

Moving into Year 7 at a NSW public school in 2027





For more information:

education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment/high-school-enrolment

If you require an interpreter to assist you with your enquiry please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. This service will be free of charge to you.

For further information, please contact your local primary school principal or the secondary school of your choice.

This booklet provides information on:

- NSW Public School options, including:
 - Identifying your child's local high school
 - Where to find information for non-local schools
 - Other schooling options to support your child
- Steps for enrolling your child at a NSW secondary school
- Key dates
- Frequently asked questions, and
- How to complete the expression of interest.

Public education: Inspiring excellence

NSW public schools provide all students with a world-class education, supporting children to achieve their potential by enabling lifelong learning. Public schools offer diverse opportunities, inclusive environments, and outstanding teaching and learning to set students up for success in school and beyond.

Enrolling your child in a public secondary school will provide them with access to a range of high-quality educational programs and exceptional co-curricular opportunities in areas like science, the creative and performing arts, sports, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and more.

Enrolling at a local school

How do I know what my local school is?

Your child's permanent residential address determines which school is your child's local school.

The School Finder tool at schoolfinder.education.nsw.gov.au can help you locate the local school and explore other non-local schools.

Most NSW public schools have designated intake areas. Parents and carers are entitled to enrol their child at the local school within the intake area, providing the child is eligible to attend and the school can accommodate them. Attending your local public school helps your child build friendships with peers in your neighbourhood, which can be important for their social development and sense of belonging.

Local public schools cater for students of all ability levels, including talent development programs and processes to challenge high potential and gifted students and programs for students with additional learning, health and support needs. They also offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities. You can contact your local school to find out what opportunities are available to support your child.

Enrolling at a non-local school

The School finder tool at schoolfinder.education.nsw.gov.au can help you explore what schools have to offer and their non-local enrolment availability.

Provide your home address or postcode to search for your local school map and select the categories in "Nearby schools" to explore NSW public schools.

You may be considering enrolling your child in a school that is not your local school. Parents and carers may apply to enrol their child at any school they choose, even if it is 'non-local', meaning it is outside their intake area. Whether the school can accept the non-local enrolment or not may depend on its enrolment availability.



School finder tool
schoolfinder.education.nsw.gov.au

Supporting our students (other schooling options)

NSW public schools provide a broad range of high-quality educational programs and settings to suit students' needs and interests, including:

High Potential and Gifted Education

High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) is offered in all public schools to develop talent across the four domains of potential: creative, intellectual, physical and social-emotional. This includes:

- extension, enrichment and extra-curricular programs
- inter-school programs and competitions
- system-level talent development opportunities such as representative sport pathways and the Schools Spectacular.

More information about HPGE is available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/high-potential-and-gifted-education/supporting-parents-and-carers>.

Specialist schools

Specialist schools provide a secondary education that focuses on a specific talent or interest. Specialist schools have been established for creative, performing and visual arts, languages, technology (including marine technology and rural technology), agriculture and sport.

In some of these specialist schools the criteria for enrolment may include performance or audition.

Parents and carers should visit the school's website to learn about their individual application process and timelines. Parents are encouraged to contact the school early to ensure any additional eligibility requirements can be met within the school's enrolment process timeframes.

More information about specialist schools is available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/creative-and-performing-arts-high-schools>.

Academically selective schools

The application process for entry into a fully or partially academically selective school begins when the student is in Year 5 and is longer than the normal enrolment process.

The application form is only available online. Please note that no late applications will be accepted. A list of academically selective schools and details of their enrolment procedures are available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/students/oc-and-shs/going-to-a-selective-high-school>.

Support classes and schools for specific purposes

Consideration for placement in a support class in a mainstream school or a school for specific purposes (SSP) is managed through an access request placement process.

Most students with disability and additional learning and health support needs will be supported through the resources at their local school. Some secondary schools have support classes to cater for the additional learning and support needs of students with disability.

Your child's primary school principal will assist you to find the right schooling option for your child, taking into account your choice, your child's specific additional learning and health support needs and proximity to local specialist services.

Intensive English Centres

Intensive English Centres (IECs) are for newly arrived, high school-aged students who speak a language other than English and require intensive English language instruction to participate in secondary education.

More information about Intensive English Centres is available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/multicultural-education/english-as-an-additional-language-or-dialect/new-arrivals-program/intensive-english-centres>.

Multi-campus Colleges

There are multi-campus colleges which include a number of schools or campuses, with each school or campus specialising in different areas. For example, there are junior campuses (Years 7–9 or 7–10), senior campuses (Years 10–12 or 11–12), academically selective campuses, co-educational campuses and single-sex campuses.

