



**Non-State Schools
Accreditation Board**

14 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board is writing to advise of recent amendments to the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* in connection with enrolment of a child in year 1 of schooling.

New prescribed requirements for enrolment in year 1 [new section 175M]

A new section 175M, which prescribes the requirements for enrolment in year 1 at a non-State school, is included in the Act. This new section is effective on and from 8 September 2016.

Section 175M provides that the principal of a non-State school must not enrol a child in year 1 of schooling at the school unless the principal is satisfied the child:

- (a) has undertaken a preparatory year at a State school or non-State school; or
- (b) has undertaken education in another State or country that is equivalent to the preparatory year; or
- (c) was registered, or provisionally registered, for home education in the year before the proposed year of the prospective student's enrolment in year 1 of schooling at the school; or
- (d) is otherwise ready to be enrolled in year 1 of schooling at the school, considering the child's attributes.

There is a similar new provision applying to enrolments in year 1 at a State school.

The compulsory school age for a child under section 9 of the Act is unchanged.

Registration for home education in the year before year 1 [relates to new section 175M(c)]

The age-eligibility for provisional registration, or registration, for home education has been lowered, effective on and from 8 September 2016.

Section 206 of the Act has been amended to prescribe that a child is eligible for provisional registration, or registration, for home education if the child will be at least 5 years and 6 months on 31 December in the year the provisional registration or registration takes effect.

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In terms of verification by the school's principal whether a child was provisionally registered, or registered, under the Act "in the year before the proposed year of the prospective student's enrolment in year 1 of schooling at the school":

- (a) the parent of a child who is granted provisional registration for home education receives a *written notice of provisional registration* under section 207; and
- (b) the parent of a child who is granted registration for home education receives a *certificate of registration* under section 214.

If a parent is unable to produce sufficient documentation to satisfy the principal that the child was provisionally registered, or registered, for home education in the year before the proposed year of the prospective student's enrolment in year 1 of schooling at the school — it is open to the principal to make a written request for confirmation of the registration to the Department of Education and Training:

by post to:

The Manager
Home Education Unit
Department of Education and Training
PO Box 3710
SOUTH BRISBANE BC QLD 4101

by email to:

homeeducation@det.qld.gov.au

The written request for home education confirmation:

- (a) must be made by the principal; and
- (b) must specify the child's name and date of birth.

Meaning of attributes of a child [relates to new section 175M(d)]

When considering under section 175M(d) whether a child is otherwise ready to be enrolled in year 1 of schooling at the school, the "attributes" of a child means the child's:

- (a) aptitude and ability; and
- (b) social and emotional competence; and
- (c) physical development; and
- (d) level of knowledge and understanding.

Applications to enrol a child in year 1 made before 8 September 2016 [new section 542]

The Act includes transitional provisions related to year 1 enrolments.

Section 542 prescribes that, for an application to enrol a child in year 1 of schooling at a non-State school made before 8 September 2016, the principal must deal with the application under the Act as in force immediately before that date.

All Queensland legislation may be found at www.legislation.qld.gov.au.

The Accreditation Board trusts this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Emeritus Professor S Vianne (Vi) McLean AM
Chairperson

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