



# Admission to primary and secondary schools

**Information for parents 2026/27**

At school, my child  
will access new and  
exciting experiences

**School is about so much more than education!**

**One of the most important ways you can support your child's social and emotional development is to ensure they attend school every day.**

*[portsmouth.gov.uk/attendance](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/attendance)*

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

# Key dates for admissions process

## Secondary Transfer 2026

**Monday 8 September 2025** – Application process starts

**Friday 31 October 2025** – Applications closing date

**Friday 9 January 2026** – Any changes to the application e.g. address change and subsequent preference changes may be considered up until this date

**Friday 9 January 2026** – Late applications received after closing date can be requested to be considered on time with evidence of significant and exceptional circumstances for the late application up until this date

**Monday 2 March 2026** – National Offer Day\*

## Transfer to Junior 2026

**Monday 3 November 2025** – Application process starts

**Thursday 15 January 2026** – Applications closing date

**Friday 6 March 2026** – Any changes to the application e.g. address change and subsequent preference changes may be considered up until this date

**Friday 6 March 2026** – Late applications received after closing date can be requested to be considered on time with evidence of significant and exceptional circumstances for the late application up until this date

**Thursday 16 April 2026** – National Offer Day\*

## Starting School 2026

**Monday 3 November 2025** – Application process starts

**Thursday 15 January 2026** – Applications closing date

**Friday 6 March 2026** – Any changes to the application e.g. address change and subsequent preference changes may be considered up until this date

**Friday 6 March 2026** – Late applications received after closing date can be requested to be considered on time with evidence of significant and exceptional circumstances for the late application up until this date

**Thursday 16 April 2026** – National Offer Day\*

\* National Offer Day – offer letters sent by email (unless no email address given then offer will be by letter posted), allocations cannot be notified over the phone.

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# Dear parent or carer

## Dear parent or carer

We are delighted that you are considering sending your child to a Portsmouth school in **September 2026**.

Portsmouth City Council is committed to working in close co-operation with school staff, governors and parents to make sure that all children in Portsmouth have an exciting, rewarding and successful experience in school.

All Portsmouth schools are committed to enabling all children to develop as first class versions of themselves as individuals, achieving the very best they can and learning how to develop the personal relationships and interests which will enable them to live rewarding lives.

As a parent or carer you have a hugely important role to play in your child's education. Your support is crucial to make sure they attend school regularly and to give them the positive encouragement they

need. Your child's school will be keen to help you support your child in their learning. We strongly encourage you to ask questions and make sure you have the information you need from the school to help you do this as well as you can.

In this booklet you will find:

- the application and admissions process for infant, primary, junior and secondary schools
- the admissions policies for infant, junior, primary and secondary schools
- general information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either the school you have applied to or the Admissions Team via the Helpdesk at the Civic Offices on **023 9268 8008** who will be happy to help you.

Your child's time at school is precious and vital to their success in life. We wish your child every success.



## Councillor Nick Dorrington

Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education



## Sarah Daly

Director Children, Families and Education

# How to use this book

This book contains information for primary and secondary school admission applications. The information has been colour coded to help you find the relevant sections easily.

**Information relevant to all applications is contained in the purple sections titled 'Application information'.**

**Information relating to primary schools only is contained in the orange sections titled 'Primary schools' (including Infant and Junior).**

**Information relating to secondary schools only is contained in the green sections titled 'Secondary schools'.**

**Useful information and contact details.**



# Open evenings

## Transfer to Secondary School 2026 Open Evenings

**Admiral Lord Nelson School** –

Thursday 2 October

**Castle View Academy** – Monday 29 September

**Ark Charter Academy** – Wednesday 15 October

**Mayfield School** – Tuesday 7 October

**Miltoncross Academy** –

Wednesday 24 September

**Priory School** – Thursday 25 September

**Springfield School** – Thursday 25 September

**St Edmund's Catholic School** –

Saturday 4 or Saturday 11 October (*please check the school's website for confirmation*)

**The Portsmouth Academy** –

Wednesday 1 October

**Trafalgar** – Thursday 9 October

For information on times and booking arrangements, please check the individual school's website.

