

Killara High School

Year 7 Enrolments - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

These questions have been grouped into the following categories. Please scroll down to review each area.

If you do not find an answer to your question, please do not hesitate to contact us directly by emailing enrolments@khs.nsw.edu.au

Enrolment Process 2020

General Enrolment

Uniforms, Transport, School Hours and Laptops

Courses and Class Sizes

Other Important Information

Enrolment Process 2020 - Updated

I have submitted my Application Form what happens next?

We will be sending out a letter to you in July/August notifying you of receipt of your Application to Enrol. An Enrolment Package will be forwarded in September outlining the details of the December Orientation day, the paperwork that you will be required to bring in proving your residency in area and the first day requirements for next year.

I emailed the application form in, will that work?

Yes.

What are the key enrolment dates that I need to be aware of?

The Department of Education sets a very detailed schedule for the Year 6 to 7 Enrolment process starting in Term 1 with the completion of the "Expression of Interest" forms and culminating in the Orientation Day on 1st December 2020. We do nevertheless continue to accept enrolment requests throughout the year, even if you do not move into the catchment until the January vacation period.

For any concerns please contact the School for more information.

When do I bring in my supporting documents?

The letter that will be forwarded to you in September 2020 will give you details of when you are to supply the supporting documents to the school.

My child has an older sibling at KHS do I still need to bring in all of the supporting documents?

Yes, regardless of whether you have a student already enrolled at Killara High School we ask that you provide us with current paperwork so that we can update our records.

Is there a Year 7 Orientation Day?

The Orientation Day is scheduled for Tuesday 1st December 2020. Please be advised that this will be subject to the current situation regarding Covid-19.

Is there a Year 6 to 7 Sports Day? Is this for all new prospective Year 7 students or only feeder schools?

We schedule a Sports Day in November each year where we invite the Year 6 students of our feeder schools to participate. It is a transitional event that has been highly successful and lots of fun for the students to familiarise themselves with the school.

We are unable to offer participation in this event to students outside the feeder schools.

Date to be confirmed – subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

When will my child sit the aptitude test (MYAT)? Are there other tests? Does my child have to sit the test?

The MYAT (Middle Years Ability Test) testing occurs on the Orientation Day, Tuesday 1st December.

It is a general aptitude test across literacy, numeracy and non-verbal reasoning skills. Although it is not compulsory, we encourage all students to sit the test. From the results we choose two purposefully placed classes.

The MYAT can only be taken on the Orientation Day. Results of the test are not disclosed. There are no other tests prior to enrolment.

General Enrolment

How do I apply to enrol at your school?

If your child is enrolled in Year 6 at a public primary school, and you wish to apply to enrol in our school in Year 7 of the following year, contact the Year 6 Coordinator at your current school to obtain an “Expression of Interest” form to complete. This usually occurs in the first term of the year. If you are applying after Term 2 contact us directly and we will be happy to discuss the process.

If your child is currently enrolled in Year 6 in a non-government primary school, and you wish to enrol in our school in Year 7 of the following year, contact us directly.

Can I apply if I live out of the Killara High School catchment area?

Enrolment at Killara High School is highly sought after by families in our local area. As such, we are required to maintain an enrolment buffer sufficient to meet anticipated local area needs during the academic year. Non local enrolments can only be accepted where that buffer is not compromised.

As outlined in the school's enrolment policy we may accept enrolments outside our local catchment area if places are available. Applications for non-local enrolment will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

What is the Hebrew out of area program?

Students that can provide evidence of 6 years of consistent Hebrew studies prior to enrolment at Killara High School are able to apply under these criteria. BJE will be required to confirm the credentials of applicants.

Students will need to commit to studying Hebrew at least in Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8).

If I have another child currently enrolled at the school can I enrol siblings of that child even if I have moved out of the school catchment area?

The school is currently accepting enrolment of siblings even if they live out of the catchment area.

Do you accept International students at your school?

Killara High School **does not** accept students that are on a 571P Visa or 500P Visa. These are International Student visas.

We **do** enrol mainstream students (permanent residents and temporary visa holders) living in our catchment area who are able to provide the necessary documentation proving residency.

For additional information, please refer to *Temporary Visas and international students* in the **How To enrol** section of our website's Enrolment page.

Do you have a Gifted and Talented program?

We offer a Gifted and Talented program in Year 8. It is only open to our Year 7 cohort to apply. Those students who are interested will sit a test during the year and will be notified if they have been successful.

We do also ask all prospective Year 7 students, on Orientation Day in December, to sit a couple of general aptitude tests and from those results we organise two purposefully placed classes.

Do you have selective testing?

No. We only accept students that are in our catchment zone, or who are accepted under the strict out of area criteria. We are not a selective school.

Uniforms, Transport, School Hours and Laptops

How do I organise the school uniform?

An individual time slot will be scheduled in Term 4 so that you can organise your child's uniform requirements. An email will be sent with details later in the year.

Are there buses that connect the school with areas of the catchment area?

Depending on where your property is there are a number of buses that service the catchment area.

