

BRISBANE

PREP 3-5

ENROLLMENT GUIDE

AIRBOTIX FAMILY GUIDES

# Brisbane Prep Admissions Timeline

Find out about cutoff, EdMap, enrollment, OSHC and your daily commute

First use the date of birth to confirm the Prep year, then use the actual address to check EdMap, and finally confirm the enrollment, OSHC and route to school with the target school.

Verified July 2026 edition

Brisbane families preparing to apply for Queensland Prep



# 01

## Quick answer: age, EdMap, school, in this order

Queensland's **Prep** is the first year of primary school and is a full-time, school-based program. Children who turn 5 years old by **June 30** of the year they intend to enter school can usually start Prep in that school year; all Queensland children are in principle required to complete Prep before entering Year 1.

Parents should do four things first:

1. Open [Queensland Prep enrolments](#) ↗ and use the official online calculator to enter the month and year of the child's birth.
2. Open [EdMap](#) ↗, select **Prep to Year 6**, and use the child's primary residential address to query the local state school.
3. Open the school's official website and [School Enrolment Management Plans](#) ↗ to confirm whether the school has School EMP, current year's enrollment form, interview, tour/open day and residency requirements.
4. Treat OSHC and daily route to school as two independent applications/verifications; getting school enrollment does not mean getting OSHC place.

Don't guess the school zone first based on a postcode, a real estate ad, or a friend's address. Brisbane's boundary suburbs, both sides of the same road, and adjacent blocks may correspond to different catchments; when EdMap's map boundary conflicts with the search results, the official prompts to use the boundary shown on the map, and then confirm with the school.

# 02

## Age and date decision table

The table below is converted according to the official "5 years old before 30 June of the year of entry" rules. Look at the birth date range first, then double-check the specific child using the official calculator.

Child's date of birth	Typically eligible Prep entry years	2026-07-11 What to do
2021-07-01 to 2022-06-30	2027	Check EdMap and the target school's 2027 enrollment page now; enrollment can usually be made one year in advance, but the school process shall prevail
2022-07-01 to 2023-06-30	2028	Confirm the year and possible address first; then recheck the annual catchment and school opening hours in 2027
2023-07-01 to 2024-06-30	2029	Save the official calculator; don't rely on the 2026 catchment now to make long-term real estate decisions
2024-07-01 to 2025-06-30	2030	Record the normal Prep year, and check EdMap and school procedures closer to the application year
2025-07-01 to 2026-06-30	2031	Record normal Prep years; subsequent re-verification based on child and family circumstances

Two boundary examples:

- **2022-06-30 Born:** Turns 5 years old on June 30, 2027, generally eligible for 2027 Prep.
- **2022-07-01 Born:** Not yet 5 years old by June 30, 2027, normal age path is usually 2028 Prep; don't discount the 1 day difference.

Official entry point: [Prep enrolments and online calculator](#) ↗

# 03

## Early entry and delayed entry: not the same thing

### Early entry

Children younger than the normal age may only have early entry if they meet the legislative conditions:

- The child turns 5 years old by **July 31** in the year of proposed entry and the school principal considers the child to be ready for Prep education; or
- The child has started education equivalent to Queensland Prep in another state or country and the principal considers the child is ready. The Department describes "equivalent" as a pre-Year 1, full-time, school-based program with a clear curriculum.

This is not an automatic approval just one month away. Contact the school you plan to apply to and ask the principal or senior management for early-entry application requirements; do not write childcare, kindy attendance or parent wishes as guaranteed eligibility.

### Delayed entry

If the child has not yet entered Prep and parents feel that the child is not ready, they can delay Prep for one year and then start Prep in the school year when they reach compulsory school age. Queensland Department's current statement: This delayed entry **does not require formal documentation, assessment or approval**, and the principal does not make delayed decisions for parents; families can choose to discuss it with the school, but are not required to.

Delay will also move Year 1 back one year. Make decisions based on the best educational interests of the child and realistically consider existing kindy/childcare, support needs, family care and next year's enrollment; this guide does not provide a developmental assessment for families.

