



# AGE OF COMMENCEMENT

VERSION / DATE: 1 March 2016  
REVIEW DATE: December 2017  
POLICY MANAGER: Director of Marketing & Enrolments

## 1.0 RATIONALE

The school starting age for students in NSW is that a child must turn 5 on or before 31 July. There is significant debate around the late starting date and schools in the independent sector have increasingly set 31 March as the cut off date.

Changing the School starting age to 31 March allows for students to be more able to succeed in a structured learning environment. There is a significant difference between children's maturity especially in the early years of development. The teaching staff has seen over time that the students who are born in the period of April to July inclusive do not always achieve the appropriate milestones and in many instances parents seek to repeat these students. It is not desirable to have students repeating as it can disrupt their social networks.

## 2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

A child must be 5 on or before 31 March to commence in Kindergarten.  
Students seeking enrolment into Cottage must be 4 on or before 31 March

## 3.0 NOTES / PROCEDURES

- Where there is a request for variation the School shall assess the child's school readiness.
- Where students are seeking enrolment beyond the Cottage and Kindergarten years, (ie Years 1 – 12), and have therefore already been part of a formal school system, St Luke's will not request that the student repeat.

Mrs Jann Robinson  
Principal