Transition to School

Temporary Residents

Eligibility

In order to enrol your child for Kindergarten, there are no English language entry requirements. However, your child must hold a Temporary Resident visa and must be living with a parent during their time in Australia until the age of 10.

What you need:

- Your personal details
- A certified copy of your birth certificate or your passport
- Your visa details
- Documentation of your accommodation
- Translations of all supporting documents that are not in English
- Your method of payment

Application Process

1. Apply Online

Submit an application through the Temporary Residents Program (TRP) online portal. If you haven't made an account before, you will need to create one.

2. Required Documents

Have scanned copies of these documents ready to upload;

- proof of your child's identity and age
- proof of your child's visa
- proof of your residential address
- proof of your child's immunisation records

3. School Selection

While filling in your application, indicate your preferred school. Note that this is not guaranteed.

4. TRP Assessment

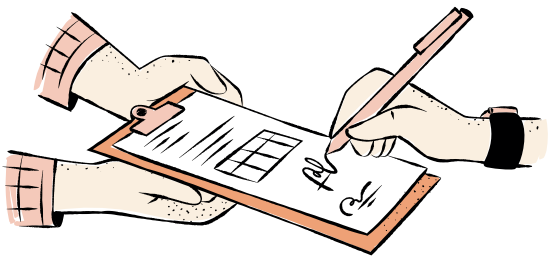
The TRP will assess your application and determine which school your child will be placed.

5. School Acceptance

The chosen school will review the application. If accepted, the TRP will issue an 'Authority to Enrol'

6. School Enrolment

Once received, contact the school to complete the final enrolment process.



For More Information

For more information, visit the NSW Government factsheet to find out more about tuition fees.

Transition to School

Children with disability or additional needs

Choosing a school

Your child's school environment will influence their education and enjoyment of learning. Make sure to choose the school that is right for your child by considering;

- Distance
- After-school care
- Accessibility
- Learning support
- School policies

When to start

In order to ensure your child's needs and necessary support are communicated, Education NSW recommends to meet with the principal of your intended school in;

- Term 2 of the year before starting kindergarten for a child with additional learning and support needs
- Term 2 of two years before starting kindergarten for children with a physical disability

What to discuss

It's important to know what to discuss during your meeting with the school to ensure that all of your child's needs will be adequately met and understood whilst at school.

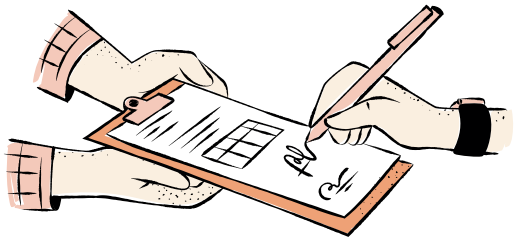
During the meeting, parents and carers should share;

- Supporting information about your child's needs, e.g. medical reports or reports from other health personnel
- Details concerning any equipment the child needs for day to day activities
- Potential changes to school property that may be necessary
- Procedures that need to be in place to address specific concerns such as asthma, allergies, epilepsy, or ADHD.

Available Classes

Students with a confirmed disability can be enrolled into any of the following classes;

- Regular classes - the same classes as every other student
- Support classes - classes that cater to more specific needs for support
- Schools for Specific Purpose (SPP) - classes in schools specifically tailored for students with additional needs



For More Information

For more information, click here to visit the NSW Government website.

Transition to School

Public Schools

When should you begin the enrolment process?

In NSW, it's recommended to start the enrolment process around May of the year before your children are due to start. This is when primary schools start accepting applications and enrolments.

Things to consider

When getting ready for NSW public school enrolments, also consider;

- Completing all the necessary health check-ups and immunisations
- Organising out-of-school care
- Looking into interpreting services

Application Process

1. Find your local school

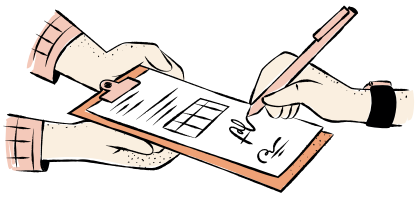
You can use the NSW 'School Finder' tool to enter your address and see a list of schools within your area. Choose from these schools to send an application for enrolment to.

2. Check your catchment area

Each school has a catchment area. This is the area that the school gives priority to for enrolments. You can check if your address is within any of your preferred schools' catchment area on the school's website.

3. Complete an enrolment application

Enrolment applications can usually be done online or by downloading a form from the school's website. Some schools also have enrolment forms available in their main office.



4. Provide the required documents

With the application form, you will need to provide some supporting documents to show;

- Proof of your child's birth (e.g. birth certificate)
- Proof of your child's immunisation history
- Proof of your residential address (e.g. utility bills)

5. Submit your application

Once the application form is completed and the required documents gathered, submit your application to the school.

6. Wait for your notification

The school will then process your application and let you know if your child has been offered a place there

For More Information

For more information about enrolling into Kindergarten, click here to access the NSW Government website.