

Students

Enrolment

Students are offered enrolment if they meet the current criteria confirmed through the Minister's enrolment in special schools' policy.

Before a prospective student can be enrolled in a state special school, section 166(1) of the Act prescribes that the following two requirements must be met:

The prospective student is a 'person with a disability' with all four criteria set out in the [Special School Eligibility \('person with a disability' criteria\) policy External link](#) (the policy) being met and the state special school is able to cater for the educational needs of the prospective student.

The policy also sets three principles to guide state special school enrolment decision-making to ensure that decisions are evidence-based, transparent and timely. The [Decision-making guidelines – Special school enrolment \(DOCX, 229KB\)](#) provides information to assist decision-makers by outlining the type of evidence or information that may indicate whether the requirements, including the policy's four criteria, have been met.

Additional enrolment requirements in state special schools (s.166(1) of the Act)			
Special school eligibility ("person with a disability" criteria) policy			
Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4
The person has a disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cwlth) (DDA) .	The person has a severe disability which includes an intellectual disability.	The person is unlikely to attain the levels of development of which the person is capable unless the person receives special education.	The person's educational program is best delivered in a special school taking into account the appropriateness of this placement for the individual concerned.
The special school			
The special school is able to cater for the educational needs of the child or young person.			

The department enables children and young people to register at and attend state special schools through temporary attendance (for up to 10 months) pending a final decision regarding enrolment being made if:

all requirements set out in the Act and criteria set out in the policy are met except that the prospective student has not been verified through the Education Adjustment Program (EAP) in the category of intellectual disability; and

the prospective student is likely to be verified through the EAP in the category of intellectual disability within 10 months.

If the decision-maker refuses an enrolment application, applicant/s may seek an internal review of the decision by submitting an [Application for internal review of special school enrolment ineligibility \(DOCX, 568KB\)](#).

If unsatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, the applicant/s may, under section 394 of the Act, apply under the [Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009 \(Qld\) External link](#), for a review of the internal review decision.

Student Demographics

Our school caters for students from Prep to year 12. Some students who show potential to further maximise their learning and life-quality outcomes towards employment or greater choice in post-school options achieved through expanded learning, are granted additional one or two semesters of learning, and join the STEP UP to Employment program which is outlined further on in this document.

School enrolment as at the end of 2025 was 185 students. The typical prep enrolment is between 10 and 15 students per annum. A number of students are expected to leave at the end of the year as various families are re-locating interstate.

Students who reside locally and for whom the school is their closest by road, may apply for transport assistance. Otherwise, parents organise transport, with options including private cars, public transport with or without support (the latter with Principal approval), or vans operated by the P and C Association, connected to a social and community participation program and initiative.

Understanding Our Students

Our students have a wide range of

- Interests
- Strengths
- Abilities and capabilities
- Needs for support and encouragement
- Thinking
- Learning
- Communicating
- Moving
- Self-cares
- Wellness – physical and emotional

We

- use a person-centred, strengths-based approach to education and care
- respect for student dignity, autonomy and rights is paramount
- use a range of communication systems including AAC, PODD, Key Word Sign, eye gaze, apps and devices, and visuals.

Student Requisites

Clothing

Students except those in Year 13/STEP UP, should wear school uniform unless advised otherwise.

The uniform consists of

- The uniform polo shirt – teal, royal blue and yellow – the shirt has minimal seams, no buttons or tags or other annoyances
- Navy blue shorts or skort or long pants for students Prep to year 10
- Black shorts or skort or long pants for students Year 11 and beyond
- Royal blue bucket hat
- Short socks
- Closed shoes that are comfortable and individually suitable regarding fixings and fit
- Individually chosen backpack or other bag
- Two lunch boxes for morning tea and lunch
- One water bottle\
- Nappies or continence aids provided as needed
- A spare set of clothing (or more) as indicated
- Swim wear for swimming lessons or hydrotherapy – swim nappies if indicated, rash vest, one piece or tankini for girls (no bikinis or revealing outfits)
- Sun block applied each morning at home
- Sanitiser available at school.

Go Card

Students whose learning goals and experiences involve public transport need to bring a Go Card that is in credit on days when community-based learning is scheduled.

Devices

The school is a 'no phone, no device' school at all times during the school day. Students travelling independently on public transport should have a mobile phone with them en route to and from school and must place their mobile phone in the office on arrival and collect it as departing. Some students require a personal mobile phone or device for medical monitoring, as a communication option or for other individual reasons. Parents/guardians of these students should ensure that agreement is reached with the Principal and relevant documentation completed. The school has a suite of laptops and tablets including iPads for use by students as required for learning. All classrooms are equipped with large touch screens that are used for learning throughout the day.

Meals and drinks

Students bring their own food and drinks for break times and lunch. Because of allergy and sensitivity issues, we are a nut free school meaning that no nuts including various nut butters are permitted on campus and in vehicles including those in which students travel to and from school as part of the Transport Assistance Scheme, NDIS service, or OSHC.

- Students requiring enteral feeding support for meals or drinks are supported by trained and certified staff.
- Students requiring severe dysphagic management for mealtimes are supported by trained and certified staff.
- Where needed, either related to enteral feeding or medical reasons, staff maintain mealtime data sheets.

Mobility or other Disability-specific equipment and devices

Students typically provide their own mobility equipment such as wheelchair, stroller, or walker. However, the school also may provide through the physiotherapist, mobility and therapy equipment for trial or to enhance access and participation in learning.

Similarly, students and the school provide, depending on circumstances and requirements, other therapy equipment such as communication devices.

Toys and personal items

Students should not bring their own toys or other personal items to school unless the parent/guardian has met with the Principal and relevant documentation has been completed.

No weapons including knives, guns whether replica or not, and other items that can cause disarray may be brought to school.