# 04

## EdMap and Brisbane catchment: Use actual address to check, no need to guess the city image

### Query action

1. Enter your child's primary residential address in [EdMap](#) ↗. 2. Make sure you are viewing the **Prep to Year 6** catchment, not the secondary layer. 3. Save the school name, query date, and screenshot; don't just save the map pin. 4. Open the school's official website and check Enrolments, Prep, Catchment, School EMP and contact details. 5. Check again in the year of application. Queensland's state-school geographic dataset is released annually, and the catchment is adjustable.

### Brisbane Local Boundary

- **Northside / southside** is just the direction of travel, not the enrollment boundary.
- **Brisbane River** will affect cross-river commuting, but the river itself does not automatically determine school catchment.
- **Inner/outer suburb**, postcode, and property listing's "near school" cannot replace EdMap.
- If you live on the edge of Brisbane City Council or adjacent to the local government area, you will still be checked according to the Queensland state-school catchment, not by the name of the Council.

### What does School EMP mean?

School EMP is used for state schools near capacity. Schools that implement EMP give priority to ensuring core intake within the catchment; students living in the catchment have the right to enroll when they meet legal conditions, and the school will reserve places for students who move into the catchment during

# 05

## Personal application timeline

The Queensland Department currently states that state schools can usually enroll one year in advance; the specific opening date, deadline, interview and transition program are released by the school.

### 18–24 months before admission

- Use the calculator to confirm the normal Prep year; if considering early entry, check the legal conditions first.
- No long-term commitments with old EdMap screenshots; just build candidate schools and commute directions.
- Record whether the household requires OSHC, public transport, EAL/interpreter or health/support planning.

### First half of the year before admission

- Recheck EdMap with your current primary residential address, saving dates and screenshots.
- Check whether the target school has School EMP; download the enrollment form for the current year instead of the old group file.
- Contact the school office and ask: when will the next year's Prep application be accepted, how to submit it, whether an interview is required, what originals need to be brought, and how to register for tour/open day/transition.
- Also contact the OSHC provider and ask about waitlist, registration, priority, hours, fees, Prep orientation and holiday arrangements.

### When submitting application

- Complete the school's Application for student enrollment form; at least one parent/carer signature.
- Provide applicable documents such as DOB/identity, residency, health/support, visa/citizenship and court order as required by the school.

- Save submission form, attachment list, sending time and school

# 06

## File list: First create an enrolment folder

The Department's public enrollment page explains that schools may require a birth certificate or passport, medical/medication/doctor information, and previous education and care provider details. Formal procedures and School EMP also support the following applicable items.

- Child legal identity / DOB:** birth certificate or passport; usually required when entering a Queensland state school for the first time, the school records the number rather than keeping a copy.
- Primary residential address:** If the school implements EMP, prepare primary proof plus secondary proof; all document addresses must be consistent with the name of the parent/legal guardian.
- Visa/Identity:** Australian citizenship, Permanent Residence or applicable visa evidence; non-Australian resident/citizen families may require Education Queensland International advice.
- medical / medication:** medical condition, symptoms, medication, doctor and existing health management plan (when applicable).
- court / child protection orders:** current signed and sealed orders relating to welfare, safety or parenting arrangements where applicable.
- previous learning:** kindy, childcare, interstate/overseas school or other previous education and care provider details.
- support information:** Existing information for disability, language/EAL, developmental, or transition support; used to discuss support in advance, not to guarantee specific placement.

# 07

## Is Brisbane walkable every day: a list of traffic problems

After selecting a local school, don't just look at the kilometers on the map. Brisbane families should check during the actual school-day morning and evening times:

-The total time from home to school gate, not just the driving time;

- Whether bridge, tunnel, bus/train transfer is required for northside/southside or across the river;
- drop-off/pick-up queue, legal parking, rainy weather walks and younger siblings;
- Who is responsible for morning drop-off, afternoon pickup and emergency pickup;
- Whether the gate where OSHC is located, the latest pickup, and school holiday/pupil-free day need to be booked separately;
- Whether the dedicated school service only runs in school days, and whether the timetable changes in the next school year.

