

Application information - Years 8 to 12 entry to selective high schools in 2023

Please complete the application form if you wish to apply for your child to enter a selective high school starting in Years 8 to 12. You can apply for up to three schools. Use a separate application form for each school and send it directly to the schools.

Important dates

Date	What happens
21 June 2022	The application form is available on the High Performing Students Team's website and on the websites of selective high schools.
22 July 2022	Closing date for completed application forms to be returned to the chosen selective high schools.
August-September 2022	Schools conduct assessments.
September-October 2022	Selection committees meet and consider applications.
October-November 2022	Advice about the outcome of applications is sent to parents.

The number of vacancies in Years 8 to 12 will vary across academic Years and from school to school. Generally the number of vacancies is limited. Places in Years 11 and 12 may not be available in all schools.

Before submitting your application to the chosen selective high school, you should go to each school's website and/or contact the school to find out:

- whether to send the application form by email or by mail
- the distance your child will need to travel to attend the school
- the school assessment procedures such as testing and school reports
- courses and programs offered
- selection criteria
- boarding fees and possible financial assistance if applying for boarder placement
- geographical isolation factors for boarder agricultural high schools if applying for boarder placement.

This document is also available on the internet at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/years-8-to-12>

In this document:

'selective' includes fully selective high schools, partially selective high schools, Aurora College virtual secondary school and agricultural high schools.

'parent' is defined under the Education Act to 'include a guardian or other person having the custody or care of a child'.

Selective high schools

Selective high schools cater for highly achieving academically gifted and high potential students who may otherwise be isolated from a suitable academic peer group. These schools can provide intellectual stimulation by grouping academically gifted and talented students together, concentrating school resources and using specialised teaching methods.

Selective high schools include:

- **Seventeen** fully selective high schools where all classes are academically selective.
- **Twenty-seven** high schools with selective classes (partially selective) in Years 7 and above. Partially selective high schools have community classes as well as selective classes for English, science and mathematics. These include Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt and Balmain campuses which offer places in Years 7-10. Students from these schools generally proceed to Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay campus for Years 11 and 12.
- **Four** agricultural high schools (three of which offer boarding places). Agricultural high schools are selective high schools that emphasise the study of agriculture. Boarding sections give some priority to isolated students.
- Aurora College where students intending to enrol in a government high school in a rural or remote location are eligible to apply. A list of eligible participating schools is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/information-for-applicants/aurora-college/rural-and-remote-high-schools>.

The complete list of selective high schools accepting applications for vacancies starting in Years 8 to 12 is shown at the end of this document. Not all schools fill vacancies in Years 11 and 12. Please visit the schools' websites to find out whether they are taking applications for vacancies in Years 11 and 12 before applying for those school Years.

Fees

As with all government schools, tuition at selective high schools is free, but schools may ask for a voluntary contribution to cover services such as library, textbooks and curriculum-related resources. Schools may also ask for contributions to cover the purchase of materials in certain key learning areas and to cover costs associated with sports or excursions. Boarder agricultural high schools charge boarding fees.

Enquiries

If you have enquiries about applications, assessments or courses, contact the specific selective high school. Contact details are listed at the end of this document.

How to apply

Read this document carefully.

- You may apply for no more than three selective high schools. Look up the school websites that are listed at the end of this document to find out about the assessment requirements for entry to Years 8 to 12. Courses offered may not be the same as the current high school but current courses may be taken into account by selection committees.
- Complete a separate application form for each selective high school you wish to apply for. You must list the schools you choose in **the same order of priority** on every application form.
- Attach a copy of the birth certificate or other document that verifies the student's name shown on each application.
- Send each form to reach the relevant selective high school by 22 July 2022.
- Complete any extra forms the school asks for.

Australian citizenship and residency status

Students seeking to enrol in selective high schools must be Australian citizens or holders of a visa granting permanent resident status in Australia. Information on Australian citizenship is available on the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website at: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.

You can get a Certificate of Evidence of Australian Citizenship or a Visa grant notice to prove your visa status.

