



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Starting Secondary School 2013



Starting secondary school in 2013

The transition from primary to secondary schooling is a major milestone for your child and indeed yourselves as parents.

Public education secondary schools provide a comprehensive learning experience for our students so that they can realise their potential and develop in their roles as citizens, workers and members of communities.

As parents, you play a vital role at all stages of your child's education and development, including their transition to secondary schooling. In the public education system, we value this partnership between home and school and see it as essential to ensuring that each child gets the most out of the time they spend in our schools.

Of course there are many factors to be considered when deciding on a secondary school for your child. This brochure provides you with information about what our schools have to offer and the enrolment process. To also help you make this important decision, secondary schools usually hold open days and/or nights between March and June.

I also encourage you to talk with our principals and teachers who will introduce you to our high quality secondary schools and answer any questions you may have.

I sincerely wish you and your child a rewarding journey ahead through their secondary school years.

Keith Bartley

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Department of Education and Child Development

Starting secondary school in 2013

Students entering secondary school for the first time may find the school environment and its size very different. In secondary school, they may be faced with many new challenges. They may need to change classrooms for different lessons, make sure they have correct books and equipment, make new friends and adjust to a new environment. Staff at the secondary school will assist students with the transition and help make this a positive and exciting time in their lives.

Schools reflect the richness and diversity of the South Australian community and we are committed to providing learning environments in which individual differences are viewed as strengths. All students in our public education system are encouraged and supported to achieve.

Our teachers foster respect and understanding and teach the skills to communicate, resolve conflict and work with others for the betterment of the community. This is achieved by students, families, staff and community members working together.

Parents play a critical role in helping young people move successfully from primary to secondary school.

Which secondary school for your child?

A place has been reserved for your child in your zoned secondary school. Government primary school students will be notified of their zoned school when they receive their enrolment package in Term 1 this year. Other secondary schools and their zones can be obtained by clicking on 'Enrolment Information' on the DECD home page www.decd.sa.gov.au. Many schools have their own websites (which can also be accessed via this website).

There will be an opportunity for you and your child to visit the secondary school in your zone and any other school which may be of interest to you. Information days or evenings will be held between March and June

2011. Details regarding secondary school visiting dates and times have been included in your enrolment pack.

Curriculum choice

Schools offer a comprehensive range of learning areas within the South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Framework.

Students will acquire skills through participation in the following areas: arts, languages, design and technology, mathematics, English, science, health and physical education, society and the environment. Secondary schools will provide students with continuity of learning and challenge and excite them with a diverse range of activities.

With technology at their fingertips, students will be encouraged to push the boundaries of their learning through creative and innovative approaches to education.

Students with special learning needs have trained staff to assist them to fully participate and engage in school.

Our highly motivated teachers focus on the needs and aspirations of each student.

How to enrol your child – Government students

At the end of Term 1 all Year 7 government students will receive an enrolment package from their current primary school. Parents and students will need to complete and return to their primary school the *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form by no later than Friday 18 May 2012.

How to enrol your child – Non-government students

Year 7 non-government students who are applying for a place in a government secondary school in 2013 will need to complete and return their *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form and all supporting documentation* to the:

State Coordinator Year 8 Enrolments
Office for Schools
Level 6, Education Building
31 Flinders Street
Adelaide, South Australia 5000

by no later than Friday 18 May 2012.

*Please refer to the *Proof of residence – Non-government students* section of this brochure for instructions about the information that needs to be submitted along with your child's *Application for enrolment in Year 8 form*.

Completing the enrolment form

When completing this form, parents and students can either choose to enrol at the zoned school that has been allocated on the form, or select three other secondary schools in order of preference.

Out-of-zone enrolments

When applying for a school other than your zoned school you should state the reasons for your choices on a separate sheet of paper and attach this to your application form. Each preference will be assessed according to the Department for Education and Child Development's *Criteria for allocation of points*.

