



Waverley Public School

Waverley Public School Enrolment Policy

(updated May 2021)

Department of Education's Relevant Policies and Guidelines

Students are enrolled at Waverley Public School in accordance with the guidelines of the NSW Department of Education (DoE). This policy is to be read in conjunction with the DoE Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy (2021), which can be found by visiting:

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2002-0006>

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is in place to assist schools to meet their obligations under the Education Act 1990 – to ensure that every student has a place at their local school. The policy also communicates to staff and the community a transparent enrolment process. The policy is designed to support schools to manage all enrolment applications, encourage greater consistency in decision making and make sure the enrolment choices are clear for parents.

The Enrolment Cap

In Term 4 2019, schools were allocated an enrolment cap. The enrolment cap is the number of students that can be enrolled at a school based on the school's permanent accommodation. The enrolment cap guides whether the school may or may not have the capacity to accept non-local enrolments. Within the enrolment cap, a number of enrolment places (the buffer) must be kept aside for the likely number of local students who will enrol during the year.

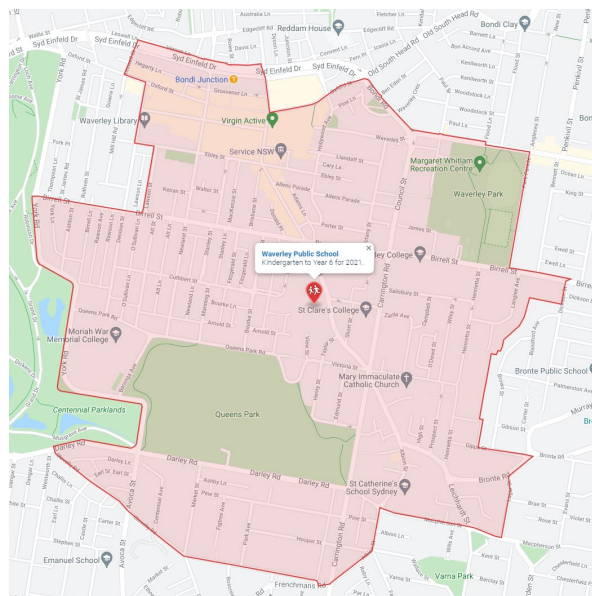
Enrolment Buffer

Places in each class will be kept open from the start of the year to ensure access for children who move into the area during the year. The number of places will be based on historical data, on enrolment fluctuations and on the number of families moving into or out of the area. Places in this buffer are not to be offered to non-local students.

Local Enrolments

Every child is entitled to be enrolled at the government school that is designated for the intake area within which the child's permanent and principal place of residence is situated and that the child is eligible to attend. Schools' local enrolment areas are determined by the Department of Education. Sometimes these boundaries may need to be altered.

A map of the current intake area for Waverley Public School is shown below: -



A student is entitled to enrol at Waverley Public School, if: -

- The child's home is situated within the designated intake area. Proof of residence is required to substantiate the application. Current documentation at the time of enrolment is to be provided to the school. Parents planning on enrolling their children at a school that is nearing or at its buffer or cap will be asked to complete the 100-point residential address check to confirm they live within the school's designated intake area.
- The child is eligible to attend school. Children may be enrolled in Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five years of age on or before 31 July in that year. Documentation providing proof of age, such as a birth certificate or passport, is required on enrolment. The enrolment of eligible children in Kindergarten should commence at the beginning to the school year. All children must be in compulsory schooling by their 6th birthday.

Proof of Residency

The school will seek evidence demonstrating that the child's place of residence is within the designated intake area through the provision of current original documents. These are:

- a) Property ownership or tenancy documents in the name of the child's parents or carers, e.g. rate notice (in relation to property ownership) or tenancy agreement (of at least 12 months duration); or
- b) Two utility account statements (water, electricity, telephone or gas) displaying the name and address of the child's parents or carers.

Please be aware of the following paragraph on the front page of 'Application to enrol in a NSW government school' which states:

"Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. In the event that statements made in this application later prove to be false or misleading, any decision made as a result of this application may be reversed."

Non-Australian Citizens

Non-Australian citizens holding a visa granting permanent residence, New Zealand citizens holding a current New Zealand passport and permanent residents of Norfolk Island are eligible for enrolment and are not liable to pay the Temporary Visa Holders Education Fee. The school must sight the originals of passports and other travel documents and record the details of these documents before enrolment.