Citizens of New Zealand are eligible for selective high school entry. Permanent residents of New Zealand are considered in the same manner as temporary residents of Australia and are not normally eligible. If you do not meet these residency requirements at the time of applying but expect to meet them by the time offers are made, you are allowed to apply provided you are already living in Australia.

If you qualify for entry on academic grounds but do not yet meet the residency requirements, including those who hold diplomatic visas, you may ask for special consideration through the review process. If your application is successful, you must show original documentation, such as a Certificate of Evidence of Australian Citizenship, birth certificates or visas, before the school can enrol your child. Your child's offer may be cancelled if it is based on false or misleading information.

Residential address

Your family must be living in NSW by the beginning of the 2023 school year. If your family normally lives in NSW but you are temporarily out of the state, you should expect to return before the student is enrolled in a selective high school. If you continue to live outside NSW after the 2023 school year begins your application will be considered only if there are vacancies remaining after all suitable applicants from NSW have been placed.

Application and selection procedures

This application information and the application form are available at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/years-8-to-12> while applications are open.

Selective high schools also provide the link to the form on their websites and may be able to print a copy of the application form for you if you are unable to use a computer. Some selective high schools may have a link to a version of the application form that you can complete and submit online.

Acknowledgement of receipt of application

Your application will be acknowledged by the school/s in writing.

Change of application details

If there is a change in details such as your child's name, address or school after you have sent your application form, please write to the selective high school(s) you have applied for. Write to those schools directly if you want to withdraw your application.

Selection procedures

The number of vacancies at selective high schools in Years 8 to 12 will generally depend on the number of students who leave in the previous year but some schools may create an additional class in a specific academic Year. In some schools there may be no vacancies in some academic Years.

For each selective high school, a selection committee will decide on the students to be offered places and will establish a reserve list in priority order on the basis of academic merit.

The selection committee comprises the selective high school principal and an additional member nominated by the principal.

The selection committee may ask for further information or arrange for additional assessment procedures if required.

Testing

If it is required by the selection committee, students may be asked to take a test. In this case, the school will provide you with reasonable notice of the time, date and place of the test. Schools may request a test administration fee.

Some groups of schools share the results of tests between them. If you have chosen more than one of these schools, your child will have to sit that test only once. However, if the schools you have chosen use different forms of testing, your child may have to sit more than one test.

Where testing is conducted by the school, students found to be cheating risk disqualification from the test.

Notice of outcome

You will be notified in writing about the outcome of your application. Some later offers may be made by telephone. Students may be:

- offered a place
- put on the reserve list
- advised that they did not qualify for placement.

If your child is placed on a reserve list, it applies only to starting in the school Year you applied for. If unsuccessful you can apply in future to start in subsequent school Years.

This information will be provided by each school you applied for.

Response to offers

If you receive an offer, please respond to the school as soon as possible. If you do not respond within 7 days or within the time specified on your offer letter, the school will assume that you do not want to accept the offer. Where your offer is made by telephone you must respond within 24 hours.

If you will be away on holidays when offers are being made, you should leave contact details with the selective school(s) or delegate someone to respond on your behalf.

If you accept the offer you will be sent an Authority to attend letter by the school. For government high school students the selective high school principal will then arrange for the student's records to be transferred.

The offer will be withdrawn if the student fails to enrol at the school at the beginning of the school year without providing a satisfactory explanation.

You must negotiate any deferment with the principal. You cannot defer enrolment beyond the first day of Term 2, 2023.

If you accept the offer then later change your mind, please tell the school immediately so that the next eligible applicant can be offered the place.

If you decline the offer, you will be sent a letter to confirm this.

Reviews

If you wish to contest a decision of the selection committee, you should contact the school within 14 days of the date on the outcome letter with detailed reasons why you believe the selection committee's decision should be reviewed.

You can request a review if you have evidence that the stated criteria for selection were not considered or the stated process was not followed.

You should include information such as:

- factors which may have prevented the student from gaining a place
- any supporting material, where applicable. Reviews based on illness must include a medical certificate covering the date of the assessment.

Decisions cannot be reviewed if they are based on:

- other assessments such as NAPLAN or competitions
- in-class rankings of one candidate over another
- disruption to learning while the student is on holiday or overseas
- pre-diagnosed or known illness or medical conditions
- moving house
- insufficient documentation supplied to the school with the application.

