

CLASS SIZE

The number of pupils assigned to any class shall be determined in accordance with the nature of the class material itself, the need for individual attention, and the amount of work to be required. The number of pupils assigned to a class shall not exceed 30 students.

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Factors to be considered in developing local norms include but are not necessarily limited to those mentioned in the policy. The school's mission to provide a Catholic school education for those parish members who desire it is a fundamental consideration in setting class size. Only as a last resort, or a temporary measure, shall children of the parish be denied a Catholic school education. In order to provide for this, schools shall consider the following:

1. Strategic planning, use of buildings, and building programs shall include future enrollment projections.
2. An optimal range for class size shall be set. The recommended ranges are:

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|---------|-------|
| Pre-K | 15-20 |
| Gr. K | 15-20 |
| Gr. 1-2 | 20-30 |
| Gr. 3-8 | 25-30 |
3. If grade level numbers reach or go beyond the optimal range, an aide shall be considered. Multi-age classes may also be arranged or other creative scheduling employed.
4. When the number and space allows, two classes at each level are encouraged. If space is a problem, mobile classrooms may be considered.
5. The availability or lack of room in a neighboring parish shall be considered when limiting class size. When students attend a Catholic school outside the parish, financial arrangements can often be negotiated between the two parishes/schools.
6. When class size drops too low, consideration shall be given to financial feasibility and student interaction.