

Improving the management of enrolment schemes

Enrolment schemes are introduced to ensure that students are able to attend their local school by preventing overcrowding.

Source: Ministry of Education factsheet

Two changes have been made to the Act to fine-tune and improve the way enrolment schemes are managed.

These changes are:

1. Allowing the Secretary for Education to develop and put in place an enrolment scheme when a school refuses or is slow to do so; and
2. Where a board has decided not to enrol a student the Secretary can override an enrolment scheme and direct a school to enrol a child or young person under exceptional circumstances.

What has changed?

Previously, the Ministry would have needed to appoint a limited statutory manager to develop and implement an enrolment scheme when a school refused or was slow to action.

What do boards need to do?

- Boards that are considering developing an enrolment scheme, or have been directed by the Ministry to do so, need to take into account the new provision
- Boards should take into consideration the changes to legislation when parents apply for an exemption from the enrolment scheme for their child

What are the exceptional circumstances?

These are defined in section 11P as being where:

- the board has declined the application on the grounds that the applicant is not living in the school's home zone, but in fact he or she is living in the zone
- not giving a direction would be so disadvantageous to the applicant that overriding the enrolment scheme is justified

Where do I find this in the Education Act?

Sections 111A and 11P.

When do the changes take effect?

These provisions took effect from 19 May 2017.

Where do I get advice?

NZSTA will continue to update and advise you through factsheets, newsletters, and our website.

You can call **0800 782 435** or email actupdates@nzsta.org.nz.