

Deferring, Suspending or Cancelling an Overseas Student's Enrolment Policy

Caulfield Grammar's Policy

An overseas student's enrolment can be deferred, suspended or cancelled for different reasons. The student may initiate a deferment or suspension on the grounds of compassionate or compelling circumstances. The School may suspend or cancel an enrolment due to student misbehaviour, a failure to pay fees or a breach of course progress or attendance requirements.

Any decision to defer, suspend or cancel an overseas student's enrolment must be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Code.

Deferment or Suspension by the School: Compassionate or Compelling Circumstances

The School may decide to defer or suspend an overseas student's enrolment if it believes there are compassionate or compelling circumstances.

The School will consider the following as compassionate and compelling circumstances:

- medical illness or injury of the overseas student or overseas student's close relative which required hospitalisation or impedes activities of daily living
- a mental health condition of the student or a student's close relative that results in hospitalisation or functional impairment
- death of a close family member
- adverse experience that has impacted on the overseas student which could include:
 - being a witness to or victim of a serious accident
 - being a witness to or victim of a crime, natural disaster, or terrorism event
- major political upheaval or natural disaster in the overseas student's home country which required immediate emergency travel
- inability to begin study in a program on the agreed starting date due to a delay in receiving an overseas student visa
- where the School is unable to offer to a prerequisite unit, or the overseas student has failed a prerequisite unit and therefore faces a shortage of relevant units for which they are eligible to enrol
- other compassionate or compelling circumstances at the discretion of the School.

There is no maximum period for a deferral for compassionate or compelling reasons, but the deferral must be assessed in accordance with the processes in this policy.

Suitable Evidence of Compassionate or Compelling Circumstances

In order for the School to grant the overseas student a deferment, suspension or cancellation of their enrolment on the grounds of compassionate and compelling circumstances, the overseas student must provide the School with suitable documentary evidence to prove the compassionate and compelling circumstances. This may include:

- a medical certificate
- death certificate (when possible)
- outside counselling services

If the School becomes aware that the student has provided us with fraudulent evidence or documents given to support a claim of compassionate or compelling circumstances, we may decide to suspend or cancel their enrolment.

Suspension or Cancellation by the School: Misbehaviour, Failure to Pay Fees, Breach of Course Progress or Attendance Requirements

The School may decide to suspend or cancel an overseas student's enrolment on the basis of, but not limited to:

- misbehaviour by the student
- the student's or the student's parents/guardians
- a breach of course progress or attendance requirements by the overseas student, which must occur in accordance with Standard 8 (Overseas student Visa requirements).

A decision to suspend or cancel an overseas student's enrolment for any of the reasons above cannot take effect until an internal appeals process is completed, unless the overseas student's health or wellbeing, or the wellbeing of others, is likely to be at risk.

Refer to the Initiating Cancellation or Suspension section below.

Initiating Cancellation or Suspension

If the School initiates a cancellation or suspension of the overseas student's enrolment,

Before imposing a cancellation or suspension, the School must:

- inform the overseas student and their parents/guardians of that intention and the reasons for doing so, in writing; and
- advise the overseas student of their right to appeal through the Schools Overseas Students Complaints Handling Policy and Overseas Students Complaints Appeals Policy, within 20 working days.

Deferral, Cancellation or Suspension Action

When there is any deferral, suspension or cancellation action taken by the School, the School will:

- inform the overseas student of the need to seek advice from the Department of Home Affairs on the potential impact on their student visa
- report the change to the overseas student's enrolment.

Effect on Confirmation of Enrolment - COE

The School must inform overseas students that deferring, suspending or cancelling an enrolment on any grounds may affect their student visa.

In the event of a decision to defer, suspend or cancel an enrolment, there are three possible outcomes on a student's COE.

1. The School notifies the Department of Education (DET) through PRISMS that they are deferring or suspending an overseas student's enrolment for a period without affecting the end date of the COE. The notice of deferment or suspension will be recorded in PRISMS, but this will not change the COE. The overseas student will be still listed as studying.
2. The School notifies the DET through PRISMS that they are deferring or suspending an overseas student's enrolment for a period which will affect the end date of the COE. PRISMS will cancel the original COE and immediately offer the School the opportunity to create a new COE with a more appropriate end date. If the School does not know when the overseas student will return, the School can choose to not create a new COE, but to wait until the overseas student has notified it of their intended date of return to the School.
3. The School notifies the DET through PRISMS that it wants to permanently cancel (terminate) the overseas student's enrolment. Once the PRISMS notification process is complete, the overseas student's COE status will be listed as 'cancelled.' If the student is under the age of 18, the COE cancellation won't cancel the CAAW and the School is still responsible for

welfare arrangements until one of the conditions of Standard 5.6 are met. Refer to the CGS Younger Overseas Students Policy.

Procedural Fairness

The School is committed to ensuring procedural fairness when deferring, suspending or cancelling an overseas student's enrolment with Caulfield Grammar.

Where a decision has been considered to defer, suspend or cancel the enrolment of the student, the Principal or their delegate will:

- Write to the student, and the student's parents/guardians stating:
 - the reasons that the student's enrolment is under consideration for deferral, suspension or cancellation
 - the relevant rules, policies, standards of behaviour alleged to be breached
 - the relevant allegations said to warrant suspension or expulsion
 - allow the student and/or the student's parents/guardians to give a response, either in writing or verbally
 - allow the student to have a support person of the student's choosing
 - arrange a meeting with the student, the student's support person where applicable, and the student's parents/guardians where possible
 - arrange for an interpreter, if one is required
 - ensure that any meetings are documented.

Impact of deferral and suspension on student attendance

If an overseas student's enrolment is deferred or suspended, the period of suspension or deferral of enrolment (as recorded in PRISMS) should not be included in attendance monitoring calculations.

Record Keeping

The School maintains evidence of compliance with this policy by maintaining records of written agreements entered into by the School and an Education Agent and any actions or activities undertaken by the School in relation to this policy. Records will be maintained in accordance with our Overseas Students Records Management and Retention Policy.

Policy Name: Deferring, suspending or cancelling an overseas student's enrolment policy	Last updated: July 2018
Policy Owner: CGS Director of Community Engagement	Date of Next review: July 2020
Reviewer: Risk & Compliance	CRICOS 00136F

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