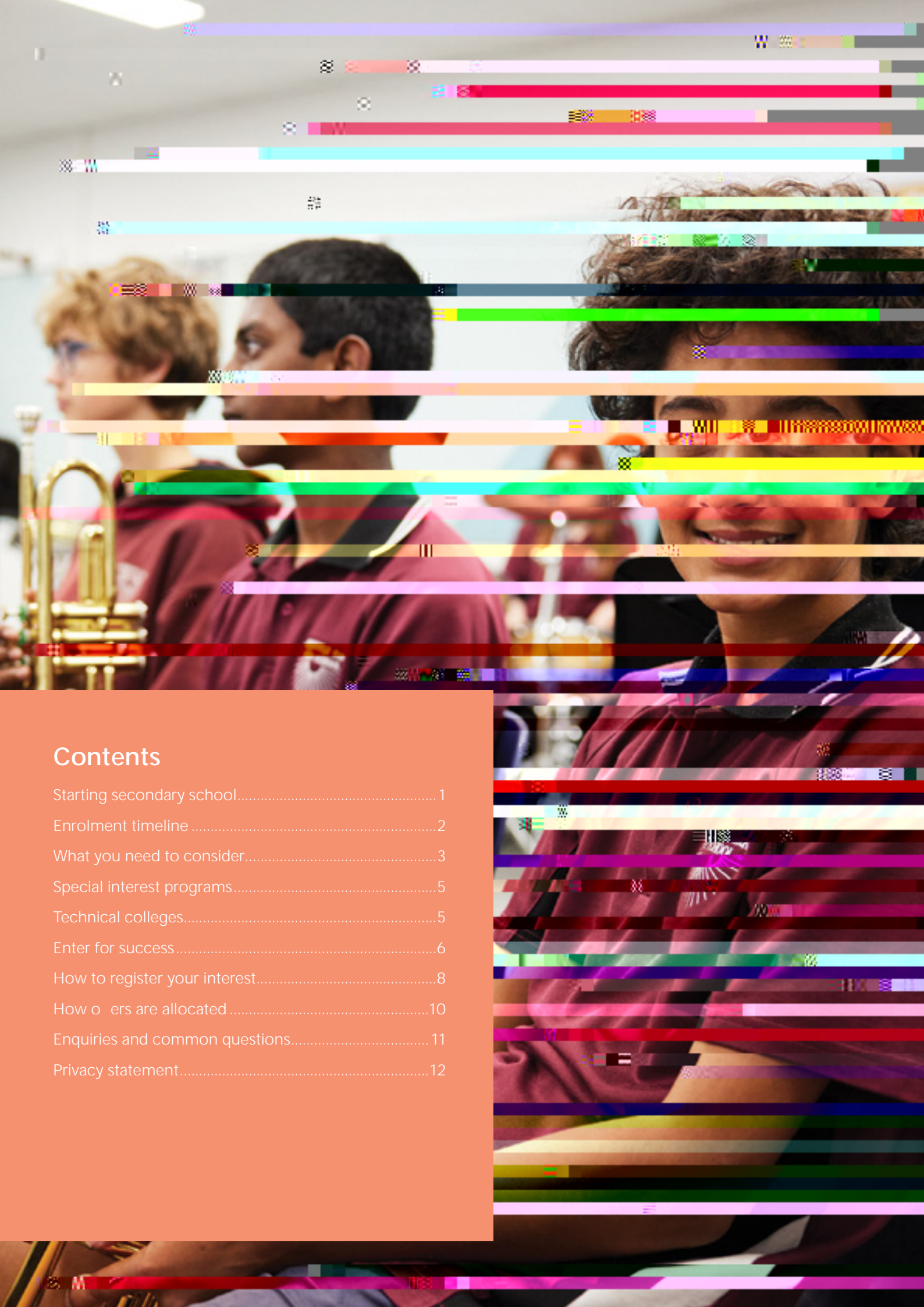




# STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL

Information for families with students in year 6





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The transition to secondary school is a major milestone bringing change and new experience in education, personal development and planning for the future.

South Australian government secondary schools are a wide range of subjects, programs, activities and extracurricular activities to meet the interests and abilities of each child.

This brochure explains the enrolment process to help you choose the best school for your child. Information is available in a variety of languages and content in each language will be available in your preferred language.

## Statewide transition process

This 2-stage process allocates approximately 14,000 South Australian year 6 students to a secondary school.

### Stage 1 - Registration of interest

This occurs in May, where families submit a 'registration of interest' form.

