



PURPOSE

A smooth transition enables newly enrolled students to become part of our school with a minimum of disruption and maximum support.

AIM

For Panton Hill Primary School to admit all children of school age if we are their designated neighbourhood government school at the beginning of the school year unless an approved alternative placement has been arranged. Schooling is compulsory for students aged from 6 – 17 years unless an exemption from attendance has been granted.

GUIDELINES

Before admitting a student schools must:

- Collect relevant admission information
- Obtain a completed enrolment form
- Provide a privacy notice to the enrolling parent explaining the use to be made of admission information. See Appendix 1
- Collect and record an immunisation status certificate – primary students.

IMPLEMENTATION

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For admission, all applicants must be:

- An Australian citizen, or a student with relevant specified visas, see: Vic Gov't Schools - [International Student Program](#) on 9637 2990 or international@edumail.vic.gov.au
- Deemed eligible and approved for enrolment by the principal or relevant regional director.

Information required for admission:

Enrolment forms are available on CASES21 and must include:

- For applicants who are Australian-born, a birth certificate showing date of birth or equivalent and for non-Australian-born, a passport or travel document such as a visa. (Note: evidence of date of birth can be official, such as a birth certificate or where this is not able to be produced, unofficial, such as a doctor's note attesting to a child's age).
- Names and addresses of the student and enrolling parent or guardian
- Details of medical and other conditions that may require special consideration
- Emergency telephone numbers, including a nominated doctor
- The name of the previous school and the student's current year level, where students transfer from another school.



Changing enrolment name

Note: The majority of students enrolled prior to 2009, with names different from those appearing on their birth certificate due to previous Department policy; can continue to be enrolled in these names.

Schools can change the name under which a student is enrolled if:

- new legal documentation with an amended name is provided, such as:
 - officially amended birth certificate
 - proof of adoption
 - court order authorising another name
- supporting documentation, which was not originally available, differs from the name provided during conditional enrolment see: Admission
- proof is provided that the enrolling parent or the student is using another name under a scheme designed to ensure their safety, such as witness protection.

Immunisation status certificates:

Schools are required to:

- Request information from parents on the immunisation status of each child, i.e. primary student, prior to enrolment i.e. official immunisation status certificate. The immunisation status certificate can be obtained from the local municipal council, Australian Childhood Immunisation Register or General Practitioner.
- Take a copy of the sighted document and record information on the immunisation status of each enrolled child.

Parents or guardians must provide an immunisation status certificate to the school regardless of whether the child is or is not immunised. Note: Homeopathic immunisation is not a recognised form of immunisation, and therefore cannot be listed on an immunisation status certificate.

Prospective students will not be prevented from enrolling in primary school if they have not been immunised.

Collecting immunisation status certificates will assist health authorities in protecting students in the event of a vaccine-preventable disease occurrence at the school. An unvaccinated student may be excluded from school for a period of time.



Maintaining and using immunisation records:

Immunisation History Statements from the Australian Immunisation Register indicate whether primary students have been immunised against some or all of the following infectious diseases:

- hepatitis
- diphtheria
- tetanus
- pertussis (whooping cough)
- poliomyelitis
- Haemophilus influenza type B
- pneumococcal
- rotavirus
- measles
- mumps
- rubella
- meningococcal
- varicella (chickenpox).

This table describes how schools should maintain and use immunisation records for primary students.

Stage	Description
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Obtain copies of official Immunisation History Statements from parents/guardians prior to enrolment.

Note: In accordance with amendments to 'No Jab No Play' legislation, as of 28 February 2018 only the Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Immunisation Register is acceptable for the purposes of enrolling in a primary school in Victoria. Sighting of the stamped immunisation booklet or documents produced by GPs or other immunisation providers are not sufficient evidence to meet this requirement.

1	Record the immunisation status of the student on CASES21 (whether an Immunisation History Statement has been received or not).
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Stage	Description
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	Maintain a file containing Immunisation History Statements.
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	Note: If primary students transfer to another primary school a copy should be sent to the receiving school and recorded on CASES21.
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	During disease outbreaks refer to student Immunisation History Statements.
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	Instruct parents/guardians of students not immunised to keep their children at home for the recommended period, as outlined in the Department of Health's School exclusion table, see: Immunisation .
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Early age entry:

Early age entry must be:

- Requested in writing to the regional director by parent/guardians
- Approved in writing by the regional director
- Approved by the principal, where students are transferring from an interstate school to a Victorian government school, and on receipt of evidence (to their satisfaction) of previous enrolment and full time school attendance.