These include:

- distance from your permanent and primary place of residence to the school
- curriculum offerings that cannot be met at your zoned school

- social/family links
- transport/location convenience
- disability/medical reasons.

Please note that there is a limit to the number of out-of-zone students that some schools can accommodate. Enrolment in these schools depends on whether the number of requested out-of-zone enrolments exceeds the number of places available.



Please be aware that out-of-zone enrolments will only be accepted at Adelaide High School if the student meets the criteria outlined in the *Enrolment policy for Adelaide High School* (see <http://www.adelaidehs.sa.edu.au/>). For further information regarding the Criteria for allocation of points, please see the *Year 8 Enrolment general information sheet* contained within your enrolment pack.

If a secondary school reaches its enrolment capacity, out-of-zone applications for that school will be redirected to another school of preference if there are places available. If there are no places available at any of your preferred schools, the enrolment will be re-directed back to the zoned school.

Proof of residence – Government students

If the address which is listed on your child's *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form is incorrect, then as the parent/guardian you will need to return the form to the primary school and provide the primary school with the following:

1. A gas or electricity bill stating the new residential address (not a business address) and the name of the parent/guardian. The utility bill should be recent. Telstra and water rates bills are not acceptable as parents may receive these invoices for additional rental properties or businesses that they may own.
2. A copy of the property's *Contract of sale* (if the home is the permanent residence), or –
3. If the parent/guardian is renting then they should provide a rental agreement and a bond receipt (from the Residential Tenancies Tribunal) stating where the parent/guardian is currently residing. For the purpose of zoning, the rental agreement needs to cover at least 12 months of the students' first year at the school (ie, for students applying for admission to a school in Year 8 in 2013, then the

rental agreement dates will need to be between January 2012 and January 2013).

4. If a student states that they are residing with a relative/friend, then supporting documentation stating that the relative/friend is the legal guardian of the student is required. This documentation must include a Parenting Order from the Family Court, which states that the relative/friend is the formal full-time carer of the child/student. Statutory declarations are not considered to be sufficient documentation in this regard.

Please note, the provision of a *Contract of sale* on its own is not considered to be sufficient documentation. The property may have been purchased by the parent/guardian and rented to other occupants. This is why a copy of a recent gas or electricity bill is also required.

Proof of residence – Non-government students

Non-government students applying for a place in a government school need to attach proof of their primary place of residence to their *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form (as per the *Proof of residence – Government students* instructions listed above).

Renting of a room(s)

The renting of a room or rooms at a property, does not meet the department's *School enrolment* policy criteria. A child or student's zoned school is determined according to their primary place of residence. The renting of a room or rooms at a property does not constitute a primary place of residence. Families must therefore rent an entire property in order for it to be considered their primary place of residence.

Sibling rights rule*

In those cases where a sibling currently attends an out-of-zone school, enrolment is guaranteed**. Where a sibling completed Year 12 in 2011, and the other sibling is starting Year 8 in 2013 'sibling rights' will still

apply. Sibling rights will only cease if there is a break of more than 12 months in attendance at the school by a student of that family. Half brothers and sisters are blood relatives and therefore, as per the department's sibling rights rule, are guaranteed entry at the same school where their siblings are enrolled.

Step brothers and sisters, can only be guaranteed entry to the same school as their step siblings if they are residing at the same primary place of residence as the step siblings who attend the out-of-zone school. If you are claiming sibling rights on your enrolment form, you must photocopy and attach to your application the ID card of the student/sibling who currently attends the out-of-zone school.

**Some secondary schools have specific enrolment criteria. Please check with your preferred schools for more details.*

***Except Adelaide High School, Urrbrae Agricultural High School, Mitcham Girls High School, and Roma Mitchell Secondary College Girls Campus who have separate enrolment policies.*

Special interest schools

While all secondary schools provide a similar curriculum, some offer more specialised courses and programs. These programs are usually described in the school's promotional material. Some schools also offer selective entry specialised programs. A selection process applies to students seeking to enrol in one of these special interest courses.

