



Information for
International Students

Message from the Director - Sydney Art School

Congratulations on your decision to study with the Sydney Art School.

The School is committed to high standards in the provision of vocational education and training programs that provide its students with the opportunity to learn new skills upgrade existing skills and obtain nationally recognised qualifications.

The School offers a range of professional development courses and registered training in Visual Arts at Certificate and Diploma levels.

Courses are delivered face-to-face with take-home assessment, with dedicated tutor support. The tutor's role is to encourage your learning by developing a positive learning environment in which you can successfully complete the course/unit within the agreed timeframe.

Our training personnel are qualified and experienced professionals who are highly motivated, resourceful and dedicated to equipping students with the skills and knowledge required to assist them in realising their ambitions.

Your tutor will work with you to establish a supportive learning environment to facilitate the highest achievable outcomes in terms of your competencies.

I wish you every success as you embark on your creative journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Summers". The script is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Helen Summers
Director

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International student engagement before enrolment

The School does not accept applications from those who are under the age of 18 at the time of course commencement. International students are required to demonstrate English Language proficiency appropriate for Cert IV and Diploma level.

Accepted proficiency tests are IELTS (general training), level 6, TOEFL 600. Other evidence including recent tertiary level studies in English may be accepted by the School. The School also reserves the right to confirm the suitability of the applicant's English skills via a LLN Test and formal interview via Skype. Required AQF Level 5.

We also recommend that you download the Fact Sheet on the ESOS* Framework at <https://sydneyartschool.edu.au/art-student-information/hanbooks-and-resources>.

(*Education Services for Overseas Students)

International Student Visas:

The School is registered with the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for International Students (CRICOS). The School provider number for CRICOS is TBC.

International Students may only undertake full time study in accredited courses with the School.

International Students require a Student Visa, which must be maintained while undertaking a course at the School. Obtaining and maintaining the correct visa is the responsibility of the individual students.

General Information About Student Visas & Australian Government Regulations

The following information is provided to assist international students to make an informed decision to study in Australia.

All student visas are issued subject to certain conditions that come into effect as soon as the student lands in Australia. It is important that you understand the implications and the penalties that can follow if any of these conditions are breached. The following are the main conditions for student visas. You should not apply for a student visa unless you believe you can abide by them:

- You must satisfy course requirements and fulfill a minimum of 20 hours study per week.
- You must maintain a satisfactory level of attendance and academic progress. Attendance is compulsory as a requirement of assessments.

- You must remain financial at all times and maintain valid enrolment. Failure to pay an amount payable will result in cancelation of your enrolment by reporting to the relevant Australian Government Agencies via PRISMS under the section 47A of ESOS (TPS) Act 2012.
- You must commence course no later than 5 business days after start date shown on your CoE. Failure to do so will result in a cancelation of your enrolment by reporting to DIAC via PRISMS under the section 47c of ESOS (TPS) Act 2012.
- You and your family members must not work without permission.
- Application for a student visa with permission to work can only be made in Australia after commencing studies.
- You must study at Sydney Art School for the first 6 months of your principal course or for the duration of the course if it is less than 6
- Permission to change provider prior to completing 6 months will only be given to the student who has met requirements in accordance with the Student Transfer/Release Policy
- You must maintain the Overseas Student Health Cover current for the duration of your stay in Australia.
- You must inform your education provider within 7 days of your arrival in Australia of your current residential address and advise any changes of address within 7 days.
- You must always be aware that any breach of the student visa conditions can result in any relevant Department or Agency of the Australian Government being notified. Your student visa may be cancelled and you being asked to leave Australia.