You will be required to apply on line for a School Opal card. Please visit transportnsw.info/school-students.

What are the school hours?

On Monday, Tuesday and Friday, we begin at 8.50am with Homegroup and finish at 3.05pm.
On Wednesday, Homegroup is at 8:40am and the day ends at 2:30pm.
On Thursday, Homegroup is at 8:40am and the day ends 3:00pm.

What is the BYOD program all about? Is there a particular laptop that I need to buy?

The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program has been running successfully for the past couple of years at Killara High School. There are a significant range of devices on the market that will meet a range of budgets and purposes.

There are specifications that will need to be met in order to make the device useful in the classroom. These specifications will be forwarded to you later in the year.

Courses and Class Sizes

What languages are studied?

In Year 7, students will be studying a term each of French, German, Japanese and Chinese (unless the student is enrolled in the Hebrew program). In Year 8, each student will be required to continue with one of those language choices.

Who do I speak to if I am concerned about my child once he/she is enrolled?

We encourage you to contact the child's classroom teacher in the first instance if it is an academic concern. There is both a Year Adviser and Assistant Year Adviser overseeing the year group so please contact them for all other concerns. If you are needing help at all in finding the best person to contact please ring the school office for assistance.

How many students are in each class?

There is a maximum of 30 students per class set by the Department of Education. We endeavour to keep the classes in Year 7 as small as possible (usually about 22-24 students).

How many Year 7 classes will there be?

The number of classes has not been determined as yet but based on past years there will be about ten Year 7 classes.

Does my child stay with the same Homegroup all year to do all their subjects or do they move classes and mix with other students in the year?

To make the transition to high school as easy as possible the students will remain in two main groups - one for their Homegroup, Art and Technology classes and another for their core classes.

Other Important Information

Do you have a number of music programs at the school?

The Performing Arts Ensemble (PAE) run many types of vocal, instrumental music and dance classes. Registration for all ensembles is required on Enrolment Day. All students must receive private tuition. Rehearsals will be before or after school.

Does the school have a Before or After School program?

No. We do however offer a number of enrichment programs that run during the year such as Computer Coding, Robotics Club for Year 7 Students, PAE programs, Debating, Drama Ensemble and Peer Tutoring Program (in the Library on Tuesday and Friday from 3.10pm-4.10pm).

What opportunities are there for Year 7 in sports? Are there representative sporting teams?

Sport for Year 7 involves lessons with the aim of providing opportunities to develop both individual and team skills. Competitive and team opportunities are available in interschool gala days, in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals, and through trialling and possible selection in under 15 years teams in the Combined High Schools' Knock Out competitions in sports such as soccer, rugby, basketball and netball and lunchtime basketball, table tennis and bompo-dompo competitions.

Does the school have an anti-bullying program and how does it work?

We have zero tolerance for bullying. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. All incidents of bullying and harassment are reported for immediate response and action by the school's Executive staff. Year 7 will participate in a cyber-safety program, which specifically focuses on reporting cyber-bullying.

A priority of the Year 7 Camp (which is held mid-February each year) is the building of bonds between students in their class groupings. Year 12 Prefects join the camp and act as role models and helpers within the school for Year 7 students to call upon if they are experiencing difficulties.

What is the best thing we can do to prepare our children for the independence of high school?

- Talk positively to your child about the move to high school.
- Ask them what's exciting about high school? Does anything worry them?
- Make sure your child has a quiet work area and extra stationery supplies.

- Organise personal hygiene items in school bags.
- Decide what your child will do before and after school, and what time they need to be home.
- Discuss emergency and safety items with them.
- Remind them they can always speak to the counselling staff at their school.
- Discuss the dangers of being distracted when crossing the road or riding – including talking and texting on the phone, and wearing headphones.
- Work out a backup plan in case their travel routes change or they miss their transport.

For a quick guide on everything you need to know, please refer to:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/a-z-parents-guide>

Is there any career advice program available for school students?

We have a dedicated Careers department. Assistance will be given to students in later years.

Does the school allow mobile phones to be used at school?

We acknowledge the use of mobile phones has become an integral part of daily life. It is the inappropriate use of the phone that requires response from the school. Students are not to use their phone during class time without the express permission of the teacher but may use it before, after school and recess. Inappropriate use of the phone will be dealt with under the Anti-Bullying Policy.

How do I keep abreast of activities that are happening at the school?

We use Compass as the School and Student Management System to keep you informed of your child's progress whether it be attendance, classes, activities, excursions and so on. Once your child begins you will be given your access password.

School newsletters will also be sent via email link once a fortnight.

How can I become involved in the school community?

There are a number of ways you can be involved. Both the Uniform Shop and Canteen rely on volunteers from the parent body or you may join the Killara High School P&C to have your say on how the school operates.

We urge as many parents as possible to give up a little time over the course of a year to assist in the Canteen and Uniform Shop, or to assist with a working bee or any other activities around the school.

For all other queries, please refer to the Enrolment page on the Killara High School website or feel free to contact us directly by emailing enrolments@khs.nsw.edu.au

or killara-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au (for questions not related to enrolments).