectual disability, language acquisition disorder and ADD/ADHD.
- Literacy teachers assist students with a literacy deficit.
- Numeracy teachers assist students with a numeracy deficit.
- EALD teachers assist students with English as an additional language or dialect background.

GIFTED EDUCATION

One teacher does not currently coordinate the opportunities for the gifted and talented students. The College community has a shared responsibility to provide a range of opportunities for the gifted and talented students to be challenged to achieve their potential. Each student has the right to develop their potential through the provision of appropriate educational experiences in a caring and supportive school community. Please see the College’s Gifted and Talented Policy for more detail.



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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are the original inhabitants of Australia. Aquinas Catholic College (Aquinas) embraces the richness and diversity which exists within the Aboriginal nations of Australia. Aquinas is committed to maximising the learning opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Aquinas understands our responsibility to create an understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal people, their histories, cultures and spirituality. We play an important role in the formation of their students to develop as active and contributing members of Australian society.

Aquinas is committed to improving the educational outcomes and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students so that they excel and achieve in every aspect of their education.

Aquinas welcomes and encourages the enrolment in our school of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

We understand the need to develop the cultural competence and safety in establishing quality partnerships between education sectors, local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and other stakeholders.

Aquinas will develop, implement and monitor a Personalised Learning Plan for each Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander student.