

Section A: Enrolment Policy

Policy Objectives:

John Monash Science School is a specialist Science and Mathematics school which has been established to:

- Increase the proportion of the state's highest achievers in Mathematics and Science into senior STEM secondary and university courses.
- Invest in the State's future by increasing the number of skilled people working in the Science, Mathematics and Information Technology fields.

Policy Guidelines:

John Monash Science School (JMSS) is a specialist school, fundamentally different in purpose to the Department of Education's other Select-Entry schools. Hence our Enrolment Policy and procedures differ markedly from those schools. As a specialist school our enrolment policy is also distinct from that of all other government secondary schools. Our enrolment policy and guidelines are as follows:

1 Criteria for Entry:

- 1.1 Applicants must be Australian citizens or holders of a visa granting Student Resource Package funding, i.e. the funding provided to all schools dependent on the number of students on roll. Visa requirements are stated in section 6 of this policy;
- 1.2 Only applicants who have successfully completed all parts of the formal Entry Assessment stipulated by the school can be offered a place at JMSS. The Assessment processes gauge the applicant's passion and aptitude for science, capacity for logical and numerical reasoning, and their mathematical ability;
- 1.3 The Entry Assessment comprises of two stages: The first stage is a series of written tests undertaken in exam conditions and are individual to JMSS. After an examination of the results in the first stage, short listed candidates will be invited to complete the second stage which comprises of an individual interview. At the time of the interview applicants will be required to provide full academic reports from their current school for the previous 18 months;
- 1.4 The results from both stages of the Entry Assessment are used to assess each applicant's suitability for entry into JMSS. The school will not disclose further information about the test or details regarding the selection process, as we need to preserve the integrity of the testing process and equity for all applicants, now and into the future;
- 1.5 Available places at JMSS in any year level will be allocated to students whose performance in the Entry Assessment clearly demonstrates they have an appropriate aptitude for science and the potential to make the most of the learning opportunities that JMSS offers;

- 1.6 The school reserves the right to re-interview any applicants for whom there is insufficient evidence on available information to make an assessment about their suitability for the JMSS learning program;
- 1.7 The school will reserve up to 5% of the available places for Equity Consideration. Equity Consideration helps ensure that students from different backgrounds have access to the same learning opportunities offered at JMSS. Eligibility for the equity consideration category is verified at the application stage. The decision of the Principal is final and the is not subject to appeal.
- 1.8 Year 10 Students not already enrolled at JMSS who wish to enter JMSS at Year 11, must be completing Year 10 in a current registered school, and turn 16 years of age during their first year of enrolment. If a student has been accelerated in their current school and their performance on the Entry Assessment is commensurate with 1.4 above, they may be admitted provided that they will turn 15 years of age by April 30th during their first year at JMSS; Accelerated students will also be required to provide documentation from their current school, confirming that they will have completed the Year 10 syllabus prior to commencing at JMSS;
- 1.9 There is no cap on enrolments from any one school to JMSS at the Year 11 level;
- 1.10 Should any applicants who are offered a place decline for any reason, the school will continue to offer places to students in order of merit based on the data from entry assessments;
- 1.11 The school will cease enrolling students once all available places are filled. No offers will be made after 31st October 2025.
- 1.12 **Before applying, please consider factors such as distance from school and how the applicant will travel to school each day, including transport either by car or public transport and the extra time required for study in VCE. Rejecting the offer of a place on these grounds is unfair on other applicants who might otherwise have been offered a place.**

Section B: Enrolment Procedures

2. Application Details for 2026:

How to Apply

- 2.1 All applicants are required to register for the JMSS Entry Assessment on the John Monash Science School web-site. This then creates an individual student ID number for each applicant;
- 2.2 Applicants are only allowed to sit the “Entry into Year 11 Examination” once. Applicants can apply for one year level entrance exam per year;
- 2.3 Online applications close on the 2nd May 2025. An application fee of \$165 is payable at time of registration. Payment is to be made online. Late entry will be available and final applications close on the 5th May 2025, late fee of \$315 is payable at the time of registration online;
- 2.4 Students who have applied for entry into JMSS must attend the Entry Assessment on Saturday 24th May 2025. An email will be sent to the registered email address on Monday 19th May detailing the location venue and time of the examination;

- 2.5 One Supplementary Examination date has been made available for those students who, through reasonable cause (see causes 4.3 and 4.4), are unable to attend on 24th May 2025. All applications for this alternate date must be made in writing to Edutest at registration@edutest.com.au;
- 2.6 If any applicant does not receive advice regarding the conduct of the Entry Assessment by Wednesday 21st May 2025, the parents of the applicant should contact the Registrar at JMSS on 9905 1002. Please check your spam folder before contacting the school or Edutest;
- 2.7 Short-listed candidates will be invited to for interview in early Term 3.
- 2.8 Each applicant will receive advice regarding the outcome of their application by the 29th August 2025.

