

AUSTRALIA

FAMILY STAGE

PARENT GUIDE

AIRBOTIX FAMILY GUIDES

How do Adelaide schools compare?

Five-column verification method for school zone, My School, School Card, EALD, OSHC and commuting

This guide helps Adelaide 5–8-year-old families compare school paths using a five-column evidence framework: first verify enrollment/zone, then look at public data, child support, family enforcement costs, and finally ask the school directly for unconfirmed matters.

Verified version on July 11, 2026

Adelaide 5–8 year old family



01

Quick answer: Don't compress all information into a "school score"

When comparing Adelaide schools, start by building a five-column table. Each column only records traceable evidence and issues to be confirmed, and does not give the school a total score.

Comparison column	What to check first	What to save	Who to confirm with last
1. Enrolment / zone evidence	SA finder's enrollment year, primary, real address results; whether the school is zoned, local/catchment or other status	query date, result screenshot/link, school enrollment page, address proof list	school enrollment contact; for policy questions, please contact Department
2. Public data	My School profile, student population, attendance, finances, NAPLAN, ICSEA	Data year, cohort/participation, missing or gray mark, questions to be asked	School principal/teacher explains the situation of the school
3. Child support	Public description of EALD, primary IELP, learning/disability/wellbeing support	Private list of child language background and old school information; school description	School support/EALD contact; if necessary, Department EALD team
4. Family execution cost	Door-to-door routes, OSHC, school/pupil-free/vacation care, daily transfers	Morning and evening peak measured times, transfers, walking, confirmation dates of OSHC hours/place/fees	Schools, OSHC providers, Adelaide Metro
5. School confirmation	Turn the blank spaces in the first four columns into a structured email or school visit question	Written reply, contact person, next steps, review date	The school and related providers

These five columns answer different questions: **The residential address may affect the local/zoned path of the government**

02

Column 1: Use SA official finder to create enrolment/zone evidence

A complete preliminary inspection

1. Open [Find your local school or preschool](#) ↗. 2. Select the **enrolment year** in which your child plans to enter school, and then select **Primary (Reception to Year 6)**. 3. Enter your child's actual, primary residence address; do not substitute real estate ads, mailing addresses, or "nearest school." 4. Record the local/zoned school, query date and school contact information returned by the finder; read the page's reminder of zone/catchment changes. 5. Open [Primary school enrollment](#) ↗ and the school's own enrollment page, and distinguish between local and non-local paths. 6. If you are near the boundary, the result is unclear, the school has capacity management, or the family has shared-care/relocation situation, please confirm in writing with the school or department.


The SA Department explains that each family has a local school or preschool, which may be determined by zone, catchment area or bus route. Local schools in Outer metropolitan Adelaide and regional SA may not be the closest schools that appear on the webpage. Finder results are used to locate paths; registration of interest is the application process and is not equal to enrolment.

Enrollment questions sent to schools

- Is this address part of your school's local/zone/catchment during the child's enrollment year?
- Does your school apply a capacity management plan? How does this impact current application steps and proof of address?
- Reception/What form should be submitted for the current grade, when should it be submitted, and when will it be considered formal enrollment?

03

Column 2: What do you think of My School? ICSEA/NAPLAN cannot explain anything.

[My School](#)  is managed by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and allows you to view nationally consistent data on each school's profile, student composition, attendance, NAPLAN, finances, etc. It is suitable for making "what else should I ask" concrete, but not suitable for turning into a self-made ranking.

###ICSEA

ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) describes the socio-educational advantage of a school's student population. ACARA is calculated with a mean of 1,000 and a standard deviation of 100, and is calculated using data such as student family background, Indigenous status and school location.

It is not:

- School teaching quality score;
- Judgments about an individual child's ability, family income or future performance;
- School admission standards;
- The "fitness" that can be obtained by ranking different schools from high to low.

The correct usage is: when reading NAPLAN's similar-background comparison, understand its background benchmark, and then ask about the cohort, curriculum and support context behind the school data.

###NAPLAN

My School displays the school-level results of students who took

04

The third column: School Card and EALD are separated.

A. School Card: Cost Path

[2026 School Card scheme](#) ↗ Provides help with school fees, materials and services charges to eligible low-income families. It is not a cash benefit and does not apply to preschool children; whether non-government schools use this income assessment to provide fee relief is decided by individual schools.

As of 2026-07-11, the official page lists multiple application paths: the commonly used Form A, as well as hardship/change/self-employed Form B, new arrivals to Australia or released after 2024-07-01 Form M, care arrangement Form F, etc. The 2026 income limits and application form have been announced on the official page; Form A indicates that the 2026 application deadline is **2026-11-13**.

Family Action:

1. Open the official School Card page for the current year, and do not use the previous year's form or income limit.
2. Choose a form based on your family's actual situation; if you are unsure, contact the School Card Section or the school. Do not disclose income, CRN, visa or care documents in the group.
3. Prepare the information required by the current year's form and submit it; save confirmation/reference.
4. Ask the school which charges the school has invoiced are applicable to the School Card and which charges are still borne by the family.
5. If circumstances change or results are not as expected, review the current year's reassessment/hardship path and do not assume eligibility.

This guide does not determine eligibility for families, nor does it make any commitments about the scope, amounts, or approval times of relief.

B. EALD/IELP: Children's Language Learning Path

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Column 4: Including OSHC and Adelaide commuting into household enforcement costs

Just because the school is close on the map does not mean it can be implemented every day. Measure the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up on at least one typical working day, and test the OSHC scenario separately.

OSHC

[SA OSHC family information](#) explains that OSHC can include before school, after school, pupil free days and vacation care. Most services are located in schools, but may also be in community/recreation/child care centers; fees will vary by service and component.

