



School Registration

Exemption from Attending School Policy and Procedures

Introduction

Gumma Place's policies and procedures which are made from time to time are made pursuant to the requirements set out in section 47 of the Education Act 1990 (NSW) and of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) requirements for registration of NSC.

Purpose

Gumma Place provides an alternative approach to education and training in an inclusive learning environment to meet the needs of young people who have disengaged from mainstream education systems. Gumma Place seeks to support and encourage young people to fulfill their potential to maintain their enrolment and to complete years 9/10 or school to work transitions.

Gumma Place will subscribe to a restorative and withdrawal approach in relation to a student discipline rather than expulsion or exclusion.

Scope

This Policy and Procedures apply to all Gumma Place staff, students and volunteers.

Policy Statement

Exemption from School Procedures

ShoreTrack Ltd has developed policies and procedures for the Principal's exercise of the delegated powers with respect to certificates of exemption, in accordance with the Exemption from School –

Procedures published on the NSW Government website, to the extent to which they are relevant to non-government schools.

Compulsory School Age in NSW

A child of compulsory school age must attend school.

In NSW “compulsory school age” includes all children between the ages of six years and the minimum school leaving age of 17 years.

All young persons must complete Year 10. After Year 10 and until they turn 17, young persons must be:

- in school, or registered for home schooling, or
- in approved education or training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship), or
- in full-time, paid employment (average 25 hours/week), or
- in a combination of work, education and/or training.

Exemptions from Being Enrolled at and Attending School

A child of compulsory school age may be exempt from being enrolled at or attending school if conditions exist that make it necessary or desirable that a certificate of exemption be granted.

Reasons for granting exemptions from being enrolled in and/or attending school include:

- exceptional circumstances (including the health of a child where sick leave or alternative enrolment is not appropriate)
- the child being prevented from attending school because of a direction under Public Health Legislation
- employment in the entertainment industry or participation in elite arts or elite sporting events
- where a young person has completed Year 9 and, before completing Year 10, has obtained a full-time apprenticeship or traineeship.

For more reasons and further detail refer to the [Exemption from School – Procedures](#), which we apply to the extent that they are relevant to non-government schools

Who Can Grant an Exemption?

The Principal has been delegated the power to grant a certificate of exemption, including for 100 days or more in a 12-month period. A full school day is six hours.

Test for Granting Certificates of Exemption

The Principal may grant a certificate of exemption if they are satisfied that conditions exist which make it necessary or desirable that such a certificate be granted.

Maintenance of Attendance Register

The Gumma Place keeps a register of the daily attendance of all young persons at the Gumma Place in Sentral. Refer to our Young Person Attendance Policy and Procedures.

Exemptions for Gumma Place-based programs must be indicated in the attendance register with the code M.

Conditions of Granting Certificates

Certificates of exemptions granted by the Principal must:

- include the specific conditions that apply to the exemption
- state that the exemption may be cancelled if these conditions are not met or cease to apply
- specify the dates for which the exemption has been granted, including the hours of program participation in the case of a part-day exemption period.

The original certificate of exemption must be provided to parents/guardians, and a copy must be attached to the young person's record.

Records of the exercise of the exemption delegation, including copies of all certificates of exemption issued under the delegation, are retained by the Gumma Place and stored in Sentral.

Certificates of exemption issued by the Principal may be cancelled by the Principal.

Implementation

The Principal and appointed delegates are responsible for the effective implementation of this Policy.

Source of Obligation

Principals of non-government schools have been delegated the power to grant and cancel a certificate of exemption from being enrolled and attending school in certain circumstances.

The NSW Registration Manual (B7.1) requires the Principal of the Gumma Place to keep records of exercising this delegation.

Related Policies

- [Young Person Attendance Policy and Procedures](#)

Related Documents

NSW Government, [Exemption from School – Procedures](#)

Policy Administration

Version control on all documents