3. Communication:

- 3.1 All correspondence and telephone advice are provided to the person identified as the parent or guardian in the online application form;
- 3.2 Information will only be provided to the person who is listed as the parent or guardian on the application form;
- 3.3 JMSS will provide information on applications, outcomes and offers to parents by email or text to mobile phones;
- 3.4 The parent must contact JMSS if there is a change in the parent's mobile phone number or email address;
- 3.5 It is the parent's responsibility to monitor the receipt of emails at critical times such as the fortnight before the Entry Assessment and when outcomes and offers are due to be communicated. Hotmail email addresses are not recommended. Please check your Spam folder before contacting the school or Edutest.

4 Entry Assessment Information (as supplied by Commercial Provider):

The Entry Assessment will be conducted on Saturday 24th May 2025. The test will be held at Monash University, Clayton Campus, Victoria. The applicant will receive information regarding the Entry Assessment by Wednesday 21st May 2025 regarding the venue, timing and details of the test. In 2025, the Commercial Provider is Edutest.

- 4.1 Applicants are required to bring photo identification to the assessment. Examples of photo identification include:

- Student card issued by the candidate's current school;
- Current student travel card;
- A recent class photograph with the student and his/her name clearly shown;
- A Valid Passport (must not be more than 18 months olds);
- Current library card (with photograph);

Please note that Identification supplied by a mobile phone will not be accepted.

- 4.2 Applicants will not be allowed to sit the assessment unless they have the appropriate photo identification, and the student name on the photo ID does not match name on the application;

4.3 Applicants who miss the assessment through illness or misadventure may be considered for a resit through the illness/misadventure process. Information about the Illness or Misadventure process is detailed below in 4.6;

4.4 Applicants who are unable to sit the assessment on the designated date and location because they are interstate or overseas should contact JMSS or the Commercial Provider. Further details of interstate/overseas procedures are given below in 4.6;

4.5 The Commercial Provider conducts and supervises the Entry Assessment and is responsible for providing the results of the Entry Assessment for every student to JMSS as soon as the results are known;

4.6 Special Arrangements and Special Consideration

- Generally, requests for special considerations can be made at any step of the assessment process. It is essential that any request must be operationally feasible and maintain the integrity of all JMSS' assessment processes. As such, there is no guarantee that every request received will be able to be accommodated. To this end, it is necessary for any requests for special consideration be received as early as practicable to assist JMSS with planning. Further information has been included below to provide guidance to applicants about when requests for special consideration should be made.
- Special arrangements for each stage of the Entry Assessment (see 1.3 of this policy) may be organised for students with prolonged illness or disability. If the special arrangements for the first stage of the assessment are different to special arrangements that may be appropriate to the second stage of the assessment, the request should make this clear. Requests for special arrangements must be made at **the time of the application** or by the 2nd May 2025, the application deadline, by emailing registrar@edutest.com.au. If requests for special arrangements are received beyond this date, their may be limited opportunities for the Commercial Provider and JMSS to support them. JMSS may seek further information about a student's illness or disability to support its consideration of a request for special arrangements.
- If the applicant is unable to sit for the assessment for medical reasons (must provide a medical certificate), parents of the applicant should complete the Illness and Misadventure Form available on the JMSS website and contact Edutest on by 9am on the day of examination;
- If the applicant believes their examination performance may have been affected by illness, injury or personal trauma on the day of the Entry Assessment, the applicant should complete the Special Consideration Form available from the JMSS website. Any applications requesting special consideration will be reviewed by the Selection Panel as per the process outlined in the Special Consideration Form;
- In either of the above instances, the completed form should be communicated to JMSS by midday 26th May 2025 with the appropriate evidence and paperwork;
- Interstate or overseas students (Australian citizens or permanent residents living interstate or overseas) who are unable to take the Entry Assessment at the Examination Centre should contact Edutest via email info@edutest.com.au. We are not able to make special arrangements for those on holidays at the time of the exam. Remote sittings must be arranged at the time of application and

must be arranged at least three weeks prior to the testing date. Please refer to the [Edutest website](#) for more information.

