Goulburn Street School Association

Feedback on draft Out-of-Home-Area Procedure

Public Consultation on the draft procedure has started!

The consultation process is an important opportunity to comment on the redrafted process. The people best placed to identify issues with the draft procedure are those people in our school community that are affected by it. As a result, the School Association is seeking your input into the process.

What’s changing?

Acceptance Criteria

The draft process includes the following criteria for the acceptance of an Out-of-Home-Area student into an Out-of-Home-Area school:

- significant learning support needs (including disability, illness, health and curriculum);
- family links and connections (including siblings or immediate family already attending the school);
- out of hours child care (including where students need to access out of school care or have family connections in the Out-of-Home-Area School); and
- exceptional circumstances as determined by the General Manager of the relevant Learning Service.

The School Association considers that:

- proximity to employment location should be included in the criteria. Many families choose to send their children to a school that is central to their employment location, allowing attendance at assemblies and school functions; and
- the ‘family links and connections’ criteria does not take into account shared parenting arrangements. Often the decision to select a particular school is based on a location that is equally accessible to homes of individual parents that no longer reside at the same address.

Catchment Areas

Catchment areas have been altered from existing boundaries. The areas that have been removed do appear to be best serviced by the schools they have now been allocated to. In saying that, there are areas not included in Goulburn Streets catchment area which are more logically serviced by Goulburn Street School (based on statistical analysis and safe walking distances/routes to the School).

Feeder Schools

Goulburn Street would no longer be a direct feeder school to Ogilvie High and New Town High Schools. Rather, Taroona High School would be the direct feeder school (although the Association is seeking clarification that these schools will still be accessible on other grounds i.e. preference of a single sex school).
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Where to next?

Members of the Goulburn Street School Association are talking to Albuera Street and Campbell Street School Associations to identify issues and common themes shared by inner city schools.

The School Association will keep you up-to-date on any developments. In the meantime sources of further information or details of where you can provide feedback is listed below.

Contacts and further information:

- Information on the draft procedures and revised area maps is available from the School Association desk near the school office.
- Procedures, maps and a general submission form to capture general issues in relation to the draft procedures are available on the Department of Education website. You can find them here: http://www.education.tas.gov.au/About_us/Pages/School-Home-Area-Maps.aspx
- You can email Meg Denham of the School Association to provide feedback or raise a query at meg.denham@gmail.com.