### Stage 2 - Allocation

This occurs in August, when families receive an enrolment offer from their allocated secondary school and submit an enrolment form to the school.

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## Term 1

- Decide which secondary school/s to register your interest for. It's a good idea to visit your local/zoned secondary school/s, at an open day, principal's tour or information evening.  
S 3
- Check with your primary school that your contact details (email, mobile and child's residential address) are up to date.

## Term 2

- **Week 1**
  - Information and registration forms provided to families.  
S 8
- **Week 4**
  - Submit 'registration of interest form' by Friday 24 March 2024.  
S 8

## Term 3

- **Week 3**
  - Enrolment offers sent to families between Wednesday 7 August and Friday 9 August 2024  
S 10
- **Week 5**
  - Friday 23 August 2024 – review process closes.
- **Week 8**
  - Families sent the outcome of review process by Friday 13 September 2024.

## Term 4

- **Week 1**
  - Schools with capacity can make enrolment offers to non-local students from their waiting list and/or reserve list for selective entry special interest program.
- **Week 8**
  - Transition days held.

You can find term dates for South Australian schools online at [www.education.sa.gov.au/students/term-dates-south-australian-state-schools](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/students/term-dates-south-australian-state-schools)

There are places available for your child at local government schools, a limited number of places in independent schools and a small number of places in Catholic schools. For more information, contact your local government school, independent school or Catholic school. You can also contact the Department of Education for more information. Schools have more detailed information on their websites. You can call the school directly.

You can view upcoming individual school events at [www.education.sa.gov.au/opensdays](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/opensdays)

## Local/zoned secondary school

Local/zoned secondary school

Local/zoned secondary school

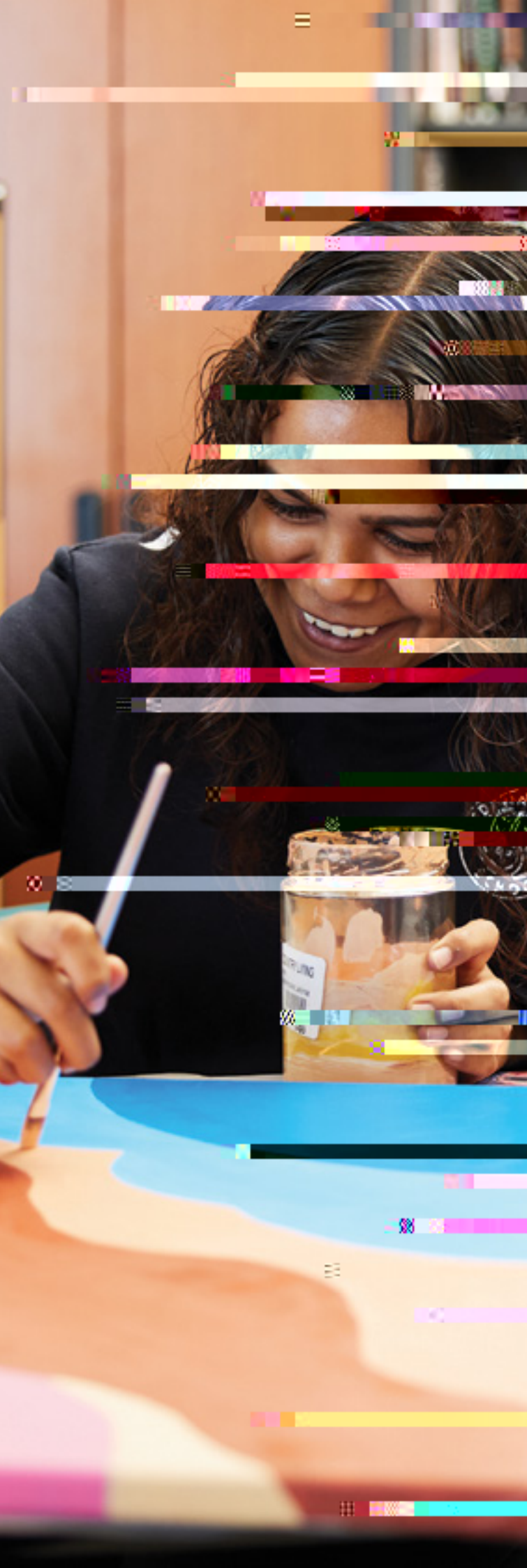


## Special interest programs

While all schools provide the Australian Curriculum,

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# ENTER FOR SUCCESS

The Enter for Success program is a free program that helps Aboriginal students in year 6 gain the skills, confidence, and motivation to succeed in secondary school. It includes a range of activities, including cultural activities, and is designed to help Aboriginal students succeed in secondary school.