If your child has applied to attend a school with a special interest course at a non-government school, you will still need to complete the *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form. This will ensure that there is a place for your child in the zoned school should your application for the special interest school or non-government school be unsuccessful.

Students who apply for a special interest course or program at a particular school can also select this school as a preference on their application form. It should be noted however, that if a student misses out on enrolment through the special interest placement process and is successful in gaining a place at the same school through the out-of-zone enrolment process, then this does not permit the student access to the special interest course or program.

Students who are successful in obtaining a special interest placement at a school will still be considered for their preference schools. Students in this instance should accept their special interest placement and then wait to hear whether they obtain a placement at any of their preferred schools. Students who are successful with both applications will be contacted by their regional office and will be asked to choose between each of the schools.

It is important to note that out-of-zone students who apply for a special interest placement at one or more special interest secondary schools should select these schools, in order of their special interest placement preference, on their application form.

Special interest music centres

Brighton Secondary, Fremont-Elizabeth City High, Marryatville High and Woodville High Schools provide special interest music programs. If applying for a place in a special music course, the student must already be studying an aspect of music.

Applications

For entry into a special music program parents can obtain an application form from the principal of the school of your choice. School reports and the name of a referee who can verify the student's musical background will be required. Auditions and interviews will be held at each school.

Brighton Secondary School Tel: 8375 8200
Fremont-Elizabeth City High School Tel: 8255 7566
Marryatville High School Tel: 8304 8420
Woodville High School Tel: 8445 9833

Timeline: Application forms must be returned to the school of choice by the date listed on the application form. The principal of the school will inform you of arrangements for the auditions and the results.

Sport and physical education programs

Special interest sports programs are conducted in 14 public secondary schools in conjunction with respective State sporting associations. Two schools, Wirreanda High School and Henley High School, offer a general sports course for selected students, providing a balance between academic and sporting commitments. Wirreanda High School also coordinates the *Southern Vales Physical education* and sport program involving Christies Beach High School (aquatics) and Reynella East High School (basketball and hockey).

Applications

A brochure and application form can be obtained from the principal of the school of your choice.

Wirreanda High School (General sport) Tel: 8382 9555

Henley High School (General sport) Tel: 8355 7000

Timeline: Applications for Wirreanda High School's *Special sport* program must be returned to the school by Friday 18 May 2012. Applications for Henley High School's *Special sport* program should be returned to the school by the date listed on the school's website www.henleyhs.sa.edu.au/

Special sport programs

Twelve other secondary schools, in conjunction with respective State sporting associations, have established special interest sport programs. Each specialist program caters for selected students who will be provided with an intensive high level program in the sport as part of the school curriculum.



Applications

A brochure and application form can be obtained from the principal of the school of your choice.