Kindergarten

Children may enrol at the beginning of the school year if they turn 5 years of age on or before 31 July in that year. The school runs a comprehensive transition program and parents should contact the school by August, the year prior to commencing.

Non-local enrolments

A non-local enrolment is a student whose permanent and principal place of residence is beyond the designated local enrolment area. Schools may accept enrolments from outside their designated intake area (non-local enrolments) if places are available. If the demand for local enrolment exceeds the number of places available, out-of-area enrolments will not be available.

In determining whether the school can accommodate non-local enrolments, the Principal considers: -

- The child's age
- The type of school
- The resources of the school
- The existing number of permanent classrooms and other facilities at the school

Except for enrolments at the commencement of the school year, schools that have not reached their local enrolment buffer level should only accommodate non-local enrolments into classes with available places.

If demand for non-local enrolment exceeds the number of available places below the enrolment buffer, the school must develop non-local enrolment criteria and establish an enrolment panel to consider and make decisions on all non-local enrolment applications.

When the school's enrolment level is close to the local enrolment buffer, the principal is required to inform the principal of the child's local school when considering the non-local enrolment application, and to seek approval of the Director, Educational Leadership before making an offer to enrol the child.

Non-local Applications

Non-local enrolment applications include the Application to enrol in a NSW Government school and a non-local enrolment application form.

Criteria

Criteria for selecting non-local enrolment applications may include one or more of the following factors. The factors listed are not in priority order:

- Sibling(s) already enrolled at the school
- Safety and supervision of the student
- Proximity and access to the school
- Compassionate reasons and support needs

Panel (if required)

The composition of the enrolment panel will consist of one executive staff member to chair the panel and at least one teaching staff member nominated by the Principal and one school community member nominated by the school's P&C Association. Applicants for non-local enrolment must be advised that the panel will include a school community member and all panel members should be asked to confirm they have no conflict of interest when considering the application.

The panel considers non-local enrolment applications in a timely manner. In considering applications, the panel assesses only the information and supporting documentation presented on the non-local enrolment application form, available from the school.

The decision made by the panel must take into account the enrolment cap and the buffer retained for local students arriving later in the year. The panel records all decisions and keeps minutes of meetings which are to be available on request by the principal and Director, Educational Leadership.

The chairperson ensures that the established criteria are applied equitably to all applicants. The school will notify parents of the result of their application. Parents may request a written explanation of the decisions of the panel.

Waiting Lists (if required)

Where necessary, a waiting list will be established by the placement panel for each class in the current year. Prior to the school year commencing, offers will be made to students on the list, if and when suitable class placements become available. Any waiting list created will remain valid during the current intake period only.

Appeals

Unsuccessful non-local applicants may appeal against the decision of the enrolment panel. The appeal is made in writing to the principal and sets out the grounds of the appeal. If necessary, the principal should provide or arrange assistance, such as an interpreter, to enable the appeal to be set out in writing.

The purpose of the appeal is to determine whether the stated criteria have been applied equitably. If the principal is not on the enrolment panel, the principal considers the appeal and makes a determination. Otherwise, the appeal may be determined by the Director, Educational Leadership.

The parent should be advised of the outcome in writing. If the matter is not resolved at the school level, the final level of appeal is to the Director, Educational Leadership.

NON-LOCAL ENROLMENT APPLICATION

Please read the Privacy Statement on this page before completing this form.

Section A - Student Information

Student's family name: _____ Date of Birth __/__/__

Student's given name/s: _____ Male Female

Student's address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Name of Parent/Carer: _____

Contact numbers: Home: _____

Parent 1's Mobile: _____ Parent 1's Work Phone Number: _____

Parent 2's Mobile: _____ Parent 2's Work Phone Number: _____

Student's current school (if applicable): _____

Section B – Placement at your local government school

The designated local school for your child is: _____

Please tick this box if you have another child enrolled at your local school

Signature of Parent/Carer _____ Date: __/__/__

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The personal information provided on this form is being collected for the purpose of coordinating potential enrolment applications in NSW Government Schools. It will be used by staff of the Department of Education for general student administration and communication and for other matters relating to the coordination of potential enrolment applications. The information provided on this form may be disclosed to other schools. While the provision of this information is voluntary, if you do not provide all or any of this information it may limit the Department's ability to promptly assist you in coordinating your child's future application for enrolment in a NSW Government school. This information will be stored securely. You may access or correct any personal information provided by contacting the school.

