

ENROLMENT POLICY FOR SPECIALIST SCHOOLS

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Why does my school have to update our Enrolment Policy with the new template?

In 2021 the Department undertook a state-wide review of specialist school enrolment policies. A recommendation from the review was the development of a consistent enrolment policy template for all specialist schools across the state. Consistency in a specialist school enrolment policy template provides parents and carers with the ability to compare between schools and provides clarity about the schools' enrolment criteria.

My school is being assessed against the Minimum Standards this year. Do I still need to update my enrolment policy with the new template?

If your school is scheduled for a compliance assessment in 2022, your school's enrolment policy will be updated to the new template through the assessment process.

Please note that from Term 2, 2022, the compliance assessment process is being completed separately from the school review process and will be undertaken by a Senior Advisor from within the Operational Policy, School Engagement and Compliance Division rather than an external School Reviewer. The only exception to this relates to the assessment of curriculum compliance which will still be completed by your School Reviewer. If you have any queries about this please contact school.compliance@education.vic.gov.au

I have just updated my school's Enrolment Policy as part of the compliance assessment process. Do I still need to use the new template?

If your school has recently updated the enrolment policy through the compliance assessment process, the Operational Policy, School Engagement and Compliance team will contact you to provide you with an updated policy, using the new template, for your review and is available to provide any support required.

Can I include dual school enrolment information in my school enrolment policy?

Yes, your school can include information on dual school enrolments if preferred.

Why do I need to remove PSD funding from my enrolment criteria?

Although enrolment criteria for specialist schools are aligned to a specific PSD category/ies, eligibility for specialist school enrolment is not based on PSD funding. PSD funding will gradually be replaced by the new Disability Inclusion funding model – this new template aims to reduce confusion during the transition period. References to funding should be removed from enrolment criteria and instead be reflective of the PSD category/ies.

Can we use our school's Designated Transport Area (DTA) as an enrolment zone?

Specialist schools do not have a school zone for enrolment purposes. DTAs cannot be used as enrolment zones by Specialist Schools. The DTA is intended to assist schools in determining key eligibility for the Students with Disabilities Transport Program.