Adelaide High School

Cricket and rowing Tel: 8231 9373

Brighton Secondary School

Volleyball Tel: 8375 8200

Blackwood High School

Netball Tel: 8278 0900

Grant High School

Baseball Tel: 8726 3100

Heathfield High School

Volleyball Tel: 8139 9300

Marryatville High School

Tennis Tel: 8304 8420

Mount Gambier High School

Cricket, football, netball Tel: 8725 6244

Pasadena High School

Basketball Tel: 8276 8822

Roma Mitchell Secondary College

Cycling, Hockey, Soccer Tel: 8161 4600

Seaton High School

Baseball Tel: 8445 2944

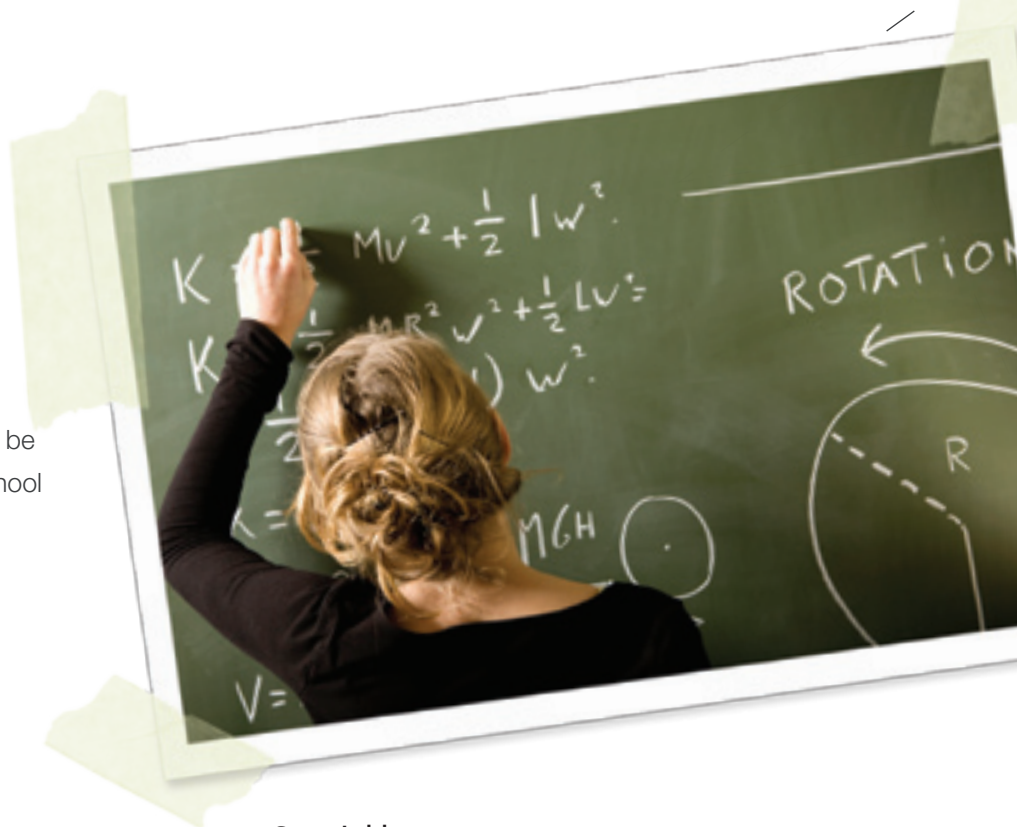
Seaview High School

Tennis Tel: 8296 8833

Underdale High School

Soccer Tel: 8301 8000

Timeline: Applications for these programs should be returned to the school of choice by the date listed within the application package.



Special language program

Adelaide High School offers placements for special language students entering Year 8. Students entering the school through this program commit themselves to the study of two languages other than English from Year 8 to Year 10. Students study any two languages chosen from French, German, Italian, Japanese, Modern Greek, Modern Standard Chinese and Spanish.

Applications

A brochure and application form is available from the Assistant Principal – Languages, Adelaide High School or from your primary school. Students will be required to demonstrate their language aptitude by taking a series of tests and providing a report from their primary school principal. You and your child may then be required to attend an interview in Term 2.

Adelaide High School Tel: 8231 9373

Timeline: Applications must be returned to Adelaide High School by Tuesday 24 April 2012.

Single sex schools

The Roma Mitchell Secondary College – Girls campus (formerly Gepps Cross Girls High School) and Mitcham Girls High School are comprehensive secondary schools for girls. They offer subjects, courses and methods of learning designed to cater particularly for the development and interests of girls. Both schools support research and monitor teaching programs in the light of current knowledge about girl's learning. These schools are not zoned and therefore enrolment is by application only.

Applications

Roma Mitchell Secondary College - Girls campus

Tel: 8262 3695

Mitcham Girls High School Tel: 8272 8233

Vocational colleges

Vocational colleges provide secondary students with preparation and training for the world of work within a broad and balanced general education. Knowledge of career planning and work related skills are developed throughout years 8 to 12. Pathways for entry to university, further training and employment are provided in partnership with business, industry, TAFE and community organisations.

