

Cronulla South Public School

Class Formation Policy

Rationale:

There needs to be a clear and consistent policy in the formation of classes at Cronulla South Public School so that each student is treated equitably, according to their needs within the organisational structure decided by the school.

Class Structures :

In the formation of classes and teacher allocation at Cronulla South Public School the following factors will guide the decision making;

- Department of Education and Training staffing formula.
- Teaching staff's experience and expertise.

The principal has the delegated authority to determine the final make up of classes.

Student Allocation Process:

In the allocation of students to particular classes the following factors will guide the decision making process.

- A balanced distribution of students abilities and genders across all classes.
- The needs of individual students, these may be social, intellectual, emotional or physical.
- Student relationships and friendship networks.
- Students are allocated to a class, not to a teacher. It is not possible to request a particular staff member as your child's teacher.

Identification of Needs:

The identification of these needs will be achieved through;

- Professional deliberations of staff who are familiar with the student.
- Academic and welfare data (previous classes, special circumstances).
- Significant information supplied by parents.

Allocation of Teachers:

The allocation of teachers to classes is determined after a consultative process that takes into consideration;

- Past experience of teachers.
- Professional skills and expertise.
- Professional learning goals of staff.

Kindergarten Classes:

Teachers who have participated in the transition to school program will use their knowledge and information provided at interview to form classes.

Composite Classes:

Composite or multiaged classes are formed when numbers of children in the grade are such that two complete classes cannot be formed. Composite classes are also formed when to do otherwise would negatively impact on the welfare of students. Classes will be formed using the criteria referred to in the “Student Allocation Process”. The teachers forming the classes will give consideration to the independent work habits of the children and their ability to work in a multiaged environment.

Parent Enquiry:

Whilst any parent is entitled to know how their own child came to be placed in a particular class, the school is required to maintain the privacy of the needs of other students and is not able to outline the particular reasons as to why other students have been placed in particular classes.

Although specific parent requests will be considered, the principal will have the final decision as to the placement of a student.

Ratification:

This policy has been developed, in consultation with executive staff and the Cronulla South PS School Council