

Information for Principals of Queensland state schools

This information is intended for Principals of a Queensland state high schools who have been approached by a registered secondary student exchange organisation to accept the enrolment of an international secondary exchange student.

Exchange students can be hosted by any high school in Queensland, and are enrolled as the equivalent of a domestic student (i.e., not subject to international student tuition fees). The school itself does not require any accreditation or approval to accept exchange students.

International secondary student exchange (ISSE) programs are completely separate and distinct from [Education Queensland International \(EQI\)](#)'s international student program (ISP). Exchange programs fall under a different set of legislation; and follow a different enrolment process.

Although students on an ISSE program also travel on a Student visa (subclass 500), the visa rules are different for exchange students, compared with students enrolling in a CRICOS-registered / ISP program, such as the program offered by EQI.

An exchange program is a cultural program, rather than an academic program. The student exchange organisation is required under the [Queensland Guidelines of the operation of international secondary student exchange programs](#) to ensure the student has appropriate language capacity, but also the maturity to benefit from an exchange program. Students are required to participate fully in the school's academic program. Many overseas countries recognise and credit any study undertaken during an exchange program.

The registered exchange organisation holds the welfare responsibility for the student; there are no additional welfare or pastoral care requirements for the school beyond those of any other domestic enrolment.

As exchange student enrolments are considered the equivalent of a domestic enrolment, the decision whether to accept an exchange student is entirely at



the Principal's discretion. Exchange programs fall outside of EQI's remit; as such there is no requirement to seek EQI's consent when considering whether to enrol an exchange student. When recording the enrolment in OneSchool, these students are identified as 'exchange students' in the OneSchool system.

Should you decide that you would like to offer an enrolment to this student, you will be asked to confirm this via an *Acceptance Advice for Secondary Exchange Students (AASES) request form*. This form will have the department's logo and will be provided to you by the registered student exchange organisation. This form is a crucial step in supporting the student in obtaining a Student visa from the Department of Home Affairs.

For further information, please contact the International Quality Schools Unit in the Department of Education via phone on 07 3513 6748 or by email at InternationalRegistration@qed.qld.gov.au