Windsor Gardens Vocational College serves students throughout the northern suburbs. The Southern Vocational College is located at Christies Beach High School with programs run in a number of schools serving students throughout the southern suburbs.

Applications

Further information and application forms can be obtained from the respective schools.

Windsor Gardens Vocational College Tel: 8261 2733

Southern Vocational College Tel: 8329 9777

Urrbrae Agricultural High School

Urrbrae Agricultural High School has 32 hectares devoted to a farm, orchard and vineyard, allowing the school to operate a wide range of animal and plant projects. In years 8 to 10, all students at this school study agriculture. In Years 11 and 12, agriculture is optional but many students choose to continue their studies in this field. Urrbrae Agricultural High School is not zoned and therefore entry to the school is by application only.

Applications

A brochure and application form can be obtained from your primary school or from the principal of Urrbrae Agricultural High School. Your child needs to provide as many details as possible about their interest in agriculture, living things and the environment.

Urrbrae Agricultural High School Tel: 8372 6955

Timeline: Applications must be returned to Urrbrae Agricultural High School by Wednesday 16 May 2012.

Dance/Drama

In 2013, Charles Campbell College and Golden Grove High School will offer placements in the specialised arts program for Year 8 students from across the State. Students will participate in a course that provides balance between academic and arts commitments.

Applications

A brochure and an application form are available from the principal of the preferred school on request.

In addition information can be obtained from each of the schools' websites:

www.ccc.sa.edu.au or www.goldengrovehs.sa.edu.au

Students will be required to provide primary school reports and to name a referee to verify their application. Auditions and interviews will be held at the school.

Charles Campbell College Tel: 8337 6844

Golden Grove High School Tel: 8282 6400



Timeline: Applications must be returned to Charles Campbell College by the date listed in the application package. Applications for the Golden Grove High School Dance/Drama Program must be returned to the school by Friday 18 May 2012.

Ignite programs for gifted students

The Heights School, Glenunga International High School and Aberfoyle Park High School provide an accelerated learning program for students identified as 'gifted'. A range of extension and enrichment programs, with an emphasis on higher order thinking skills, is also available.

Advice has already been sent to primary schools about the first round of tests which are the starting point for entry into the program. More details are available from The Heights School, Glenunga International High School and Aberfoyle Park High School.

Applications

Applications for entry to this program should have been submitted by students in February 2012. The selection process, involving academic tests and a personal interview, will be conducted during Terms 1 and 2.

The Heights School Tel: 8263 6244

Glenunga International High School Tel: 8379 5629

Aberfoyle Park High School Tel: 8270 4455

Additional information about the Ignite program can be obtained from the programs website at www.igniteprogram.com.au

International Baccalaureate (IB)

Glenunga International High School and Blackwood High School offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Course. This is a two-year diploma course for years 11 and 12 which is accepted for entry into all the major universities around the world.

Further information

Glenunga International High School Tel: 8379 5629

Blackwood High School Tel: 8278 0900

Australian Science and Mathematics School

The Australian Science and Mathematics School (ASMS) enrol students in years 10, 11 and 12. The ASMS provides a comprehensive curriculum with a special focus on science and mathematics.

The current enrolment process has a focus on the transition from Year 7 to Year 8. For many students, attendance at the ASMS in years 10, 11 and 12 will remain an option for further consideration while in years 8 and 9.

By registering your interest in enrolment at the ASMS as part of the Year 8 enrolment process, you will be provided with further information about the school's programs while your child completes years 8 and 9. Students interested in the ASMS should complete and

return to their primary school the *Registration of interest* form, which is included in the enrolment package.

Timeline: Government students should return the *Registration of interest* form and the *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form to the primary school by Friday 18 May 2012. Non-government students should post both forms to the:

State Coordinator Year 8 Enrolments
Office for Schools
Level 6, Education Building
31 Flinders Street
Adelaide, South Australia 5000

by the same due date as students from government schools.