For performance-based reviews, only evidence relating to performance in 2021 and 2022 may be considered.

The selective high school will review the decision and will notify parents about the outcome.

Following the outcome of the review, if you believe you have grounds to contest the decision, you can write to the Director, Educational Leadership responsible for the chosen selective high school. Find the relevant Director by calling the Department 1300 679 332.

Transfers and repeating

Students cannot automatically transfer between selective high schools. If the student is already enrolled at one selective high school and wants to go to another, you must fill out an application form for entry to Years 8 to 12 and lodge it directly with the selective high school you want your child to attend. The application must be submitted before the closing date each year.

If the student is currently enrolled in a selective high school and you wish your child to repeat the Year in 2023, you should discuss the matter with the current principal before applying.

Enrolment policy

The NSW Department of Education has a responsibility to assess and manage any risk of harm to its staff or students. This includes assessing and managing risks posed to students or staff at a school by any student. Where relevant, such situations will be dealt with in accordance with the NSW Department of Education enrolment policies and procedures.

Information for parents regarding enrolment is available at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment>.

Entry to boarder agricultural high schools

Priority for placement in boarder agricultural high schools will be given to geographically isolated students and then to other country students. Some priority will also be given to students who would have to travel extensively to study agriculture. The academic merit of boarders admitted to boarder agricultural high schools on the basis of isolation must be comparable to that of other boarders and day students at the school. For boarder placement, extra consideration may be given to students who have brothers or sisters already attending the school.

If applying for a boarder place you should complete all of the boarder agricultural school section on the application form including:

- isolation factors
- interest in agriculture
- ability to cope in a boarding situation.

In addition to satisfying residency requirements and other conditions for entry, enrolment as a boarder student is subject to the provision of a medical report for the student and the submission of a Residential student agreement.

Boarder Students

Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School has boarder and day places for boys only. Agriculture is a compulsory subject for Years 7 to 10.

Hurlstone Agricultural High School has co-educational boarder and day places. Agriculture is a compulsory subject for Years 7 to 10.

Yanco Agricultural High School has co-educational boarder students only. Agriculture is a compulsory subject for Years 7 to 10 and is optional in senior years.

For Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School and Hurlstone Agricultural High School, a student successful in gaining a boarder placement cannot later be automatically transferred to a day place as the placement process is different for boarder and day places.

Boarder Fees

Boarder agricultural high schools can charge an application fee, which you pay when you accept a boarder place. The school deducts that amount from the fees you pay when you enrol your child. If you withdraw your child after accepting the offer of a place, the application fee is not returned to you.

In addition to satisfying boarder requirements and other conditions for entry, you must provide a medical report and pay the boarder fee. You must confirm the 2023 boarding fees and the timing of payments with the school. You must sign a Residential student agreement undertaking to pay the boarder fees when they are due.

Financial Assistance for Boarder Students

Find information about the following types of financial assistance at

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/rural-and-distance-education/rural-and-remote-education>.

- **Secondary students living away from home allowance (LAFHA)** Application forms are available from boarder agricultural high schools and the Allowances Officer, Secondary Students' Living Away From Home Allowance, Rural and Distance Education, PO Box 717, Bathurst NSW 2795. Telephone 02 6334 8070.
- **Boarding Scholarships for Isolated Students (BSIS)**
- **Assistance for isolated children scheme (AIC).** Information about this scheme is published by the Department of Human Services. The information is available from Centrelink offices or you can telephone 132 318.

In addition, students may be able to obtain assistance from Youth Allowance

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/youth-allowance> or ABSTUDY <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/abstudy>, both of which are administered by the Commonwealth. Please contact the specific boarder agricultural high school for more details about schemes that provide financial assistance to boarder students.

