

# Schools and you



## Public school enrolments: Frequently asked questions

Western Australia has a long and proud tradition of public schools providing high quality education in every community. We open our doors to all children – whatever their ability, wherever they live and whatever their background.

### What are local schools?

Most schools have what is termed “a local-intake area”. This is a boundary set around a school that may have more applications for enrolment than it can accommodate.

If your school has a local-intake area and you live within that area, your children are automatically accepted into that school – this is your guaranteed place.

To find out if you live within the local-intake area of a particular school either contact the school directly or your education regional office.

Some schools do not have local-intake areas. In each of these schools, if the number of enrolment applications exceeds the number of places available at a school, priority is given to those children who live closest to the school.

### How are enrolments prioritised?

To accommodate all children in our schools, the *School Education Regulations 2000* specify how schools must prioritise enrolments.

Under the Regulations, each school must accommodate all children from the local-intake area who are of compulsory school age (Pre-primary to Year 12).

Once a school has confirmed the number of local-intake enrolments and there is spare capacity in appropriate programs, offers of places for children outside the local-intake area may then be made in this order:

1. children who are accepted into special programs including Approved Specialist Programs and Gifted and Talented programs (secondary schools only)
2. children who have siblings attending the school in the year of enrolment; this does not include siblings who have gained enrolment through special programs including Approved Specialist Programs and Gifted and Talented programs (secondary schools only)
3. children whose permanent residence is closest to the school (not closest to the boundary of a local-intake area).

Most schools consider these applications during August and September each year.

## **Does my primary school automatically guarantee me a place at the local secondary school?**

No primary school guarantees places at any secondary school. The only guaranteed place in a primary school is if you live in the local-intake area of that school; and the only guaranteed place in a secondary school is if you live in the local-intake area of that school.

To find out more speak to your local school or visit [det.wa.edu.au/schoolsandyou](http://det.wa.edu.au/schoolsandyou).