School website addresses and contact details for the secondary schools are all listed on *page 73*.

## Starting School and Transfer to Junior 2026 Visits

The infant/junior and primary schools will be providing opportunities for parents to visit schools through a mix of open events and virtual tours. Parents/carers are advised to check the websites of schools they are interested in to get further up to date details of the events going on.

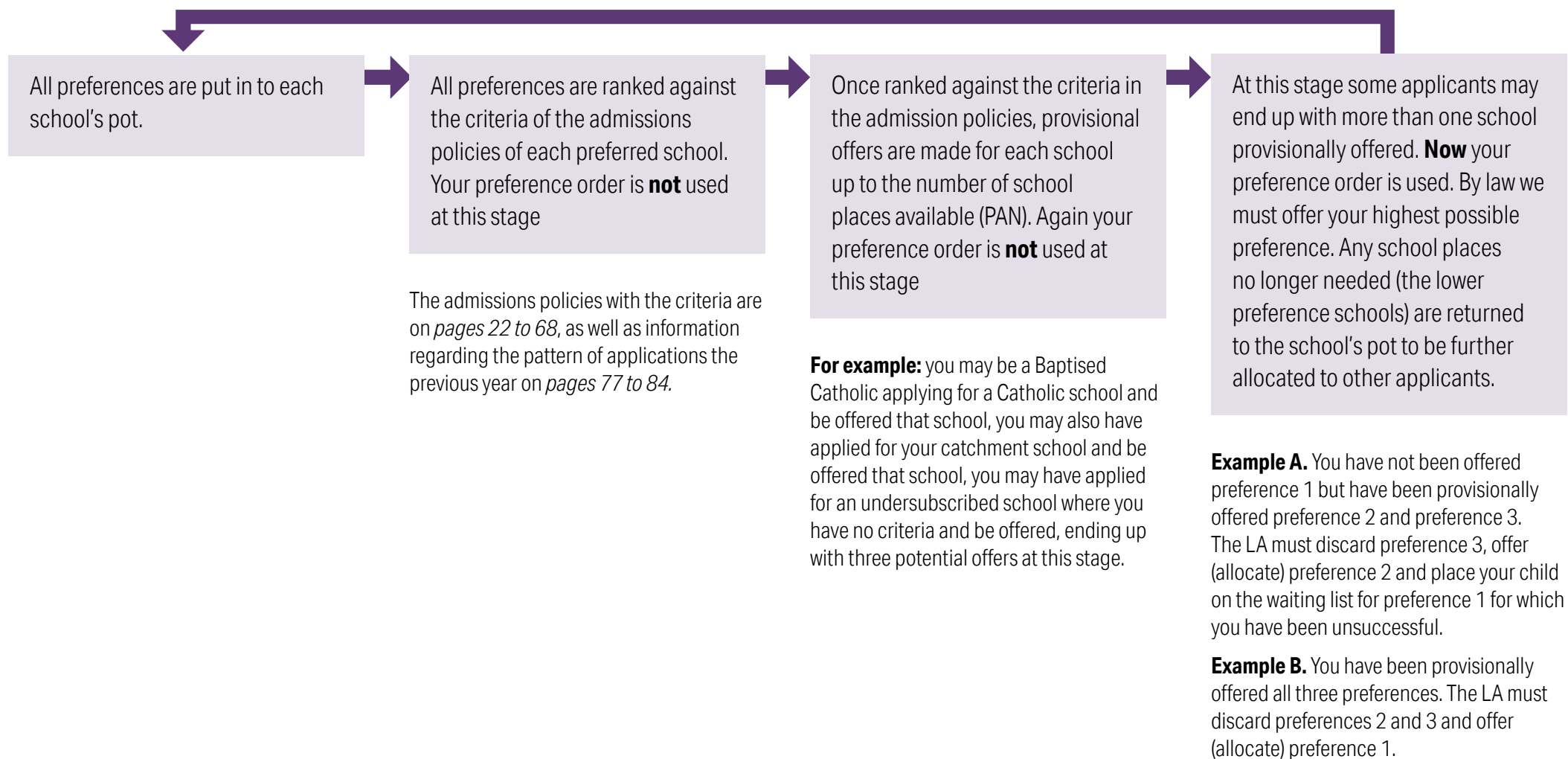
School website addresses and contact details for infant, junior and primary schools are all listed on *pages 69 to 72*.