For all visa enquiries, contact the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Border Protection. Contact details are:

Office	Address	Telephone
NSW Headquarters	Ground Floor 26 Lee St	131 881
City Office	Sydney NSW 2000	

Counter Hours	0900 – 1600 Mon -Fri	Fax 02 8861 4422
Parramatta Office	9 Wentworth Street Parramatta NSW 2150	131 881
Counter Hours	0900 – 1600 Mon -Fri	Fax 02 8862 6050

Information you require can be obtained from the Immigration department website at:

<https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Stud>

Life in Australia

Rated third best city in the world to live in (2011 City Rep Trak index), it's no surprise that learners from over 200 international backgrounds come to live and study in Sydney. Renowned for its unique combination of urban living and outdoor living, culturally diverse and friendly community, Sydney is a fun and inspiring city in which to live and study. The beautiful harbour, pristine beaches and temperate climate means you will be able to enjoy an active, outdoor lifestyle, while a vibrant social and cultural scene, with museums, theatres, galleries, and hundreds of restaurants, bars and cafes will give you the chance to meet and make new friends, no matter your interests.

Sydney is also Australia's number one business destination. With many multifunctional companies located here, it accounts for 30% of the country's economic activity. For information about Sydney visit <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/>

Sydney ranks sixth in the world in the recent QS Best Learner Cities in the world rankings, based on the attributes of learner mix, quality of living, employer activity and affordability. More details at:

[Best Learner Cities Ranking 2012 \(http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings-articles/qs-best-learner-cities/sydney\)](http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings-articles/qs-best-learner-cities/sydney)

Set around a stunning natural harbour, Sydney offers the best urban and outdoor living. A temperate climate means that you have all year round to enjoy it.

SAS is located in upper north shore, putting you in the heart of the action, amidst restaurants, cinemas, theatres and shops. Meet friends in the cafes of fashionable Westfield, kayak under the Sydney Harbour Bridge, learn to surf on Bondi Beach or jump on a train to the Blue Mountains. And don't forget the city highlights – Sydney Opera House, the NSW Art Gallery and Botanic Gardens are all within easy reach of the campus.

Check out a list of things to do here at: <http://www.sydney.com/things-to-do>

At SAS we are committed to ensuring the wellbeing of all our learners when they are on campus (see page 21 for further details). As a member of the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) all SAS students have access to external services offered by ACPET.

Living in a beautiful city like Sydney doesn't have to cost the world. In fact, Australia is very cost-effective when compared to other western countries such as Canada, the UK or the USA. As a general guide, on average, you will need about

AU\$18,000 to AU\$20,000 for living expenses for one year (or about \$370 a week). This covers accommodation, food, transport and clothing.

You can find out more about the cost of living at

<http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/global/live-in-australia/living-costs>

Student Visa

For information on your Student Visa and details of all visa conditions, refer to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website (www.immi.gov.au).

A part-time job is not just a great way to earn yourself some extra Australian dollars, it's also perfect for making new Australian friends, gaining insight into Sydney work life and practicing your English. Immigration regulations allows you to work up to 40 hours per fortnight on a casual basis during course time, and full-time during vacation periods. More details can be found in the Fact Sheet 50 – Overseas Learners in Australia (<http://www.immi.gov.au/About/Pages/media/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-50.aspx>). For more information on Study, Work and Living in Australia you can refer to the official Australian Government website for advice on study in Australia (<http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/>)

Health Care and Insurance

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) is a compulsory health insurance policy designed to provide affordable access to medical and hospital treatment for students or their family dependents while studying in Australia. OSHC will also contribute to the cost of most prescription drugs and emergency ambulance transport.

International students are required to take overseas health cover during their stay. Please Contact Us or visit the Department of Health website (www.health.gov.au) for full information about registered OSHC providers, complete details of what is covered, and OSHC eligibility.

Helpful Links

Accommodation:

Shared Accommodation

This accommodation is usually a single or shared room (often unfurnished) in a rented flat or house with other learners, groups or individuals such as a family or elderly person.

<http://au.easyroommate.com> <http://sydney.gumtree.com.au>

Houses and Apartments

They provide self-contained accommodation but are mostly unfurnished and relatively expensive by Sydney standards. Rents vary according to the number of bedrooms, condition and location of the flat or house. The best websites for finding houses or apartments are:

<http://www.realestate.com.au> <http://www.domain.com.au>

Other Accommodation

Whether you would like to share an apartment with others or book into a hostel for the first few days, the following websites will help get you started.

