



MACQUARIE
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Attendance Exemptions

Attendance exemptions are granted only in limited and specific circumstances under the Education Act 1990 and ISNSW guidelines. Supporting documentation is required, and approval is not automatic.

Elite Sport – Individual Sports

Examples may include students who meet one or more of the following:

- Member of a national squad or equivalent (e.g. Australian Institute of Sport)
- Current international representation within the last 18 months
- Top 5 national ranking in the year prior
- Contracted to compete in professional sporting events within the last 18 months
- Member of a NSW state team in the last or current competition season
- Member of a recognised state or national development squad endorsed by the relevant sporting body

Elite Sport – Team Sports

Examples may include:

- Member of a national squad or equivalent (e.g. Australian Institute of Sport)
- Member of a state squad or equivalent (e.g. NSW Institute of Sport)
- Contracted to compete in professional sporting events within the last 18 months
- Member of a recognised state or national development squad endorsed by the relevant sporting body

Elite Arts

May include, or equate to, state or national representation, such as:

- Attendance at the Australian Ballet School or other recognised state-level dance programs or institutions
- Selection (via audition or submission of work) for an arts program advertised statewide or nationwide

Important Note:

Travel convenience, family preference, holidays, accommodation arrangements, or remaining away between events do not meet the exemption criteria.



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Attendance Exemptions – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the difference between leave and an attendance exemption?

Leave refers to approved absences that are recorded as time away from school.

Exemptions remove the requirement to attend school only where strict legislative criteria are met.

If my child is attending sport, is that automatically an exemption?

No. Only elite-level representation that meets ISNSW criteria may be considered. General competitions, training, or convenience between events do not qualify.

Can family holidays or staying away between events be approved as an exemption?

No. Family holidays and travel convenience must be recorded as **leave**, not exemptions.

Why do I need to submit an Extended Leave Notification Form?

The form allows the School to:

- accurately record absences
- plan for student learning
- meet compliance obligations

Submitting the form does not mean an exemption will be granted.

Why can't an absence be corrected if I confirm it through the app?

Once an absence is verified through the app, the system records it as a confirmed absence and it cannot be amended. If you believe your child is present, please contact reception immediately.

Who determines whether an exemption is approved?

All exemption requests are assessed in line with:

- ISNSW guidelines
- The Education Act 1990
- advice from governing authorities where required

Final determination rests with the School Leadership.



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Can I appeal or negotiate an attendance exemption decision if I disagree?

Attendance exemption decisions are made in accordance with ISNSW guidelines and the Education Act 1990. Where a request does not meet the required criteria, the exemption will be declined. These decisions are not negotiable and are not approved based on personal circumstances, inconvenience, or family preference. Once a determination has been made in line with the guidelines, it is final.

If my child is representing MAGS in a sporting event (for example, WAS or HICES), is this an attendance exemption?

If your child is representing MAGS at a sporting event (for example, WAS or HICES), and the school is unable to provide transportation for the required travel, you may apply for an attendance exemption for the day of travel only.

Approval is subject to confirmation of the event, travel requirements, and compliance with AISNSW attendance exemption guidelines. Where approved, the exemption applies only to the specific day(s) required for school representation and travel, not for additional days before or after the event. Please note that on the day of the sporting event, the student will be marked as attending a school event, not absent.

What if my child's absence is less than three days?

If your child will be absent for less than three consecutive days, you do not need to complete an Extended Leave Notification Form.

You may:

- email the school in advance to notify us of the absence, and the school will enter it into the system, or
- verify the absence on the day via the school app when you receive the absence notification.

If the absence meets attendance exemption criteria, you must still complete an Application for a Certificate of Exemption from Attendance at School, even if the absence is for fewer than three days.