



OVERSEAS STUDENT ENGLISH PROFICIENCY POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

Fintona Girls' School (**School**) is committed to providing quality education to all students. In order to deliver on this commitment, the School must ensure that overseas students who attend the School have attained a suitable level of English proficiency prior to enrolment.

Fintona requires international students who are not proficient in English to take an English program when they arrive in Australia.

A compliant English Proficiency Policy is mandated by Standard 2 of the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 made under subsection 33(1) of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (Cth) (**ESOS Act**).

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the School's policy on English language proficiency required to be eligible for admission to the School.

3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all overseas students seeking enrolment with the School.

4. DEFINITIONS

Overseas Student means a person (whether within or outside Australia) who holds a student visa as defined by the **ESOS Act**, but does not include students of a kind prescribed in the ESOS Regulations. Where the student is under 18 years of age and the student is required to exercise rights or enter obligations as a legal person, this term may refer to the student's parents or legal guardian.

5. POLICY

- All applications for enrolment from overseas students must be processed according to this policy.
- Students must attain a suitable score, as determined by the School from time to time, in order to receive an offer of enrolment or commence study at the School.

6. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

To be considered for enrolment at the School, an overseas student must complete, as a minimum requirement, an English Language assessment as part of the application process.

In order to assess a student's English proficiency, the School requires overseas students to undertake the Australian Educational Assessment Services (AEAS) test. The results of the AEAS test should be provided with the initial application.

The School will consider the results of the AEAS test and will either:

- Where the result is 80% or above, make an offer of enrolment; or
- Where the result is less than 80%:

- make a provisional offer of enrolment, requiring the student to undertake additional testing prior to commencement at the School; or
- decline to make an offer of enrolment.

7. PROVISIONAL OFFER OF ENROLMENT

In the event the student's English language proficiency is below that required, the School may make a provisional offer. This offer is dependent on the student undertaking study at a suitable Language School for intensive English courses. The School will recommend suitable Language Schools.

Students will then be required to undertake an additional test to determine whether there has been an improvement in the English proficiency and whether the student will be able to access the curriculum and succeed in mainstream classes. This will usually involve the following three assessments:

- EDUTEST which includes a reading comprehension and a verbal reasoning component;
- Video and accompanying short answer questions to assess comprehension and writing ability; and
- Interview with any two of the following: EAL Teacher, Head of Learning Teaching and Development or Head of School, to assess receptive and spoken language acquisition skills and to assess social/emotional readiness for mainstream schooling in Australia.

Enrolment offers under this section are provisional upon the Student's completion of the recommended English language preparation course and achievement of the required level of English appropriate to the year level of entry, as determined by the School. The School reserves the right to withdraw a provisional offer of Enrolment if test results and progress reports from the language preparation course are not satisfactory as determined by the School.

8. CONSIDERATIONS

Any decision to extend an offer of enrolment is made at the sole discretion of the School. The School may, but is not required to, give consideration to the following factors when considering whether to make an offer of enrolment:

- Above average scores of stanine 7–9 on the AEAS test are preferred for enrolment at Years 9, 10, 11 & 12;
- potential for growth; and
- whether students have experience studying at an English language school as they are likely to have less scope for further growth in language acquisition.

9. BREACHES OF THIS CODE

Any breach of this Policy may result in withdrawal of offer of enrolment or termination of enrolment.

10. MONITORING AND REVIEW

A review of this Policy shall be conducted every two years.

The Board will be responsible for ensuring that this Policy is reviewed and updated