



MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

a place where you belong

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WELFARE POLICY

Care for younger students under 18 years

Mackay Christian College is a CRICOS-registered provider which enrolls students under 18 years of age.

As part of its registration obligations Mackay Christian College must satisfy Commonwealth and State legislation, as well as any other regulatory requirements, relating to child welfare and protection for any overseas student enrolled who is under 18 years of age.

These obligations include ensuring that all overseas students under 18 years of age are given age- and culturally-appropriate information on:

- a. Who to contact in emergency situations, including contact number/s of a nominated staff member
- b. How to seek assistance and report any incident or allegation involving actual or alleged sexual, physical or other abuse.

Mackay Christian College has documented procedures relating to child welfare and safety, and will implement these procedures in the event that there are any concerns for the welfare of a student under 18 years of age. Blue cards are required for adults living in the Immigration approved / private arrangement other than overseas students, or who otherwise have regular contact with the student.

Accommodation and care options for overseas students under 18 years

Mackay Christian College approves the following accommodation and care options for overseas students:

1. The student will live with a parent, relative or guardian as permitted by Department of Home Affairs (Immigration).

In this case:

- a. The college does **not** provide a welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS. The student's family completes Form 157N and provides proof of relationship to Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) at the time of visa application for approval of these arrangements. The Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) must also approve any further change of welfare arrangements.
- b. If the adult responsible for the welfare, accommodation and other support arrangements for a student under 18 years of age holds a [student guardian Visa \(subclass 590\)](#) all obligations and conditions of this visa must be met, including:
 - i. not leaving Australia without the nominating student
 - ii. advising the Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) of any change of address, passport or other changes of circumstances

Mackay Christian College requires holders of Student Guardian Visas to:

- a. Maintain Overseas Visitor Health Cover for themselves and any dependent children living with them in Australia
- b. Immediately advise the college of any change to address or contact details
- c. Immediately advise the college if there are any compassionate or compelling reasons to travel overseas or not be at home for an extended period of time to care for the student.

For the period of student guardian visa holder's absence, the student will need to travel overseas with the holder of the student guardian visa. In this case, the college will advise if compulsory attendance requirements will or will not be affected by the student's absence.

In the event that Mackay Christian College becomes aware that a Student Guardian visa holder or Immigration approved guardian has left the country without the student or not be at home to care for the student, the college will immediately contact the parent and Department of Home Affairs (Immigration). If necessary, the college will advise Child Services.

2. Accommodation options for students 18 years and older include:

- a. Immigration approved guardian, including private arrangements requested by a parent

It is a condition of enrolment that students over 18 years also maintain Immigration approved guardian accommodation arrangements.

3. For school vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to full fee paying 500 visa subclass students 18 years or older:

- a. Student returns home to parents
- b. Student continues to live in Immigration approved accommodation