Selective high schools

School	Details
Alexandria Park Community School	co-educational, partially selective Park Road, Alexandria 2015 Phone: (02) 9698 1967 Web: https://alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au Email: alexparkcs-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Armidale Secondary College	co-educational, partially selective Butler Street Armidale 2350 Phone: (02) 6776 7466 Web: https://armidale-s.schools.nsw.gov.au Email: armidale-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Auburn Girls High School	partially selective Hunter Street and Braemar Ave, Auburn 2144 Phone: (02) 9649 6949 Web: https://www.auburng-h.nsw.edu.au/ Email: auburng-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Aurora College	co-educational, virtual, selective for English, maths and science. Students do their other subjects at their home schools in rural locations. Phone: 1300 287 629 Web: http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/ Email: auroracoll-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Baulkham Hills High School	co-educational, fully selective Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills 2153 Phone: (02) 9639 8699 Web: https://baulkham-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: baulkham-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Blacktown Boys High School	partially selective Sunnyholt Road & Fifth Ave, Blacktown 2148 Phone: (02) 9622 1558 Web: https://blacktownb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: blacktownb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Blacktown Girls High School	partially selective Fifth Ave, Blacktown 2148 Phone: (02) 9831 7577 Web: https://blacktowng-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: blacktowng-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

Bonnyrigg High School	co-educational, partially selective Elizabeth Drive, Bonnyrigg 2177 Phone: (02) 9823 1184 Web: https://bonnyrigg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: bonnyrigg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Caringbah High School	co-educational, fully selective Willarong Road, Caringbah 2229 Phone: (02) 9524 3859 Web: https://caringbah-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: caringbah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Chatswood High School	co-educational, partially selective Centennial Ave, Chatswood 2067 Phone: (02) 9419 3611 Web: https://www.chatswoodhighschool.com.au/ Email: chatswood-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Elizabeth Macarthur High School	co-educational, partially selective Waterworth Drive, Narellan 2567 Phone: (02) 4646 1899 Web: https://elizabeth-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: elizabeth-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School	boarding and day students; boys only 585 Calala Lane, Tamworth 2340 Phone: (02) 6764 8600 Web: https://farreraagri-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: farreraagri-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Fort Street High School	co-educational, fully selective Parramatta Road, Petersham 2049 Phone: (02) 8585 1620 Web: https://www.fortstreet.nsw.edu.au/ Email: fortstreet-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Girraween High School	co-educational, fully selective Gilba Road, Girraween 2145 Phone: (02) 9636 7293 Web: https://girraween-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: girraween-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

Gorokan High School	co-educational, partially selective Goobarabah Ave, Gorokan 2263 Phone: (02) 4393 7000 Web: https://gorokan-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: gorokan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Gosford High School	co-educational, fully selective Racecourse Road, Gosford 2250 Phone: (02) 4325 2048 Web: https://gosford-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: gosford-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Grafton High School	co-educational, partially selective Oliver & Mary Streets, Grafton 2460 Phone: (02) 6642 3355 Web: https://grafton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: grafton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Granville Boys High School	partially selective Mary Street, Granville 2142 Phone: (02) 9637 0489 Web: https://granvilleb-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: granvilleb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Hornsby Girls High School	fully selective Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby 2077 Phone: (02) 9476 5711 Web: https://hornsbygir-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: hornsbygir-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Hurlstone Agricultural High School	boarding and day students, co-educational Roy Watts Road, Glenfield 2167 Phone: (02) 9829 9222 Web: http://www.hurlstone.com.au Email: hurlstone-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
James Ruse Agricultural High School	day students only, co-educational, agriculture is a compulsory subject up to Year 10 Felton Road, Carlingford 2118 Phone: (02) 9871 7126 Web: https://jamesruse-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: jamesruse-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

Karabar High School	co-educational, partially selective Donald Road, Queanbeyan 2620 Phone: (02) 6298 4333 Web: https://www.karabarhigh.com.au/ Email: karabar-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Koorinal High School	co-educational, partially selective Ziegler Avenue, Wagga Wagga 2650 Phone: (02) 6922 5155 Web: https://koorinal-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: koorinal-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Macquarie Fields High School	co-educational, partially selective Harold Street, Macquarie Fields 2564 Phone: (02) 9605 3111 Web: https://macfields-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: macfields-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Merewether High School	co-educational, fully selective Chatham Street, Broadmeadow 2292 Phone: (02) 4969 3855 Web: https://merewether-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: merewether-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Moorebank High School	co-educational, partially selective Bangalow Avenue, Moorebank 2170 Phone: (02) 9601 3999 Web: https://moorebank-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: moorebank-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Normanhurst Boys High School	fully selective Pennant Hills Road, Normanhurst 2076 Phone: (02) 9489 1077 Web: https://normanhurstboys.nsw.edu.au/ Email: normanhurb-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
North Sydney Boys High School	fully selective Falcon Street, Crows Nest 2065 Phone: (02) 9955 1565 Web: https://northsydbo-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: northsydbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