Note: The regional director will only grant early entry in exceptional circumstances when there are strong grounds for believing long-term educational disadvantage would otherwise occur.

On admission schools consider the following in determining a student's school readiness:

- Entry assessment from kindergarten;
 - Informal observations to assess development, literacy and numeracy and academic and social needs.
 - **Principals** have the responsibility to ensure eligibility and approve the admission of individuals who:
 - Will attend Early Education Programs in special developmental schools
 - Are of compulsory school age, those aged between 6 and 17 years who are at least 5 years of age by 30 April of the year of enrolment.
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Maintaining Student Family Occupation and Education (SFOE) information:

Funding for equity (Social Disadvantage) provides an individual loading for students from disadvantaged backgrounds that will increase with the density of disadvantage at the school. Increased funding for schools has proven to raise educational outcomes, particularly for these students. Schools use Social Disadvantage funding to deliver tailored educational programs that meet the needs of this cohort of students.

The Social Disadvantage loading allocates funding based on parental occupation, parental education and the level of concentration of disadvantage in a school. Students with the highest level of need are targeted with the most funding to ensure schools have the resources to support them.

SFOE information that parents provide directly affects the level of Social Disadvantage funding that a school will receive. Therefore, it is essential that schools:

- ensure that their staff understand why SFOE data is needed and the benefits of ensuring there are no errors in data logged on CASES21
- clearly explain to parents the importance of correctly completing the parent information form
- have a process to ensure SFOE information is accurate and up-to-date
- contact parents when occupation and/or education data is missing, incomplete or unclear
- keep records to explain any changes or updates to data submitted by parents.

Evaluation

Evaluation of the Enrolment Policy will occur as stipulated in the Panton Hill PS Policy Review Cycle.



APPENDIX 1:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

ENROLMENT FORM - INFORMATION for PARENTS, GUARDIANS and CARERS

(including privacy collection notice)

The Enrolment Form asks you for personal and health information about your child and your family. This information is collected to enable our school to educate your child and support your child's social and emotional wellbeing and health. Our school is also required by legislation, such as the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, to collect some of this information.

Our school relies on you to provide **health information** about any medical condition or disability that your child has, medication your child may take while at school, any known allergies and contact details of your child's doctor. If you do not provide all relevant health information, this may put your child's health at risk.

Our school requires current, relevant information about all **parents, guardians and carers** so that we can take account of family arrangements. Please provide our school with copies of all current parenting plans AND court orders regarding parenting arrangements. Please provide copies of court orders or plans when they change. If you wish to discuss any matters regarding family arrangements in confidence, please contact the principal.

Protecting your privacy and sharing information

The information about your child and family collected through this Enrolment Form will only be shared with school staff who need to know to enable our school to educate or support your child, or to fulfil legal obligations including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. The information collected will not be disclosed beyond the Department of Education and Training without your consent, unless such disclosure is lawful. For more about information-sharing and privacy, see our school's privacy policy at:
<http://www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au/>

Our school's use of online tools (including apps and other software) to collect and manage information

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to collect and manage information about your child. When our school uses these online tools, we do our best to ensure that your child's information is secure. These online tools enable our school to efficiently and effectively manage important information about your child and also to communicate with you. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

Emergency contacts

Emergency contacts are those people you nominate for the school to contact during an emergency. Please ensure your nominated emergency contact agrees to you providing their contact details to our school and that they have read the paragraph above. It is important that you inform them that their contact details may be disclosed beyond the Department if lawful.



Student background information

The enrolment form requests information about country of birth, aboriginality, language spoken at home and parent occupation. This information enables the Department to allocate appropriate resources to our school. The Department also uses this information to plan for future educational needs in Victoria and shares some information with the Commonwealth government to monitor, plan and allocate resources.

Immunisation status

Your child's immunisation status assists our school to manage health risks for children. The Department may also provide this information to the Department of Health and Human Services to assess immunisation rates in Victoria, but not in a way which identifies you.

Visa status

Our school also requires this information to process your child's enrolment.

Updating your child's personal and health information

Please inform our school if, and when, there are any updates to any of the personal or health information you provide on the Enrolment Form.

Accessing your child's records

Our school provides ordinary school communications and school reports to students and parents, guardians and carers who have legal decision-making responsibility for the student. Requests for any other type of student records may be made through a Freedom of Information (FOI) application. Please contact our school and we can advise you how to do this.

Student transfers between Victorian government schools

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, our school will transfer the student's personal and health information to that next school. This may include copies of student's school records, including any health information. Transferring this information assist the next school to provide the best possible education and support to students.