5 Outcome of Application

- 5.1 If the applicant receives an offer of entry into JMSS, the confirmations of acceptance of this offer needs to be made within 7 days of receipt of the letter of offer. If they do not provide the appropriate paperwork to the school within in this timeframe, the offer of a place will be rescinded, and the place will be offered to the next student on the waiting list;
- 5.2 Once all places have been confirmed, JMSS will write to all Principals of Government schools informing them of any student they have currently enrolled, who have accepted a place at JMSS in 2026;
- 5.3 Offers are not transferrable, either to the following year or to another student. If you do not wish to accept the offer, the offer must be declined, and the place will be offered to the next person on the waiting list;
- 5.4 Parents of applicants in non-Government schools will be responsible for notifying their schools of their intention to accept a place at JMSS. JMSS will endeavour to send confirmation of this information to schools within the first three weeks of term four each year;
- 5.5 Any grievances (on matters of process only), must be lodged with the Principal of JMSS in writing, clearly indicating the grounds on which the decision should be reconsidered. PLEASE NOTE that any grievance lodged must relate to an issue from in the TESTING or INTERVIEW PROCESS itself, which you feel may have disadvantaged the student. Any grievance NOT related to the examination process will NOT be considered;
- 5.6 Any grievance must be lodged within 5 working days of receipt of the enrolment notification. The process will then be managed by a Special Consideration Panel, convened by JMSS and DE. If a grievance can be substantiated by appropriate evidence, your child *may be* offered a supplementary interview, after which a decision on your application will be made. This decision will be final.
- 5.7 The full enrolment for 2026 will not be finalised until after the “Application to Enrol” forms have all been processed by JMSS;
- 5.8 Candidates who are offered a place must provide appropriate original documents, such as a Certificate of Evidence of Australian Citizenship, appropriate residential visa and/or birth certificate. Home schooled students in Victoria will also need to provide evidence of their home-school registration letter provided by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority. Some of these documents may require certification.
- 5.9 Offers will be withdrawn if the eligibility requirements for enrolment are not met. An Administration fee of \$50 will be retained if an application offer is submitted and the candidate is unable to verify their eligibility;
- 5.10 Once the enrolment process has been completed, individual Edutest results will only be released by the school upon request in early Term 4.

6 Australian born residents and overseas/international students

6.1 Students attending government and non-government schools, as well as home-schooled students are eligible to apply for entry to JMSS. The eligibility criteria below apply to candidates living in Victoria, as well as those living and studying interstate or overseas. The following categories of students are eligible for SRP funding and therefore eligible to apply for entry to JMSS:

- Australian born residents;
- A New Zealand citizen residing in Australia;
- Hold a visa or ImmiCard, which would exempt them from paying International Student Fees to attend a Victorian government school ([see here for the latest information](#))
- holders of permanent resident visas in one of the following visa subclasses: 100–103, 114–117, 119, 121, 124, 126, 132, 134, 136–139, 143, 151, 155, 157, 159, 175–176, 186–192, 200–204, 300, 309, 403, 407, 408, 444–445, 449, 457, 461, 476, 482, 485, 489, 491, 494, 785–786, 790, 800–802, 804, 808, 820, 835–838, 846, 851–852, 856–858, 861–864, 866, 880, 882, 885–888, 890–893, 945, 995;
- holders of a temporary resident visa in one of the following visa sub-classes: 051.
- Dependents of 457 visa holders are only eligible for enrolment in standard primary, secondary or P-12 schools while the principal 457 visa holder is resident in Australia. Enrolment enquiries for Special Schools should be referred to the ISPU as special visa conditions apply to 457 dependents in Special Schools.

6.2 Students on visa sub-classes not listed above may not be eligible for enrolment or may be required to pay fees prior to enrolling in a government school. *Application for Enrolment* Forms are available from ISPU. Schools should retain and file a copy of the letter issued to the applicant by ISPU upon assessment of the application.

The following categories of students are **not eligible** for SRP funding:

- Current fee-paying international students enrolled in Victorian schools are not eligible to apply for entry into JMSS.
- holders of a temporary resident visa in one of the following visa sub-classes: 10, 20, 30, 42, 50, 60, 70, 173, 462, 500, 590, 600, 601, 602, 651, 884, 944;
- holders of a student visas or dependents of a student visa holder: 500, 5EL, 5HE, 5NA, 5SC, 5SV, 5VE;

For further information or enquiries regarding the enrolment of overseas students, including visa eligibility, contact the ISPU. Contact details are on their web site (<https://www.study.vic.gov.au/en/Pages/default.aspx>)

Policy Ratified by JMSS School Council, February 2025.

Policy to be reviewed by John Monash Science School Council February 2026.

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