<http://www.wakeup.com.au>

<http://www.yha.com.au>

<http://www.glenferrielodge.com.au>

<http://www.falconlodge.com.au>

Additional Online Information for Students:

Future Unlimited – Study in Australia

A portal for international and local students in Sydney, Australia provided by the Australian government. Student jobs, accommodation, classifieds, students discounts, student forum and much more for all university, vocational, ELICOS and students in Sydney.

<http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/>

[\[also include ESOS FACT SHEET LINK\]](#)

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Learner Support Systems

Your course is very 'hands-on' and practical. However, to ensure you gain the necessary knowledge and understanding there will also be theory classes. Your trainers will support you in these classes by:

- pre-teaching any technical terms;
- demonstrating how to carry out procedures;
- giving you as much support and advice as is practicable in class;
- providing learning materials and illustrations to reinforce your learning.

Learner Support and Welfare

SAS provides resources and support to help students make the most of their time at the School. The School makes every effort to assist learners. We regularly consult with learners to gather feedback on their learning experiences at the School and continually strive to develop and improve our services.

On request the school will refer students to external support services include professional counsellors, and language and literacy support services.

SAS offers the following student support services:

- The School has a Student Services Officer (SSO) who can provide learners with assistance as required in their study program and ensure they proceed with their study plan. They will generally be the first person(s), learners turn to when they have a question or problem.
- Referral programs for Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) support are also available upon request or where the School and the learner see need.
- Learners who need language and literacy support are identified on application. Where only a low level of support is required the Managing Director may arrange for the learner to receive extra-curricular assistance. Where extensive support is needed the learner is referred to an external specialist provider. If the learner's language and literacy skills will inhibit achievement of the course's outcome, the learner's enrolment may be postponed.

SAS has arrangements in place with a counselling and psychology service. For details of these providers and the costs of their services, students are advised to contact the Student Services Officer. Costs incurred will be at the learner's expense.

Internal welfare services are provided free of costs to assist learners in developing the personal skills and qualities necessary for success in their study program. Where personal or practical concerns interfere with a learner's ability to study, these services

can assist learners to resolve the immediate issues and develop strategies for the future. Learners may wish to speak to an external counsellor and/or our Student Services Officer about matters such as:

- Adjusting to living in a new culture
- Coping with relationship and family issues
- Dealing with homesickness, stress or depression
- Managing time, or
- Maintaining motivation.

Student Course Progress

Student advancement through each unit of a course is the ultimate responsibility of the Managing Director supported by and relevant training staff.