Translink recommends using Journey Planner and School Service Finder: select the actual school day, and use **Arrive before** to test arriving at school and **Depart** to test leaving school. School services and route changes may be adjusted for the new school year; review timetables and disruptions before departure.

Brisbane City Council's Active School Travel is joined by participating schools and not every school automatically offers the same walking/cycling map or program. Ask the target school whether it participates and what the current road-safety arrangement is near the school gate.

# 08

## OSHC: Enrolling in a school does not mean having before/after-school care

OSHC is for school-age children including Prep and can be run by a P&C or commercial provider in a school, community center or other location. The most important boundaries are:

- school enrollment **not guaranteed** OSHC place;
- OSHCs at school sites are usually operated separately from the school;
- The provider determines vacancy/priority, hours, fees and enrollment eligibility in its sole discretion;
- "eligible to register" does not equal the weekly sessions you need confirmed.

When contacting the provider, ask once:

1. When will Prep registration/waitlist open in 2027 (or your intake year)? 2. What are the hours before-school, after-school, pupil-free day and vacation care respectively? 3. How to apply for fixed days per week? Does casual care exist? 4. How will Prep children be handed over from the classroom/designated gate to OSHC? 5. Where can I find information on fees, late pickup, cancellation, food and Child Care Subsidy? 6. What documents are required for medical, allergy, additional support and authorized pickup?

Official entry point: [Before and after school care](#) ↗. The specific place and fee shall be subject to the provider's latest written reply.

# 09

## When contacting the school, you can ask directly

- My child was born in YYYY-MM-DD. According to the normal age rule, which Prep year should I apply for?
- I used YYYY-MM-DD to find your school on EdMap; does the school implement School EMP? What is the current residency checklist?
- When will the Prep application open next year? Where can I download the form and how to submit it?
- Are there enrollment interviews, school tours, open days or transition sessions? Is participating in these separate from the enrollment decision?
- When do originals need to be produced? What kind of secure submission does the school accept?
- Who should families contact first if they need interpreter/EAL, medical, disability or transition support?
- Who runs OSHC? Which provider should I apply to besides school enrollment?
- Where is the current information for morning drop-off, afternoon pickup, public transport and active travel?

Include answers, dates, and contact persons in the same application record. School webpages, tours, and office replies are more suitable for reference than old social media posts.

# 10

## Common Mistakes

- **Write 30 June as 31 July:** 30 June is the normal eligibility cutoff; 31 July only appears in limited early-entry conditions and still needs to be judged by the principal.
- **Only look at age, no calculator:** New Year's Eve and boundary birthdays are most likely to be miscalculated; use official tools to double check.
- **Replace EdMap with postcode, real estate ad, or friend's address:** catchment looks at the actual principal place of residence and map boundary.
- **As soon as you check EdMap, you are considered to have been admitted:** Also check the School EMP, school form, materials and principal decision.
- **Treat open day/tour as enrollment:** Visiting or registering for an event is not the same as submitting an application or getting an offer.
- **Submit untrue address for catchment:** School EMP may request further residency evidence, and misrepresentation may result in the decision being revoked.
- **Only apply for school, not ask about OSHC:** The two are separated; high-demand services may have their own priority and waitlist.
- **Estimated school-day commute by weekend route:** Brisbane school services, cross-river peaks and drop-off queues will alter real times.
- **Apply Queensland state-school rules to Catholic/independent schools:** Non-state schools may have their own early application and admission processes, please contact the school directly.
- **Looking for non-existent unified approval letter for delayed entry:** For children not yet enrolled in Prep, the Department currently states that formal approval is not required; however, families should still deal with next year's enrollment and care arrangements.

