Under 18 International Students Policy

1 Purpose

This policy establishes the framework for managing the appropriate accommodation, support and welfare arrangements for International Students less than 18 years of age while they are enrolled at the University.

2 Scope

- All programs available to International Students studying on-campus
- All International Students under the age of 18 years until their 18th birthday
- All Employees materially involved with the management of International Students under the age of 18 years

3 Policy Statement

The University welcomes International Students aged under 18 years of age (U18) who qualify for entry into the University's programs with the following conditions:

- U18 International Students accepted for study on the Toowoomba campus will be required to live in one of the University's (catered) Residential Colleges except where it has been verified that there is a parent/Guardian or Suitable Nominated Relative present with whom the Student can reside.
- U18 International Students will be considered for other campuses on a case by case basis with Students being required to reside with a parent/Guardian or Suitable Nominated Relative.

The University recognises that U18 International Students have unique needs. In order to meet these needs and to satisfy the requirements of Standard 5 - Younger Students, of the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018, the University has established an U18 International Student Care Framework to meet these needs. The U18 International Student Care Framework is managed by the Dean (Students).

This Policy aligns with the:

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- *Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021:* Standard 1.1 Admissions

- *National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (2018):* Standard 5: Younger Overseas Students

4 Principles

- The University seeks to create fulfilling opportunities for all Students based on the commitment of skilled and caring Employees.

- The University seeks to put in place programs regarding the support and welfare of U18 International Students.

- The University upholds the requirements of the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018.

5 The U18 International Student Care Framework

The U18 International Student Care Framework consists of a set of procedures established to ensure the welfare of U18 International Students through monitored accommodation and welfare arrangements and the offering of various Student support services.

The Director (International Marketing, Admissions and Business Development) is responsible for the development, implementation and management of the Framework.

6 Authority to Act

Parents/Guardians or suitable nominated relatives of U18 International Students Visa holders will automatically be acknowledged as having an Authority to Act in relation to all matters relating to the Student.

The Manager (Residential Life), will also be automatically acknowledged as having an Authority to Act in relation to all matters relating to the Student.

Students who wish to nominate an additional Authorised Representative to act on their behalf or revoke the automatic Authority to Act put in place when admitted to the program, must do so in accordance with the Student Authority to Act Procedure.

7 Monitored accommodation and welfare arrangements for U18 International Students

This Policy offers U18 International Students wishing to enrol at the University with two options

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for accommodation and welfare:

1. Catered accommodation at one the residential colleges at Toowoomba Campus if the Student is enrolling at the Toowoomba campus.

2. Residing under the care of a parent/Guardian or Suitable Nominated Relative if the Student is enrolling at any of the University's campuses.

U18 International Students will not be admitted to the University unless they participate in one of these options for accommodation and welfare.

U18 International Students are required to maintain participation in one of these options for accommodation and welfare until their 18th birthday or until they exit the University.

U18 International Students may seek approval to change their living arrangements by contacting UniSQ International. Approval to change will only be granted in accordance with the U18 International Student Care Framework and requirements as specified in the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018.

8 Monitoring of U18 International Student Welfare

The Manager (Residential Life) is responsible for monitoring U18 International Student accommodation and welfare whilst Students are resident at the Residential Colleges.

9 Additional Support for U18 International Students

In addition to the support provided to U18 International Students through monitored accommodation and welfare, U18 International Students are able to access all welfare and Students support programs available at the University.

10 Grievances

Student Grievances in relation to the U18 International Student Care Framework are to be made in accordance with the Student Grievance Resolution Procedure. Further information about lodging a Student Grievance can be found on the Feedback, Complaints and Appeals website.

11 References

Nil.

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12 Schedules

This policy must be read in conjunction with its subordinate schedules as provided in the table below.

13 Policy Information

Accountable Officer	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education)
Responsible Officer	Dean (Students)
Policy Type	Executive Policy
Policy Suite	
Subordinate Schedules	
Approved Date	2/1/2026
Effective Date	2/1/2026
Review Date	22/10/2017
Relevant Legislation	*Education and Care Services National Law (Queensland) Act 2011* *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (ESOS Act)* *Information Privacy Act 2009* National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018
Policy Exceptions	Policy Exceptions Register
Related Policies	ICT Information Management and Security Policy Marketing and Brand Policy Student Grievance Resolution Policy
Related Procedures	Student Authority to Act Procedure Student Grievance Resolution Procedure Website Procedure
Related forms, publications and websites	Feedback, Complaints and Appeals Revocation of Student Authority to Act Form

	Student Authority to Act Form U18 International Student Care Framework (restricted access)
Definitions	**Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary**
	Authorised Representative A representative who has been authorised to represent or act on behalf of a Student and acknowledged as such by the University in writing and in compliance with relevant University policy. Authority to Act An Authority to Act is an official permission given by a person to another person and/or entity to act on certain matters, or granted to a person or entity to act on behalf of another person through an existing legal instrument for a certain period of time. An Authority to Act can be given in relation to all business transactions with the University, or extended in relation to certain matters only. Complaint A Complaint is an “expression of dissatisfaction made to or about the University, related to its products, services, staff or the handling of a complaint, where a response or resolution is explicitly or implicitly expected or legally required”. Guardian or Suitable Nominated Relative A person aged over 21 who is a spouse, de facto partner, a child, brother or sister of the Applicant, step-child, step-parent, step-brother or step-sister of the Applicant, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew, or a step-grandparent, step-grandchild, step-aunt, step-uncle, step-niece or step-nephew of the Applicant. International Student A Student who is not an Australian citizen, a New Zealand citizen, an Australian Permanent Resident or the holder of an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. Student A person who is enrolled in a UniSQ Upskill Course or who is admitted to an Award Program or Non-Award Program offered by the University and is: currently enrolled in one or more Courses or study units; or not currently enrolled but is on an approved Leave of Absence or whose admission has not been cancelled.

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	Student Grievance A problem or concern raised by a Student who considers they have been negatively impacted because of an action, determination or omission within the control or responsibility of the University. Student Grievances are resolved in accordance with the Student Grievance Resolution Procedure and must be related directly to a Student's studies at the University and the outcome must directly impact the Student. University The term 'University' or 'UniSQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.
	Definitions that relate to this policy only
	Student Visa An authorisation permitting people who are not Australian citizens or permanent residents to come to Australia for the primary purpose of studying in Australia as defined by the *Migration Act (1958).*
Keywords	Underage students, welfare, accommodation, social well-being, monitoring, under 18, U18, International Student
Record No	13/464PL

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