For further information regarding the ASMS please contact the school on 8201 5686 or visit the school's website www.asms.sa.edu.au.

Enter for Success program – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Year 7 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students may enrol and be accepted into ANY government secondary school of their choice in South Australia through the Enter for success program.

This unique program supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in secondary schooling and aims to improve attendance and retention rates. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to discuss the options of attending a secondary school other than their zoned school with staff at their child's primary school.

Applications

To register for the *Enter for success* program, parents and caregivers should complete the registration form contained within the enrolment package. Enter for success program registration forms should be returned along with the *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form by Friday 18 May 2012.

Country schools

Country schools offer a wide range of high quality curricula and programs. Some schools specialise in particular areas for example agriculture, aquaculture or viticulture.

Boarding facilities exist at selected country schools. You should contact your local regional office for further information about this and the specialist programs available in country South Australia. Contact details for your regional office can be obtained from your primary school principal. Students who are currently enrolled in primary school classes in country areas are also eligible to apply for entry to any of the special interest schools listed in this brochure. However, for country students who attend metropolitan government schools, the responsibility for boarding arrangements lies with parents.

Specialised programs in country schools

The *South Australian rural student accommodation* program provides affordable full-board, hostel style accommodation for secondary students to live away from home. For information regarding the hostels, contact the individual schools listed below.

Cleve Area School Tel: 8628 2104

- Certificate of Agriculture, based on broad-acre farming

Lucindale Area School Tel: 8766 2084

- Certificate of Agriculture based on farm diversity and includes small seeds, viticulture, aquaculture, cattle and sheep

Cowell Area School* Tel: 8629 2150

- Cowell Area School offers a course in aquaculture including industry training in the farming of oysters and finfish and reticulated tank systems

Burra Community School Tel: 8892 2007

- Agricultural studies is part of the compulsory program for years 6 to 10.

** The Cowell Area School hostel is not operating in 2012. Student demand will determine whether it operates in 2013.*

Students with disabilities

Students with disabilities will normally enrol in their local secondary school, unless their parents are requesting a placement in a special class, unit or school. The process for requesting a placement in a special facility is managed by the Manager, Regional Support Services.

A Request to investigate enrolment in a special education option is completed by the parent and the primary school, and then forwarded to the Regional Special Options Panel held in each region in Term 2. Offers of placement are made to parents and students by the panel. Once accepted, students are included into the mainstream Year 8 enrolment process.

All students with disabilities will need to complete an *Application for enrolment in Year 8* form, including those that have a confirmed place in a special class or school. Forms need to be returned to primary schools by Friday 18 May 2012.

Open Access College

The Open Access College includes the Reception to Year 10 and Senior Secondary School of Distance Education at Marden and the Port Augusta School of the Air. The college's School of Distance Education provides courses of instruction (from Reception to Year 12 level) to remote and isolated students and to those students who are unable to access selected subjects at their local school. Learning support is also provided for gifted students.

Travelling allowance

A travelling allowance may be payable to any student who lives five kilometres or more from the nearest school or school bus route. Transport assistance may also be available for students with disabilities. Please check with your zoned school to find out if you qualify for this assistance.

South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE)

Students beginning Year 8 in 2013 will go on to study an updated South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) which was introduced in 2009. The SACE has changed in a number of ways. It now includes more options for students, a greater focus on helping students plan for their future, compulsory satisfactory completion of literacy and numeracy requirements and more. All of these changes are designed to ensure the SACE better meets the needs of students and families, education and training providers, employers and the community.

The SACE is designed to prepare students for work and life, whether they aim to learn a sought-after trade, go to university or TAFE, or move from school directly into the workforce. The SACE gives students more opportunities to develop skills both within and beyond school. For example, many young people prefer hands-on learning and benefit from combining school and work through vocational programs such as



Trade Schools for the Future. Other students work outside of the classroom, so the SACE will give credit for a wide range of activities such as learning a trade, vocational education and training and community service. For more information go to the SACE Board of SA website www.saceboard.sa.edu.au

Vocational education

Trade Schools for the Future

The *Trade schools for the future* program is an educational initiative that enables years 10, 11 and 12 high school students to combine their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) studies with vocational education and training (VET) in the form of a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship.