## UTC Portsmouth (University Technical College) 2026 Open Events (for entry into year 10 in September 2026)

**Wednesday 1 October** at 4.45pm–7.30pm and **Saturday 8 November** at 9am–10.30am. Both of these will need to be booked in advance on the website [www.utcportsmouth.org/open-events](http://www.utcportsmouth.org/open-events)

# Equal preference flow chart

## This is how school places are allocated



# Applying for a school place

## This section will help you understand the process of applying for a school place

### Co-ordinated admissions process

Portsmouth City Council (PCC) and other local authorities (LAs) are required to take part in a cross-border co-ordinated admission scheme for main round admissions. This allows parents to complete one application form from their home local authority, regardless of the school and the area they wish to apply for a place in.

This is known as a 'Common Application Form' (CAF).

Portsmouth operates an 'Equal Preference' admissions scheme (see flow chart on *page 8*) in line with government requirements. Further information is contained in the 'How are places allocated?' section on *page 13*.

### How to contact us

- **Admissions Team**  
**Portsmouth City Council**  
**Civic Offices**  
**Guildhall Square**  
**Portsmouth PO1 2EA**
- Tel: **023 9268 8008** via **City Helpdesk**
- Email: **admissions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk**

### How to apply for a school

As part of a co-ordinated admission scheme, parents need to complete only one application form for each child.

This booklet provides information for Portsmouth residents:

- applying for starting school
  - transferring to junior school from an infant school (Year 2 to 3), and
  - transferring to secondary school (Year 6 to 7)
  - transferring to Year 10 at UTC Portsmouth.
- Applications are made direct to the UTC

Non-Portsmouth residents should contact their home local authority or visit their website for information on applying for a school and the admissions process.

### In-year applications

If you wish to apply for a school place at any other time, please look at in-year applications on our website and the 'Admission to primary and secondary schools – information for parents 2025/26' booklet.

For all Portsmouth schools and academies (except St Edmund's Catholic School) applications are made to Portsmouth City Council – Admissions.

These are available on our website (**portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions**) or on request from the Admissions Team.

### Closing dates and allocation dates

There are different closing dates and allocation dates for starting school applications/junior transfer applications and secondary transfer applications.

The closing date for secondary transfer applications is **Friday 31 October 2025** and allocation date for these applications is **Monday 2 March 2026**.

The closing date for starting school and junior transfer applications is **Thursday 15 January 2026** and the allocation date for these applications is **Thursday 16 April 2026**.

## Applying online

### Secondary transfer

From **Monday 8 September 2025** until **Friday 31 October 2025** you can apply online at [portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

### Junior transfers

From **Monday 3 November 2025** until **Thursday 15 January 2026** you can apply online at [portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

### Starting School

From **Monday 3 November 2025** until **Thursday 15 January 2026** you can apply online at [portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

All you need is access to the Internet and an email address. If you don't have access to the Internet at home you can access the Internet at any city library or at the civic offices.