Central Schools for rural and isolated communities

There are also central schools which offer many rural and isolated communities the opportunity to educate their children from Kindergarten through to Year 12 in one school setting. Many central schools use technology to link teachers and students in different schools so that a range of subjects is offered. Central schools also offer a broad range of extra-curricular activities.

Enrolling your child at a NSW secondary school

In NSW public schools, applying to move from primary school to high school is a 3-step process:

Step 1: Complete the Expression Of Interest (EOI)

Request placement at the public school(s) of your choice by completing the EOI online or via the form attached. You can apply to your local high school and/or a maximum of 3 non-local schools.



Step 2: Complete an application to enrol form

Once your child has been offered a place in a school, you will be asked to complete an application to enrol form. The school principal will decide on your enrolment after reviewing your application and may contact you for more information. You will receive an email or letter confirming whether or not your child has been accepted for enrolment.



Step 3: Get to know your new school

Once you receive confirmation of your child's enrolment, it is important to learn about the new school to support your child's move to Year 7. The school will organise transition activities and an orientation day for students who will be starting Year 7 the following year. If you need further information, please call the school directly.

Key dates

Below are the key dates for the high school enrolment process:

Dates	Actions
March 2026	You complete the expression of interest form. All Expressions of Interest must be returned by Friday 27 March 2026.
May – August 2026	You must submit an enrolment application to the high school that has made you an offer, within the specified time. During this process you can submit all documents to support your application.
September 2026	Your child's placement will be confirmed by the high school.
December 2026	Your child attends orientation activities at the high school they have enrolled in for Year 7, 2027.
February 2027	Your child begins their first day of Year 7.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply for a high school outside my local area?

Yes, while students are entitled to enrol at the school in their local intake area, parents and carers can submit an expression of interest to enrol their child in any high school of their choice. Whether a school can accommodate non-local enrolments will depend on its enrolment availability. If more non-local enrolment applications are received than available places, the school prioritises them based on the non-local enrolment criteria. Contact the school directly to find out if it is considering non-local enrolment applications.

How are non-local enrolment applications prioritised?

If a school receives more non-local applications than there are non-local places available, it will prioritise applications in line with criteria in section 4.4 of the Enrolment in Kindergarten to Year 12 procedures available at: education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2002-0006-01.

If you are seeking to enrol your child at a non-local school with limited non-local enrolment availability, you may be asked to provide reasons for seeking non-local placement, for example:

- learning and wellbeing needs requiring reasonable adjustments and/or additional educational support including cultural considerations, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural, family and kinship connections and relationships, disability, developmental age, trauma, child protection concerns, health support and individual needs and circumstances
- siblings already enrolled at the school
- students attending a public preschool co-located with the school
- proximity and access to the school
- access to a single-sex school
- health support needs
- safety and supervision of your child before and after school
- availability of subjects or combinations of subjects at the school

- compassionate circumstances
- the structure and organisation of the school
- recent changes in the local intake area boundaries
- parent or carer working at the school.

The school will only consider the information on your child's Expression of Interest form and other relevant documentation you provide, so it's important you provide the relevant details where prompted.

What happens after a school offers a place for my child?

Once your child has been offered a place in a high school, you will be notified by the school with instructions to complete an Application to Enrol form. The school will provide you with instructions on how to complete this form online or via a paper enrolment form.

The final decision on enrolment will be made following receipt and consideration of your enrolment form by the school principal. The principal may contact you for more information. You will then receive confirmation of your child's enrolment.

What happens if my child's expression of interest is declined by the high school?

If your child is not offered a place at your Choice 1 school, your child will be considered for placement at your Choice 2 school, then at your Choice 3 school, if applicable.

If your child is not offered a place at one of your preferred schools, you will be notified by the school. You may be placed on a waiting list and offered a place if one becomes available. If none of your preferences can be accommodated, your child is guaranteed a place at their local high school.

If you feel you have not been treated fairly or that the result is unreasonable, you may lodge an appeal. The appeal should be made in writing to the secondary school principal.

What happens if I decline an offer made by the high school?

If you decline an offer to a non-local school, it will be assumed that you require a place in your child's local high school and you will be asked to complete an enrolment application for that school.

How do I notify the school about my child's learning and health support needs?

It is important that you provide your new school with information about your child's learning and health support needs. It is essential that you tell the school about any known allergies or other medical conditions relating to your child.

This includes but is not limited to information that your child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes or epilepsy.

Notify the school if your child has an allergy, and/or is at risk of anaphylaxis, at the time of enrolment or as soon as possible after diagnosis. Please provide the school with a valid ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis or ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions completed and signed by the treating doctor or nurse practitioner.

Provide the school with the student's prescribed medication including the adrenaline injector (where prescribed), ensuring this matches the completed ASCIA Action Plan.