# Page Action List

- I have used the Queensland official calculator to confirm that my child is in a normal Prep year.
- If considering early entry, I have checked the 31 July/previous-equivalent-program conditions and contacted the principal.
- If you consider delayed entry, I have understood that it is delaying one year and scheduling care/learning and enrollment for the next year.
- I have checked EdMap using my child's primary residential address and recorded the date of the check.
- I have confirmed whether the target school has School EMP and prepared residency evidence as required.
- I have downloaded the current year form from the school's current website instead of using the old group file.
- I have prepared the applicable items in the DOB/identity, address, medical, visa, court order and previous-care files.
- I have a record of submissions saved and know the difference between interviews, tour/open day, and transitions.
- I have contacted the OSHC provider separately and did not consider school enrollment as an OSHC place.
- I have tested morning and evening routes, river crossing/transfer, drop-off and emergency pickup on school day.
- After publishing, submitting or moving, I will reopen EdMap, School EMP and school official website for review.

# 12

## State and City Level Boundaries

**Queensland state level** determines Prep age rules, early/delayed entry framework, state-school enrollment procedure, School EMP framework and EdMap data system.

**Brisbane local level** determines the catchment corresponding to your actual address, the target school's enrollment/tour/transition, northside/southside and cross-river commuting, Council road environment, Translink school-day route and specific OSHC provider.

This guide does not treat the Brisbane City Council boundary as a school catchment, nor does it describe the Brisbane state-school process as uniform rules for Queensland Catholic, independent or interstate schools.

# 13

## Official source, update time and disclaimer

This guide was verified on **11 July 2026 (AEST)** using primary official sources from the Queensland Government, Queensland Department of Education, Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Translink and Brisbane City Council.

Main official entrance:

- [Prep enrolments and online calculator ↗](#)
- [Early and delayed entry to Prep ↗](#)
- [Queensland Department of Education enrolment ↗](#)
- [Enrolling your child ↗](#)
- [EdMap ↗](#)
- [School Enrolment Management Plans ↗](#)
- [Enrolment in state primary, secondary and special schools procedure ↗](#)
- [Starting Prep in Queensland checklist ↗](#)
- [Queensland OSHC information ↗](#)
- [Translink school travel ↗](#)
- [Translink guide for parents and guardians ↗](#)
- [School Transport Assistance Scheme ↗](#)
- [Brisbane City Council school road safety ↗](#)

Age rules, legislation, catchment, School EMP, forms, school dates, open days, OSHC, fees, vacancy and transport services are all subject to change. It should be re-verified every application year and after moving; the latest written information from the government department, target school, principal, OSHC provider and transport operator shall prevail.

This material is general information only and does not constitute educational, development assessment, legal, immigration, property, road safety or childcare advice. Airbotix does not

# 14

## About Airbotix Family Guides

Airbotix Family Guides organizes cities, ages, official entry points and action steps into reviewable guides based on the real choices Australian families are dealing with.

School readiness also includes a child's ability to try things out, express ideas, and collaborate with others. Airbotix lets children gradually create their own creations through games, Creative Code, robotics and AI projects. To learn about the brand and age-appropriate learning paths, please visit [airbotix.ai](https://airbotix.ai) <sup>↗</sup>; for courses, activities and cooperation, please contact **Rain · Sales WeChat**. For Prep eligibility, catchment, enrollment, OSHC and transportation questions, always use the official portal above and contact your target school or provider.

NEXT STEP

# Choose the entrance you need now

For admission rules and catchment, return to the official Queensland source; check the Airbotix official website for Family Guides; for courses, activities and cooperation, please contact Rain.

[hello@airbotix.ai](mailto:hello@airbotix.ai)

WEBSITE

## Airbotix official website

See brands, courses and more Family Guides.



[airbotix.ai](https://airbotix.ai) ↗

SALES

## Contact Rain

Scan the QR code to add Airbotix Sales WeChat to inquire about courses, activities and cooperation.



[Rain · Sales WeChat](#) ↗

SOURCE

## Queensland Prep official portal

Check your child's Prep year using the official age rules and calculator.



[Queensland Government Prep enrolments](#) ↗