



ENROLMENT POLICY

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Acceptance of students into the school is dependent upon a successful audition and interview. A panel of at least two adjudicators will attend auditions and determine whether the applicant possesses the required academic merit and talent in the performing/creative arts. Auditions are held at scheduled intervals throughout the academic year.
2. Eligibility for students applying for Year 11 or 12 is determined on an individual basis, and dependent on the students' subject selections and curriculum offering.
3. APGS accepts students applying for Years 7 to 10.
4. All students applying to APGS must possess a strong commitment to the performing or creative arts, be of good character and prepared to commit to the ethos of the school and follow its code of conduct.
5. Overseas students must provide proof of competence in English and meet a minimum IELTS Score (or equivalent) of 5.0. While APGS accepts both IELTS and TOEFL, in some countries, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) may accept only IELTS to determine English language proficiency. Please check the website to ensure that you are taking the appropriate test. Students without an acceptable level of English will be required to satisfactorily complete an intensive course of English language before being offered a place at APGS.

POLICY IN DETAIL: INTRODUCTION

APGS 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 overseas, must complete and submit an online *Application for Enrolment* which is available on the school website. There are no sibling rights for enrolment.

ENROLMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS STUDENTS

Given the purpose and focus of this school, , all applications for enrolment will be considered on the basis of an audition and interview.

Each audition and interview is assessed on its own merits. The decision of the audition panel is final and no appeal can be made except on procedure. Information on individual student's performance in their audition and interview will not be provided. The purpose of the process is to select the most suitable students for the school as assessed by the audition panel 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
- the ability to achieve high academic standards
- demonstrated genuine interest and talent in the performing arts



- demonstrated self-discipline and commitment
- the ability to successfully apply themselves to curricula and co-curricular 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

Art

- portfolio demonstrates creativity and imagination, and proficiency in various skills
- portfolio shows engagement with various artistic styles and practices

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

APGS Enrolment Procedure

Potential students/parents can contact the school expressing interest in enrolment and to receive further information. If requested, a guided tour of the campus can also be scheduled to meet with staff and view facilities.

1. If a student/parent wished to apply, an online Application for Enrolment will need to be submitted on the APGS website under 'Future Students'. An application fee will apply for all applications.
2. Based on the eligibility of the application an audition and interview will be scheduled with the student/parent

Interstate applicants who cannot attend a physical audition will need to submit an online audition recording and supporting documentation.

All applicants must provide the following supporting documentation:

- a. Copy of passport or birth certificate
 - b. Recent academic reports
 - c. Recent academic or performing arts achievements
 - d. Visual Arts/Design students only: portfolio of works
 - e. Overseas students only: English proficiency test result
3. Interview and audition will be conducted on the same day. Overseas/interstate applicants will be required to complete a phone interview.
 4. Students short-listed, based on their audition will be contacted with a Letter of Offer.

5. A student wishing to proceed with enrolment with APGS will need to complete the enclosed Acceptance Form and Enrolment Agreement and pay the Enrolment Acceptance Fee. Overseas students must also pay, at a minimum, the tuition fee for two terms of schooling at APGS.
6. Upon completion of Step 6, the student will be officially registered as an enrolled student for commencement on the date listed in the Letter of Offer.

For Overseas students, a Confirmation of Enrolment will be issued in order to process the student visa, along with further information to assist preparations for studying in Australia

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists may be established for local and non-local students. Parents will 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.

Appeals

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

ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS:

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 Head of School 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.

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.

Refusal of Enrolment

The Head of School 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 OVERSEAS STUDENTS

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

All enrolment procedures and practices comply with the various state and federal anti-discrimination laws including National Codes 2007 and ESOS Framework. Students should check the Anti-Bullying Policy for further information on requirements.

All Overseas Student applications must be submitted with supporting documentation including school reports, copy of Passport, results of public tests, English proficiency tests, as well as information relating to any special needs. Often these applications will be submitted by Education Agents.

In assessing each application for enrolment, each prospective student's educational needs are considered and where necessary further information is sought in consultation with parents and other relevant people.

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.