Aboriginal students in year 6 can enter and be accepted into an English as a Second Language (ESL) program. This program is designed to help students who are new to Australia or who have limited English skills to succeed in secondary school.

## Who can apply

Students who identify as Aboriginal and who are in year 6 applying to start secondary school next year. This does not apply to enrolments into special options for students with disability or selective entry special interest programs.

Further information can be found online at [www.sa.gov.au/enter-for-success](http://www.sa.gov.au/enter-for-success)

## What do I need to do

You can talk to your school principal, the Aboriginal Education teacher, Aboriginal Community Education officer or Aboriginal Education worker at your child's primary school, or the Aboriginal Community Education team leaders or Aboriginal Services Engagement Officer at your local education office.



## Specialised schools

Some schools have been established to offer students a specific learning program, in either curriculum or

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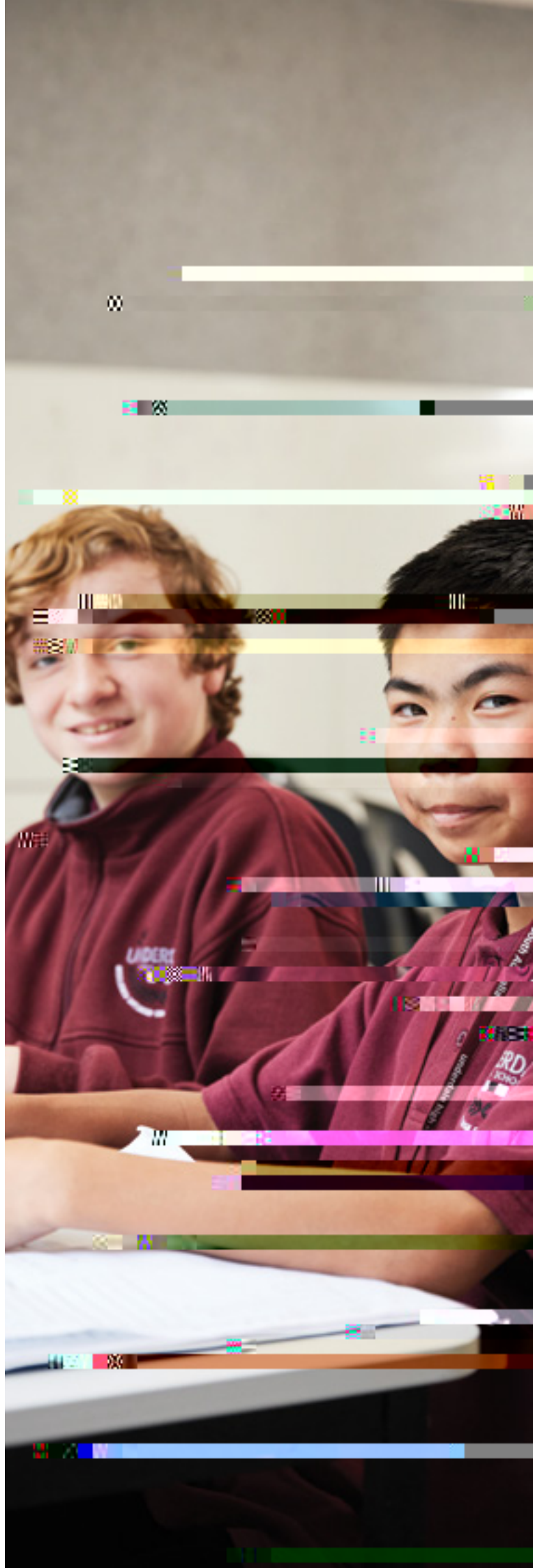
## If your child currently attends a non-government school

### Step 1

If your child is currently enrolled at a non-government school (eg Catholic or Independent), you can contact your local government secondary school or local education office for a transition pack, or email [education.startingsecondaryschool@sa.gov.au](mailto:education.startingsecondaryschool@sa.gov.au) for a PDF copy of the 'registration of interest' form.

### Step 2

The [www.education.sa.gov.au/findaschool](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/findaschool) tool will help you to find your child's local/zoned school and



## Offers for enrolment

You will receive an offer from the secondary school to which your child has been allocated between Wednesday and Friday week 3, term 3. The offer, enrolment form and any related documentation which the school requires you to complete and return is referred to as an 'allocation pack'.

The allocation pack, including the enrolment form, may be sent to you by email as the enrolment process can now be completed online. Hardcopy packs will continue to be available from your allocated secondary school for those unable to complete it online or for applicants from non-government schools.