This means as part of your child's SACE studies, they can commence an apprenticeship or traineeship while at high school in order to get a head start on their career while gaining nationally recognised qualifications and valuable work skills.

Specialist apprenticeship brokers are on hand at schools that can help your child find an employer. For further information visit www.tradeschoolsforthefuture.sa.edu.au

Industry Skills program

The *Industry skills* program is an educational initiative that enables years 10, 11 and 12 high school students to undertake industry endorsed and nationally accredited vocational pathways that lead to Certificate III qualifications. These vocational pathways expose young people to industry through supervised practical work and theory, and allow them to achieve vocational qualifications as part of their schooling. VET studies are integrated within the SACE. Programs in development include defence, construction, civil construction, automotive, health, business service, community services, digital media, electro-technology, engineering, manufacturing, plumbing, food processing and production and primary industries.

Industry skills managers assist schools to build capacity to deliver these programs and contribute resources to continue the pathway. For further information contact Tel: 8226 5935.

Frequently asked questions

QUESTION

When will I find out where my child has been accepted for secondary school?

ANSWER

On or by Friday 10 August 2012, students will receive their acceptance packs.

QUESTION

What if my child misses out on their school of choice?

ANSWER

Students who are unsuccessful in gaining a place at one of their preferred schools will be redirected back to their zoned secondary school. Your child will receive the following from the zoned school:

- A letter of welcome
- Notification of Year 8 enrolment notice
- A *Year 8 enrolment appeal form*.

Students who have missed out on their first, second and third preferences will automatically be placed on these school's waiting lists. Each secondary school manages its own waiting list. Please note, to ensure that the process is fair and equitable, parents and students will not be notified as to their place on these waiting lists.

Appeals

Information about the appeal process and timelines will be included in your child's acceptance pack. Appeals must be lodged by Friday 24 August 2012. Parents and students who wish to lodge an appeal can only do so if there is additional information that should be considered that was not provided in the original application.

Appeals cannot be made in relation to special interest school applications by this process. Any special interest schools that have an appeal process will inform applicants of the requirements when they send out notifications of the outcome of their selection process.

Students that are successful in their appeal will not be granted entry to their school of choice. Rather successful appeals will have their ranked position on the school's waiting list amended.

Financial Assistance – School Card

If you have difficulty in meeting school costs you can contact the principal to seek payment by instalments or apply for assistance by making an application for the School Card. This scheme provides financial assistance towards the costs of educational expenses for full-time students of low-income families. Forms are available from the principal.

Support from the Australian Government

- Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme
- Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander (ABSTUDY)

For more information: www.centrelink.gov.au or phone 1800 050 004.

Enrolment enquiries

General enquiries about enrolment should firstly be directed to your primary school. Further information can be obtained by calling your Regional Curriculum Consultant.

Adelaide Hills Tel: 8391 4705

Barossa Tel: 8256 8111

Eastern Adelaide Tel: 8366 8800

Eyre and Western Port Lincoln Tel: 8682 3788

Whyalla Tel: 8645 6568

Far North/Aboriginal Lands Tel: 8641 6877

Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Tel: 8207 3762

Limestone Coast Mount Gambier Tel: 8724 5300

Murray Mallee Murray Bridge Tel: 8532 0700

Berri Tel: 8595 2323

Northern Adelaide Elizabeth Tel: 8256 8111

Southern Adelaide Tel: 8207 3764

Western Adelaide Tel: 8416 7333

Yorke/Mid North Clare Tel: 8842 6650

Port Pirie Tel: 8638 1801

Visit www.decd.sa.gov.au for general information.

