

Special Programme Wording- French Language Bilingual Unit - La Decouverte

The school offers a bilingual French special programme of study for students who comply first with the eligibility criteria (A), and if a place is available under the priority for acceptance criteria (B).

The criteria for acceptance into La Decouverte is as follows:

A: Eligibility

An interview by FRENZ (the supporting partner organisation for French bilingual education in New Zealand) is necessary for all applicants. Prospective students require:

1. A caregiver who is French-speaking and able to support their bilingual education.
2. An understanding of French to a level appropriate to their age, as assessed using a documented methodology developed by FRENZ.

B: Priority for Acceptance

The maximum number of students that can be accommodated in the Special Programme at any one time is 50, with approximately 8 students per year group. For students who meet the eligibility criteria above, priority for acceptance into the programme is in the following order:

1. Applicant residing within the school's home zone
2. Applicant who is already a student at the school
3. Applicant who is the sibling of a current student of the special programme.
4. Applicant who is the sibling of a former student of the special programme.
5. Applicant who is a child of a former student of the special programme.
6. Applicant who is either a child of an employee of the board of the school or a child of a member of the board of the school.
7. All other applicants.

If there are more applicants in any of the priority groups than there are places available, selection within the priority group will be by a ballot conducted in accordance with instructions by the Secretary, under Schedule 20, Clause 3 (1) of the Education and Training Act 2020.

Parents will be informed of the date of any ballot and the likely number of spaces available by public notice in a medium appropriate to the area served by the school.