### What are the benefits of applying online?

- quick and easy
- you can make changes to your application up to the closing date before submission

- no risk of the application getting lost in the post
- an email acknowledgement of your application as soon as you have submitted it
- an email advising you of the outcome of your application on allocation day
- facility to accept your allocated place straight away
- links to other useful information and websites

## Application forms

**! Applications should be made online by Portsmouth residents.**

### Non-Portsmouth residents

Non-Portsmouth residents who wish their child to attend a Portsmouth school need to contact their home local authority for information on how to apply. See contact details on *page 95*.

## Starting school

### Portsmouth residents

Parents who have children starting school should apply online from **Monday 3 November 2025**.

For information on when your child has to start school please see *page 88*.

### Transferring from Infant to Junior School

Portsmouth residents whose child currently attends a Portsmouth infant school

In November you will receive a letter via your child's infant school advising you how to apply.

## Transferring to secondary school

### Pupils currently attending a Portsmouth junior or primary school

In September you will receive a letter via your child's school advising you how to apply.

### Transferring from an infant school (Year 2) to a primary/all through school (Year 3)

**You cannot apply for a place in year 3 for a PRIMARY school as a junior transfer application (except for 20 places at Wimborne Primary, which are allocated through the junior transfer process). You must apply under the in-year process (see 'In-year applications' on page 9).**

As children attending primary schools automatically move into year 3, we will not know whether there are vacancies until later in the summer term after the allocation date for junior schools. Therefore if your child is in an infant school you are strongly advised to apply for a junior place for your child to ensure they have a school place for Year 3 as well as applying for a primary school through the in-year process for all other primary schools.

### Where can I get help to complete the application?

If you require help or would like advice about completing your application, you can book a face to face appointment to get help with the City Helpdesk. (see *page 9*).

### What are my rights?

You have the right to express a preference for a school. However, this is not a free and open-ended choice. The law says that the local authority and admission authority for the school must comply with your preference unless it would prejudice the 'efficient education and the efficient use of resources'.

Whether or not a place can be offered will depend upon the number of other applicants who want places at the school, the criteria for your child and other applicants, and the number of places available.

If a place is not offered at any of your preferred schools, your child's name will automatically be added to the waiting list for the schools. You also have a right to appeal to an independent panel.

You can use *pages 77 to 84* as a guide to expressing realistic preferences based on your individual criteria for a school.

### How should I decide on my preferred schools?

Parents should submit only one application form per child stating up to **six** preferences. It is therefore important to gain as much information as you can to decide which school to put on your application.

Contact schools direct for a copy of their individual prospectus or view their website (see *pages 69 to 73*) for dates of any open days or evenings (see *page 7* open evening information). Copies of inspection reports by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED) are available from schools, libraries and from the OFSTED website [ofsted.gov.uk](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk). School performance tables can also be viewed on the Department for Education (DfE) website [education.gov.uk](https://www.education.gov.uk)

**You need to be aware that many schools in the city are oversubscribed and this is important to remember when deciding on your preferred schools.**

In previous years, at a number of schools in Portsmouth, it has not been possible to meet all preferences. If a school is oversubscribed by the number of applications for places available, the admission policy is used to allocate the places. When considering your preferred schools, you are strongly advised to look at the school's admission policy criteria and consider which category you would come under.

It is important when applying for a school place:

- **to understand the order in which places are allocated if a school is oversubscribed by reading the admission policy for the school.**
- **to be aware of your designated catchment school and consider whether this needs to be one of your preferences (it doesn't have to be your first preference school).** Please note that transport assistance can only be considered if you have applied for, and been refused a place at your catchment school or a nearer school. Your child will not be considered for a place at your catchment school unless it is one of your preferences.

## Who can apply?

Applications must be made by a parent or carer who holds legal parental responsibility for a child.

**All those who hold parental responsibility for the child MUST be in agreement with the application before applying, otherwise we cannot proceed with the application.**

**Only one application should be made per child.**

Any dispute will have to be resolved between the parties before the LA can process the application.