Use [Find schools, preschools and other services](#) to search for the school name, suburb or postcode and view the [Out of School Hours Care](#) record; then confirm with the actual provider:

- Whether it serves the school/grade, and whether there is currently a place or waitlist;
- hours before/after school, pupil-free day, vacation care;
- enrolment, booking/cancellation, casual/permanent session rules;
- Current fees, possible Child Care Subsidy routes and additional charges;
- Arrangements for pick-up and handover, late collection, allergy/medication and additional-needs.

The presence of OSHC in the catalog does not mean there is a place; a School Card does not mean automatic payment of OSHC.

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Column 5: Turn the comparison result into a school confirmation form

Instead of asking “Is your school good?” ask verifiable questions. Keep necessary information about children and families to a minimum and send it through official school contacts.

###Enrolment/zone

Please confirm the local/zone/catchment status, application steps and proof of residence of the enrollment year.

Are there any capacity management or non-local priority rules that affect this application?

At what nodes are ROI, offer, and formal enrolment completed?

Public data

How does the school explain the cohort, participation or changes in certain data on My School?

Apart from NAPLAN, how do schools understand and provide feedback on children's learning, engagement and wellbeing?

Child support

Who is responsible for EALD assessment, planning and family review?

Does the child need to consider IELP or other support? How to confirm referral, transport and transition?

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Common Misunderstandings

1. **Regard the nearest school as local/zoned school:** Check finder by enrollment year and real address. 2. **Treat Finder as a Guarantee of Admission:** Read the enrollment/placement rules again and contact the school. 3. **Treat ICSEA as a quality ranking:** It describes the socio-educational context of the student cohort, not the school score. 4. **Look at only one NAPLAN number:** First look at year, scale, cohort, participation, matched students and uncertainty. 5. **Confusing School Card with EALD:** One is a fee application and the other is a language learning support path. 6. **If you can speak Chinese by default, you must have a fixed EALD configuration:** It is determined by the school assessment and the child's actual language learning needs. 7. **When you see the OSHC name, it will be there by default:** Ask the provider for place, hours, fees and handover. 8. **Weekend driving time only:** Measures morning and evening peak hours on weekdays, public transportation, walking and alternate transfers. 9. **Use parent group experience as qualification:** income, visa, address, language and support cases only go through the official/school route. 10. **Predicting Admissions or Child Outcomes:** This guide does not predict admission probabilities, grades, language progress, or long-term outcomes.

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One page action list completed today

- Create a five-column comparison table without total score or ranking.
- Query SA finder with 2026/target enrollment year and real address, save date and results.
- Open the My School profile of the candidate school and record the data year, restrictions and two school questions.
- For fee assistance, open the 2026 School Card page and select the correct form; private information will not be published.
- If you need language support, sort out the date of arrival in Australia, home language, old school information and current English tasks, and ask the school about the EALD/IELP pathway.
- Search OSHC and confirm place, hours, fees, CCS and handover to provider.
- Complete morning and evening peak door-to-door testing using Adelaide Metro/actual route.
- Send column 5 confirmation form to the school and save the written reply and review date.
- Recheck dynamic information before signing a contract, applying, accepting an offer, or arranging care.

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Official source, update notes and disclaimer

This guide was verified as of **11 July 2026 (AEST)** and only uses the following government, ACARA/My School and official public transport sources:

- [SA Find your local school or preschool ↗](#)
- [SA Primary school enrolment ↗](#)
- [Registration of interest process \(enrolment\) procedure ↗](#)
- [SA Placement procedure ↗](#)
- [My School FAQs ↗](#)
- [My School technical and statistical information ↗](#)
- [2026 School Card scheme ↗](#)
- [SA EALD program ↗](#)
- [SA IELP and NAP brochure ↗](#)
- [SA OSHC services for families ↗](#)
- [SA Find schools, preschools and other services ↗](#)
- [Adelaide Metro school travel ↗](#)

Update trigger: enrolment year, zone/catchment, school status, capacity management, proof of residence, My School methodology/display, School Card eligibility/forms/limits/deadline, EALD/IELP criteria/sites/referral, OSHC provider/place/hours/fees, Adelaide Metro route/timetable. If any changes, this version needs to be reviewed.

Disclaimer: This material is for general educational information only and does not constitute legal, immigration, welfare, financial, real estate, traffic safety or individual enrolment advice. Airbotix does not represent ACARA, South Australian Government, Adelaide Metro, any school or OSHC provider, does not determine eligibility for families, does not recommend or rank schools, and does not guarantee enrollment, School

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About Airbotix Family Guides

Airbotix Family Guides organizes official information into actionable lists based on the city and age issues families are dealing with.

Once a school path is chosen, families can still observe interest, expression, and cooperation through the work their children produce. Airbotix's **Story Blocks (5–8)** offer optional extracurricular scenarios for block stories and mini-projects; it is not a condition of school admission, does not replace EALD, school support or OSHC, and does not promise NAPLAN or other outcomes.

Learn about courses and more guides: airbotix.ai ↗. For courses, activities or cooperation, please contact **Rain Sales WeChat**; for zone, enrollment, School Card, EALD/IELP, OSHC and transportation issues, please use the official entrance above and contact the corresponding school or provider.

NEXT STEP

Choose the right next step

For questions about admission, fees and support, return to the official portal and contact the school; courses and home study directions can be consulted through the Airbotix official website or Rain.

hello@airbotix.ai

WEBSITE

Airbotix official website

View courses and more Airbotix Family Guides.



airbotix.ai ↗

SALES

Contact Rain

Inquire about Airbotix courses, events and collaborations; Rain is not a school, government or welfare contact.



[Rain · Sales WeChat](#) ↗

SOURCE

SA official school search

Check local school, zone or catchment by enrollment year and home address.



[SA Department for Education](#)