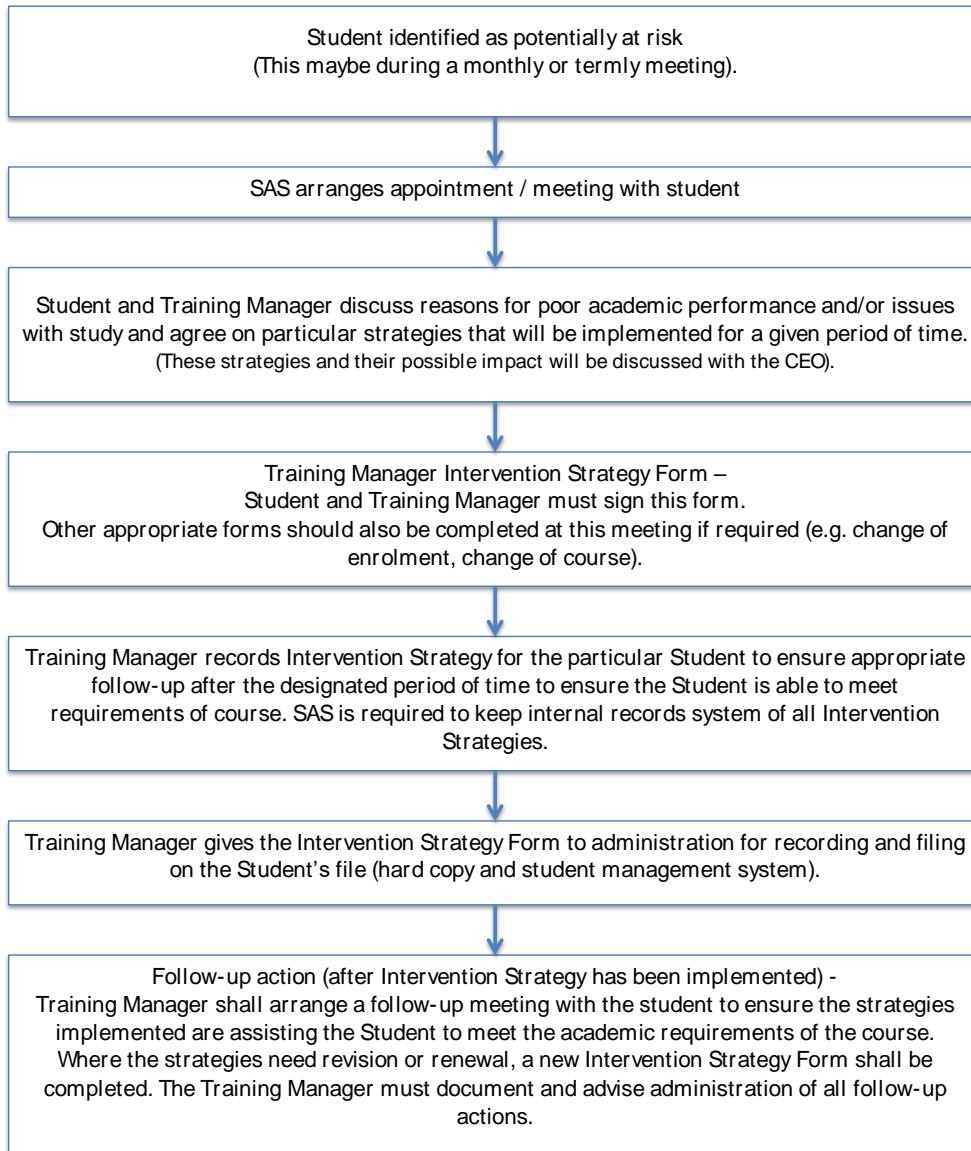
Assistance is given if a student is experiencing difficulty through a monitored **Course Progress and Intervention Procedure**.

This procedure is used if the student

- fails to complete successfully 25% of the units that they are enrolled in OR
- has been absent for more than five consecutive days without approval OR
- attendance for enrolled Studio Sessions falls below 80%

8. PROCESS FLOWCHART

Intervention Strategy Progress



Information for International Students

The School is bound by the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (as amended from time to time) when dealing with international students.

International students are expected to abide by the organization's academic standards. However, extra assistance needs (egg. language support) and cultural differences relating to learning styles etc. will be taken into account.

Students are required to meet the standards of behavior, attendance, academic performance and concern as is expected at the School. If the student is judged by the School to have lost good standing then their enrolment maybe cancelled and they may lose their student visa.

The following enrolment requirements must be maintained.

- Student must notify the School of a change of address with seven days
- Student must maintain an 80 per cent attendance record for scheduled class
- Student must maintain consistent academic performance
- Student must have OSHC for the duration of their visa

An international student on a student visa may opt for deferral under very limited circumstances, on grounds of compassionate or compelling circumstances, an extended illness which affects the student's ability to study, bereavement, a disaster in a student's home county requiring a student to return or a traumatic experience which affects the students ability to study.

All international students enrolled in a VET, ELICOS or Higher Education course

Overseas learners who wish to lodge an external appeal or complaint against the outcome of the member's internal grievance process can contact the International Student Ombudsman. For contact details and information please see www.oso.gov.au/making-a-complaint/