




POLICY DOCUMENT

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Signature: 

MANAGING ATTENDANCE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS POLICY and PROCEDURES Edgewater College

1. Attendance policy

Edgewater College undertakes to meet its obligations to the Education Code 2016 to ensure it provides adequate support for the wellbeing of international students and its obligations to Immigration NZ, to monitor international students' compliance with their visa conditions.

Monitoring of international students' attendance will be as per the normal procedures applied by Edgewater College for all students. If a student is absent without explanation, this is followed up by the Attendance Officer and, if necessary, referred to the Director of International students for follow-up.

2. Procedures in the event of absenteeism by an international student

- (1) In the event that an international student is frequently absent or is absent more than seems plausible based on the reasons given, the Attendance Officer or Dean will inform the Director of International Students. The Director may take one or more of the following actions:
 - a. Inform the student of his/her responsibility to maintain excellent attendance as a condition of their enrolment. The Director should discuss the reasons for the poor attendance with the student, in an age-appropriate manner, and try to understand the causes. If necessary, she should seek help or support for the student to address the underlying problems that may be affecting the student's ability or motivation to attend school. Support may be available from teachers, the student's caregivers, the school nurse or counsellor or medical or counselling professionals from outside the school.
 - b. Inform the student of the possible consequences if they continue to demonstrate poor attendance.
 - c. Contact the residential caregiver or parent/legal guardian caring for the student and inform them of the school's concerns. The Director of International may arrange a meeting with the residential caregiver or parent/legal guardian, and the student, to discuss the reasons for non-attendance and to agree a plan to support the student to improve in this area.

- d. In the case of a student living with a residential caregiver, write to the student's parents and inform them of their child's poor attendance, advising that this may be jeopardising their ability to achieve their academic goals. Unless the parents are reasonably proficient in English, Edgewater College may have this letter translated into the parents' first language or conveyed to them by the student's Education Agent. The natural parents will always be informed if the school has serious concerns over a student's repeated absences.
- e. Draw up an agreement whereby the student agrees to maintain high rates of attendance and demonstrates their awareness of the possible consequences should they not do this. This agreement would be signed by the student, their caregivers and their natural parents to ensure that all parties are aware of the situation and to provide the student with all necessary support.
- f. Place the student on daily report for the purposes of monitoring the student's attendance and holding him/her accountable for maintaining excellent attendance.
- g. If appropriate, in cases of serious non-attendance, the Director may inform Immigration New Zealand and request them to issue a warning letter to the student.

3. Immigration requirements

- (2) Immigration New Zealand (INZ) requires schools to monitor attendance to verify that students are absent for genuine reasons. If Edgewater College has concerns over a student's attendance, and our other methods of getting the student to attend regularly, have not succeeded, we may inform INZ and request that they send a warning letter to the student advising that their low attendance may place in jeopardy their ability to obtain a visa renewal for further terms of study. NB When a student applies for a subsequent visa, INZ requires providers to attest to the full attendance the previous year, or to explain the student's low attendance. Edgewater College complies with these requirements of INZ.

4. Termination of enrolment

- (3) Persistent truancy by a student, after the above actions have been taken by the school, and all attempts made to ensure the student maintains good attendance, may result in termination of the student's enrolment under the terms of the school's Contract of Enrolment.
- (4) In this event, the school's Disciplinary Policy will be applied, the parents will be informed, the Refunds Policy applied, and Immigration New Zealand informed of the termination of enrolment due to poor attendance.
- (5) If the school year has come to an end and the student's attendance in that school year has not been satisfactory, the school may decide not to offer the student a place the following year. In this event, the parents will be informed of the school's decision and Immigration New Zealand informed. The school, if requested to provide evidence of good attendance to another education provider, or for subsequent visa applications by the student, should inform the new provider and/or Immigration New Zealand of the student's poor attendance record.