

Moving to the Sunshine Coast with children - checklist

School enrolment and catchment checks, before and after school care, healthcare, the school run and the first month of settling in. Independent, free, no advertising.

1**3 TO 6 MONTHS OUT**

Choose the area and the school

- ☐ Shortlist two or three suburbs based on work location, school preference and budget.
- ☐ Check each candidate address on the Queensland Government EdMap catchment tool.
- ☐ Contact school offices about enrolment availability, catchment status and waiting lists.
- ☐ Join outside school hours care and day care waiting lists for your shortlist.
- ☐ Request school reports, immunisation history and any support or medical plans.

2**1 TO 3 MONTHS OUT**

Confirm housing and enrolment

- ☐ Confirm the address with the school in writing before signing a lease or contract.
- ☐ Lodge enrolment applications with proof of address, birth documentation and immunisation records.
- ☐ Drive or map the school run at drop-off and pick-up time, including wet-weather options.
- ☐ Check Translink school bus routes and whether a go card is needed.
- ☐ Book removalists around term boundaries where possible.

3**THE MOVE**

Set up the practical details

- ☐ Keep enrolment confirmation, birth certificates, immunisation records and reports in carry-on luggage.
- ☐ Arrange uniforms, book packs and any device requirements with the school.
- ☐ Connect electricity and internet before arrival so the first night is calm.
- ☐ Pack a separate essentials box for each child: bedding, medication, chargers and comfort items.

4**THE FIRST MONTH**

Settle in

- ☐ Register with a local GP clinic and transfer dental and specialist records.
- ☐ Meet the school office in person; ask about parent groups and volunteering.
- ☐ Join one club, team or library program per child in the first few weeks - nippers, sport or arts.
- ☐ Locate the nearest medical centre, pharmacy and after-hours options.
- ☐ Revisit the suburb and school choice after a term before committing to a purchase.

Where to read more

Family relocation guide: movingtosunshinecoast.com.au/moving-with-children

How school catchments work: movingtosunshinecoast.com.au/school-catchments

Comparing suburbs: movingtosunshinecoast.com.au/best-suburbs

Full relocation checklist: movingtosunshinecoast.com.au/relocation-checklist

General planning information only - always confirm catchments, enrolment requirements and deadlines directly with the school and the Queensland Department of Education. Schools, P and C groups and community organisations are welcome to print and share this checklist.