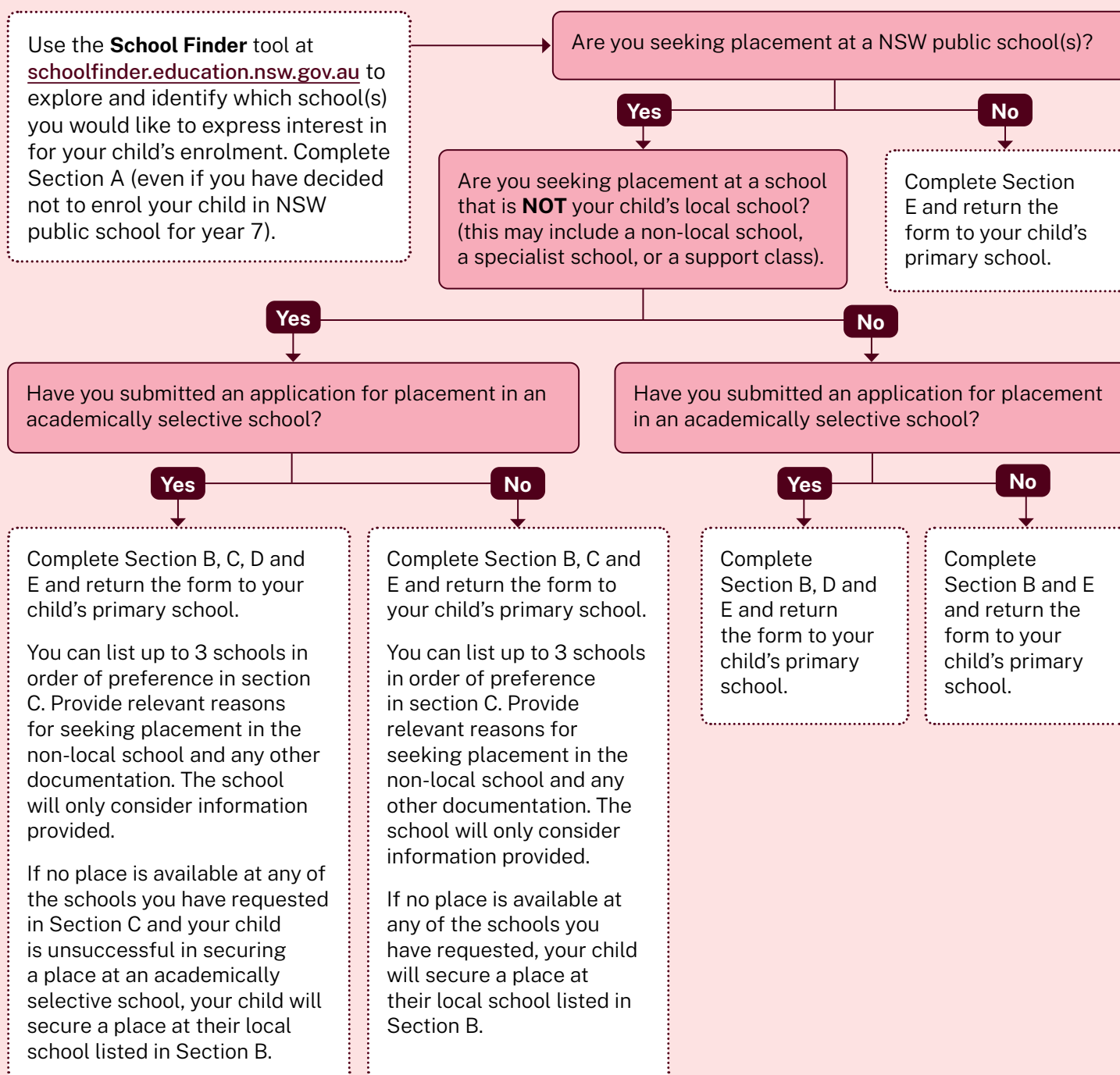
Completing the expression of interest form

Complete the form online at year7.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au or submit the attached paper form to your child's primary school by **27 March 2026**.



If you do not submit an expression of interest by this date, you will need to apply to enrol your child directly with the high school. You can still apply to enrol in a non-local high school, and the school will consider your application. To apply to your local or non-local high school, visit the high school's website and submit an online application through the 'Enrol' page. You can also ask the school for a paper application form.

All parents and carers with a child in year 6 at a NSW Primary school should complete an Expression of Interest form online, or using the attached paper form



We recognise the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We pay respect to Elders past and present as ongoing teachers of knowledge, songlines and stories. We strive to ensure every Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander learner in NSW achieves their potential through education.

Say hello

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