



St Eugene College

Dare to grow in faith, hope and love

Important Prep Information

For your child to be eligible to start Prep, they will need to have turned 5 by 30 of June in the year they are due to start Prep. Please forward your enrolment application to the school office as soon as possible. Some of you may have heard that students who turn 5 by the end of July the year they start Prep are now eligible to enrol.

Acceptance is not automatic and is only at the discretion of the Principal. I have included information which may help you to make your decision if you are considering applying to enrol your child early for Prep.

When do children start Prep in Queensland?

Queensland children are eligible to attend the Preparatory Year (Prep) if they will reach the age of 5 years by 30 June in the year they propose to attend Prep.

Who is eligible for early entry to Prep in Queensland?

Children whose birthday falls in the month of July, and children who have previously enrolled at school in another state or country, may be able to commence Prep early if they are assessed by the school principal as being ready for school.

These are the only circumstances in which early entry to Prep is permitted under Queensland legislation.

How do you decide if a child is 'ready for school'?

If your child will turn 5 years of age in July or has previously attended school in another state or country and you are considering applying for early entry to Prep, the principal at the school at which you are intending to enrol will need to decide whether or not your child is ready for school.

The principal's decision will be based on your child's attributes including ability, aptitude, social and emotional competence, physical development, and level of knowledge and understanding.

The principal may consider things such as whether your child can:

- Confidently make choices/decisions and follow through
- Make several attempts to complete a new or challenging experience before seeking help
- Actively seek and accept help from familiar and unfamiliar adults
- Recall past experiences, events, or discussions
- Talk confidently, including expressing feelings and ideas, to familiar and unfamiliar people
- Demonstrate coping skills and resilience when things don't go to plan
- Interact appropriately with other children and adults
- Cope well with separation from parents or carers for the duration of a school day
- Confidently use fine and gross motor skills to complete tasks



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Sustain active involvement in challenging experiences

- Monitor and manage their own physical needs (e.g. toileting)
- Sustain energy and display endurance across the learning and routine expectations of a school day
- Apply knowledge from past learning to a new learning situation
- Use a variety of vocabulary when classifying, sorting, sequencing and comparing everyday materials and objects
- Use language associated with, and show understanding of, spatial positions and directions
- Handle a book and recognise some letters, numbers and symbols (i.e. is familiar with printed material).

In making a decision, the principal will consider what is in your child's best interests for achieving success throughout their schooling. While a child may be extremely capable in certain areas of knowledge or have high levels of skill, they might not have the social or emotional maturity for early entry to Prep.

A July birthday or previous school enrolment in another state or country does not guarantee early entry to Prep in Queensland.

This Information has come from the QCAA website.

Yours sincerely

Louise Olley
College Principal