

Yarra Ranges SDS

ENROLMENT POLICY

YRSDS is a select entry specialist school with an enrolment policy legislated by the State government through the Department of Education & Early Childhood. Within these guidelines we provide guidance and support to assist parents and carers to make an informed decision. We do this by providing information about the education system as it relates to special needs and the services we provide including curriculum, staffing, support resources, administrative requirements, costs and transport arrangements. The school has a designated transport zone (DTA) entitling eligible students residing within the DTA to free bus travel on school buses contracted through private companies. Eligible students residing outside the DTA zone may be enrolled however they will not be able to access the bus service.

Guidelines

As a prescribed Special Developmental School we cater for students with a moderate to profound intellectual disability as diagnosed by an accredited psychologist or psychiatrist as follows:

- FSIQ below 55 measured on the age appropriate Wechsler test and
- a Vineland ABS of 70 or below along with
- a summary statement by the testing psychologist or psychiatrist

Students with a dual diagnosis:

For students with a dual diagnosis of disabilities, an appropriate specialist setting may be influenced by:

- the disability judged to be the primary disability
- the category of disability that the PSD application is submitted under and meets eligibility criteria for
- the availability of a placement at a specialist school.

Satellite Unit

Primary aged students with a mild intellectual disability are also eligible to attend the satellite unit at Healesville Primary School.

Dual Enrolment:

Dual enrolment is when parents decide that their child would benefit from attending a specialist school and regular school on a part time basis. YRSDS works cooperatively with the partner school to provide a cohesive education. When both are government schools the PSD funding is shared between them depending on the time fraction at each.

Supporting Parents In The Enrolment Process

As part of the transition process to a Specialist setting, parents/guardians/carers are advised to visit the range of Specialist Schools, for which they are deemed eligible, in order to make an informed decision.

In cases where the parent/carer requests enrolment at a school where the assessment is not suitable and agreement is not reached with the Principal of that school, the following process is recommended:

1. A Student Support Group meeting is called with the following possible representatives:
 - the current class teacher
 - Principals from possible prospective schools, [ie the school for whom the child is eligible & the requested school]
 - parent/carer
 - appropriate allied health professionals
 - Regional representative/s
2. The agenda for that meeting should be based around:
 - up to date reports presented to the selected Specialist School
 - the strengths of the student
 - challenges for the student
 - how the student would be supported at the school (to overcome/manage these challenges)
 - the amount of reasonable adjustment needed to ensure a successful placement of the student
 - a determined timeframe for monitoring progress of student
 - a date is set for a further meeting to make a decision regarding the student's future enrolment
3. Personnel from the Specialist School are to observe the student in their current setting
 If it is agreed that the student is to be enrolled in a Specialist School setting, the agreed Specialist School submits an Enrolment Request to region with a detailed explanation regarding the specific case.
 A copy of this Policy will be placed on the school's website and in the school enrolment package.

Enrolment

School Aged Students

All enrolments must be on the school enrolment form

The completed school enrolment form together with the following documents

- Birth Certificate
- Immunisation Record

must be submitted to the office prior to the child/student commencing school

Early Education

Children aged two years and eight months who have a delay in two or more areas may be eligible to attend our Early Education program. Referral is through NEV-R Central Intake.

Date Implemented	26/5/2014
Author	HELEN JOHNSTON
Approved By	SCHOOL COUNCIL
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	21/5/2014
Date Reviewed	

Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal
Review Date	2017
References	