North Sydney Girls High School	fully selective 365 Pacific Highway, Crows Nest 2065 Phone: (02) 9922 6666 Web: http://www.northsydgi-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/public/ Email: northsydgi-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Northern Beaches Secondary College Manly Campus	co-educational, fully selective 138 Abbott Rd, North Curl Curl 2099 Phone: (02) 9905 3982 https://nbscmanlys-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: nbscmanlys-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Parramatta High School	co-educational, partially selective Great Western Hwy & Pitt St, Parramatta 2150 Phone: (02) 9635 8644 Web: https://parramatta-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: parramatta-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Peel High School	co-educational, partially selective 88 Gunnedah Rd, Tamworth 2340 Phone: (02) 6765 7088 Web: https://peel-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: peel-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Penrith High School	co-educational, fully selective High Street, Penrith 2750 Phone: (02) 4721 0529 Web: https://penrith-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: penrith-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Prairiewood High School	co-educational, partially selective Prairievale Road, Wetherill Park 2164 Phone: (02) 9725 5444 Web: https://prairiewoo-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: prairiewoo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Richmond High School – Richmond Agricultural College	co-educational, partially selective. Students must study agriculture 140 Lennox Street, Richmond 2753 Phone: (02) 4578 1177 Web: https://richmond-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: richmond-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

Rose Bay Secondary College	co-educational, partially selective Hardy Street, Dover Heights 2030 Phone: (02) 9301 0300 Web: https://rosebay-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: rosebay-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Ryde Secondary College	co-educational, partially selective 5 Malvina Street, Ryde 2112 Phone: (02) 9809 4894 Web: http://www.rsc.nsw.edu.au Email: rydesc-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Sefton High School	co-educational, partially selective 41-43 Hector Street, Sefton 2162 Phone: (02) 9644 4800 Web: https://sefton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: sefton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Smith's Hill High School	co-educational, fully selective Gipps Street, Wollongong 2500 Phone: (02) 4229 4266 Web: https://smithshill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: smithshill-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
St George Girls High School	fully selective Victoria Street, Kogarah 2217 Phone: (02) 9587 5902 Web: http://www.sqghs.com.au Email: stgeorgegi-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Sydney Boys High School	fully selective Moore Park, Surry Hills 2010 Phone: (02) 9361 6910 Web: http://www.sydneyboyshigh.com Email: office@sbhs.nsw.edu.au
Sydney Girls High School	fully selective Anzac Parade, Surry Hills 2010 Phone: (02) 9331 2336 Web: https://www.sghs.nsw.edu.au/ Email: administration@sghs.nsw.edu.au

Selective high schools

Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus	co-educational, partially selective Terry Street, Rozelle 2039 Phone: (02) 9810 0471 Web: https://balmain-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: balmain-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus	co-educational, partially selective [Years 11 to 12] Taylor St, Glebe 2037 Phone: (02) 9660 5688 Web: https://sscbwattle-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: sscbwattle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt Campus	co-educational, partially selective 210 Balmain Road, Leichhardt 2040 Phone: (02) 9560 2565 Web: https://leichhardt-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: leichhardt-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Sydney Technical High School	boys only, fully selective Forest Road, Bexley 2207 Phone: (02) 9587 5899 Web: https://www.sths.nsw.edu.au/ Email: sydneytech-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Tempe High School	co-educational, partially selective Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe 2044 Phone: (02) 9558 2336 Web: https://tempe-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: tempe-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Yanco Agricultural High School	co-educational, boarding students only 259 Euroley Road, Yanco 2703 Phone: (02) 6951 1500 Web: https://yancoag-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/ Email: yancoag-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au