To secure your place, you must follow the enrolment instructions provided in the offer letter or email. This will include completing the enrolment form and providing all requested documents. You should do this by the date listed in the offer to make sure your offer does not lapse.

The school may also require you to attend the school in person, and bring specific documentation, such as proof of residence evidence.

If you choose not to accept an enrolment offer, please inform your allocated secondary school and, if applicable, your government primary school as soon as possible.

**If you have not received an enrolment offer by Monday week 4, term 3:**

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If you have questions not answered here, please contact your primary school for advice or email the Statewide Transition Team at [education.startingsecondaryschool@sa.gov.au](mailto:education.startingsecondaryschool@sa.gov.au).

## Common questions

### Q: Where can I find dates for open days and principal tours for secondary schools?

A: You can view upcoming open days and principal's tours at [www.education.sa.gov.au/opendays](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/opendays), or contact the school directly.

### Q: When will I find out which secondary school my child has been allocated to?

A: Students will receive their enrolment offers between Wednesday and Friday week 3, term 3.

### Q: I think my child's primary school is a 'feeder school' for my preferred non-local/out of zone school. Does this mean my child will get automatic entry to this secondary school?

A: No. Students are allocated to a secondary school based on their residential address at the time of the registration of interest process, not the primary school they attend. The registration process is described on page 8.

### Q: I'm home educating my child and intend to continue for year 7. Do I need to complete a registration of interest form?

A: Yes. As part of the home education registration process, all home education students are required to be enrolled at a school. You can advise as part of your registration of interest form that you intend to continue home education for year 7.

### Q: I moved house after submitting my registration of interest, what do I do?

A: If your child is enrolled at a government primary school, contact your child's primary school. If your child is enrolled at a non-government primary school, contact the Statewide Transition Team. You will need to provide proof of residence to update your address details, and then change your registration of interest form details if required.

**Note:** that this can only be done during the registration of interest process, up until 5pm Friday week 8, term 2.

### Q: What if my child is not allocated to one of my requested schools?

A: Your child will be allocated to your local/zoned school. Students who are not allocated to their first, second and/or third preferences will be placed on each of the secondary schools' waiting lists (if they have one). Waiting lists are managed directly by schools. To ensure the process is fair and equitable, parents will not be advised of their child's position on the waiting list.

**Note:** schools with a capacity management plan do not have a non-local/out-of-zone waiting list.

### Q: What can I do if I feel there are grounds to review my child's allocation?

A: You can request a review of the process by completing the review form provided by your allocated secondary school in your allocation pack.

### Q: When will I be notified of my review outcome?

A: Families will be notified of the review outcome on or by Friday week 8, term 3.

### Q: What happens after the secondary school transition process has closed?

A: After this process closes each year, families can contact schools directly to discuss late applications for enrolment. Late applicants may have limited opportunity to attend a non-local/out of zone secondary school or a secondary school with a capacity management plan.

### Q: Can an offer for enrolment be withdrawn by a secondary school?

A: If the offer for year 7 enrolment was based on false or misleading information, or the child no longer meets the school's enrolment criteria, the principal may reconsider the offer for enrolment prior to the start of the school year.

## Privacy

We respect the confidentiality of information provided through the statewide transition process for students starting secondary school.

While the provision of this information is voluntary, if you do not provide all or any of this information, it may limit our ability to help you enrol in a government secondary school.

The South Australian Government Information Privacy Principles (see [www.dpc.sa.gov.au/documents/rendition/DPC-Circular-Information-Privacy-Principles-IPPS-Instruction.pdf](http://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/documents/rendition/DPC-Circular-Information-Privacy-Principles-IPPS-Instruction.pdf)) apply to personal information collected by the department through this transition process. All personal information is collected for the primary purpose of coordinating potential secondary school enrolment applications in South Australian government schools.

It is used for the purpose of student administration, communication, consideration of secondary school nominations, planning, student welfare and other matters relating to the coordination of the transition process. The information will be used for the primary purpose stated above and will be stored securely by the department. We may also use your personal information for secondary purposes closely related to the primary purpose, in circumstances where you would reasonably expect such use or disclosure.

Unless required to do so by a federal or state law, or as permitted by the Information Privacy Principles or the South Australian Government's 'Information Sharing Guidelines for promoting safety and wellbeing' (available at [www.dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/information-sharing-guidelines](http://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/information-sharing-guidelines)), the department will not otherwise disclose personal information to a third party, outside the purposes described above, without your consent.

