

## **STUDENT ENROLMENT POLICY**

AIPAH caters for gifted and talented students in the areas of Dance, Drama and Music and related areas such as technical aspects of the Performing Arts, and Visual Arts. The school enrolls students locally (within NSW and interstate) as well as from overseas.

All students, be they local or international, must complete and submit an online *Application to Enrol* which is available from the school website. There are no sibling rights for enrolment.

There needs to be a clear and consistent policy in enrolling students at AIPAH so that students and parents are treated equitably. The school has a current enrolment ceiling of 180.

### **ENROLMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS STUDENTS**

Given the purpose and focus of this school, and the fact that demand for places is greater than supply of available places, all non-local applicants for enrolment will be considered on the basis of audition and interview.

Each audition/ interview is assessed on its own merits. The decision of the examiner and interviewer is final and no appeal can be made except on procedure. Information on individual student's performance in their audition/ interview will not be given. The purpose of the audition/ interview is for the school to select the best and most suitable students as assessed by the examiners/ interviewers based on the stated criteria. These are the conditions under which students and parents/carers must agree to when applying to audition.

The general criteria on which students will be assessed are:

- the ability to work independently and cooperatively
- demonstrated genuine interest in the performing arts
- demonstrated self discipline and commitment
- the ability to successfully apply themselves to curricula and co-curricula performing arts commitments as well as other academic studies.

In addition the following criteria specifically apply to each performing arts area:

#### **Dance**

- demonstrated dance skills
- physical and cognitive potential in dance

#### **Drama**

- high standard of movement skills
- high standard of vocal skills
- demonstrated adaptability to various roles
- demonstrated creativity and imagination
- proficiency in script work

#### **Music**

- demonstrated pitch, rhythm, creative ability and potential
- demonstrated concentration and focus

Additional information regarding performance requirements is sent to applicants prior to auditions.

### **Procedures for Students Seeking Enrolment**

1. Students/ parents contact the school expressing interest in enrolment.
2. Students submit an online Application to Enrol where a follow up contact will be made to schedule an audition in Dance, Drama, Music and/ or Visual Arts.
3. Interviews are conducted during the auditions.
4. Students short-listed, based on their audition will be contacted with Letters of Offers.
5. Waiting lists remain valid for one year.

### **WAITING LISTS:**

Waiting lists may be established for local and non-local students. Parents should be advised in writing if their child is to be placed on a waiting list and his or her position on it. The size of the waiting list should reflect realistic expectations of potential vacancies.

Waiting lists are current for one year.

### **APPEALS:**

Where a parent wishes to appeal against the decision of the placement panel, the appeal should be made in writing to the principal. Where required, the principal should provide or arrange assistance, such as an interpreter, to enable the appeal to be set out in writing. The principal will seek to resolve the matter.

### **ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS:**

#### Students with Disabilities

The Department of Education & Training provides a range of services and resources to support the education of students with disabilities. These include:

- Targeted funding, specialist teachers and consultancy services to support students enrolled in regular classes.
- Special classes within regular schools.
- Special schools
- Modifications to buildings to facilitate access.
- Provision of specialised equipment and technology.
- Special transport services.

When considering the enrolment of a student with a disability, all these provisions should be considered. The decision on where to enrol a student with a disability, and with what level of support, will depend on a number of factors, including the student's educational needs, the expressed desires of parents and caregivers, the capacity of the system to provide the level of support services required generally and at a particular location and the availability of support services at alternative locations.

In many situations it will be possible to enrol a student with a disability at the desired school with the necessary level of specialist support. In some circumstances the level of support required, or the specialist nature of that support, will necessitate alternative enrolment options being provided.

In each case, when a student with a disability presents for enrolment, it is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that an appraisal of the student's education needs is carried out. For some students appraisal will have occurred as part of a planned transition process. For others, the appraisal will take place at the time enrolment is sought.

Appraisals will involve parents or caregivers and will entail consideration of the students' support needs in areas such as curriculum, mobility, social skills, personal care and communication. It will often involve consideration of supporting

documentation from medical practitioners and other health and education professionals. School Education Area (SEA) special education consultants are available to assist in this process, in particular, to identify the resources which may be available to support the enrolment.

Requests for enrolment in special classes or at a special school are considered by a SEA placement panel.

The *Special Education Handbook for Schools* contains descriptions of services available, eligibility criteria for access to services and procedures to be adopted in enrolling students with disabilities.

#### **ENROLMENT IN DISTANCE EDUCATION:**

The provision of distance education is primarily for the purpose of ensuring access to education for students who would otherwise have limited chances at educational participation.

#### **PART-TIME ENROLMENT:**

Students are generally enrolled in a school on a full-time basis. Part-time enrolment is not an option at AIPAH.

#### **REFUSAL OF ENROLMENT:**

Principals may refuse enrolment of a student on the grounds of previously documented violent behaviour if there is evidence that the student has not learned the appropriate skills to manage this behaviour.

#### **IMMUNISATION:**

The Public Health (Amendment) Act 1992 requires parents to provide documented evidence of a student's immunisation status on enrolment at school. Where parents choose not to immunise their children, they will be required to remain at home for the duration of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

#### **ENROLMENT OF NON-AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS:**

Education is compulsory for non-Australian citizens between the ages of six and fifteen holding a visa granting them permanent resident status.

For non-Australian citizens holding a temporary visa, enrolment is only for that period specified on the visa.

#### **ENROLMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:**

International students must not only meet all the pre-requisite performing arts and academic conditions of enrolment at AIPAH as for local students but must also meet and fulfil all the conditions and regulations of their student visa as determined by government authorities.

#### **TRANSFER CERTIFICATES**

Where students transfer between schools in New South Wales, a transfer certificate must be completed. Every effort will be made to secure transfer certificates from transferring students.