We will only be able to communicate with the applicant. In the case of a split family, the applicant is responsible for informing others of the application details and outcome.

# The admissions process

## This section will help you understand how places are allocated

### Proof of address

We will check the address on your application against the records we hold for your child's current school/nursery and against council tax records. We may also require you to submit proof of address including council tax bills, utility bills, signed tenancy agreement or other specified address evidence on request.

### What are my chances of getting my preferred school place?

This can be difficult to assess as the pattern of applications changes from year to year for each school. It would be unwise to assume that your child is guaranteed a place at a particular school based upon the pattern of applications in previous years. Generally, if a school has been oversubscribed you will need to consider if your child would meet any of the admission policy criteria and the priority of that criterion.

For information on previous years' applications see *pages 77 to 84*.

**! Living in the catchment area does not guarantee a place in a school.**

- ! A sibling link at the preferred school does not guarantee a place.**
- ! If your child is transferring from infant to junior school or to a secondary school, they are not guaranteed a place if they attend a linked feeder school (see *pages 75 to 76 for feeder schools*).**
- ! Attendance at a nursery attached to the school or on the school premises does not guarantee a place in mainstream school-places are allocated in accordance with the criteria in the admissions policy.**

### How are places allocated?

We use an 'Equal Preference Scheme'. This means at the first stage, each of your preferences is considered for that school regardless of your preference order. If a school is oversubscribed by the number of applications, places will be allocated strictly according to the admission criteria stated in the admission policy for that school. If a school is undersubscribed then places can be offered to all applicants.

If we are able to potentially offer a place at more than one of your preferences, the place will be allocated at the school which you have ranked the highest.

If a place cannot be offered at any of the preferred schools, a place will be offered at the next nearest school with places available. Please refer to the 'Equal preference flow chart' on *page 8*.

Please do not name the same school more than once as this will not increase your chance of obtaining a place at the school and will limit your number of preferences.

**If you do not apply to your catchment area school as one of your preferences, you will not automatically be offered a place there if you are unsuccessful with your other preferences (as your catchment area school may already have filled with preference requests).**

**You need to consider whether your catchment school should be one of your preferences.**

**Please be aware that you may not be eligible for transport assistance to school if you have not applied for your catchment school.**

## What is an admission policy?

Each school in the city has an admission policy. The policy will describe the order in which places are allocated when there are more applications than places i.e. if a school is oversubscribed.

The admission policies are on *pages 22 to 68*.

## Home address for allocation

The address used in the admissions allocation process is the child's permanent residential address on the closing date.

Only one address can be used on the application form and considered as your child's residence for allocation purposes.

## Children residing within a split family

Parents must nominate one of their addresses as the child's address for the application if the child spends part of the week with each parent. This must be the address of a parent not another family member.

Address checks will be carried out and we may require further evidence (see *page 15*). In the event of a dispute, the LA will determine residence

based on the information it holds and/or where the child benefit is paid. The same address will be used for subsequent applications and waiting lists.

## Informal residence arrangements/ temporary addresses

Informal residence arrangements with family and friends or temporary addresses will not generally be accepted unless there are exceptional circumstances, for which independent supporting evidence will be required, as specified by the authority.

## What happens if I move house during the application process?

Where families are moving home or have moved recently, it will be necessary to prove that the new address is their main dwelling. Parents will need to produce evidence to confirm occupancy, for example:

- a) that contracts have been exchanged for the purchase of a residential property
- b) details of a lease on such a property or proof of tenancy
- c) council tax bill AND a utility bill

The address used on the application form must be the child's permanent address on the application closing date – **Friday 31 October 2025** for secondary transfer applicants, and **Thursday 15 January 2026** for starting school and junior transfer applicants. Future addresses will be taken into account for the admissions process if you have exchanged contracts on a property or signed a lease rental agreement before **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary applications and **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school and junior transfer applications, but you must contact us to advise us of your change of address and provide evidence as stated above. **If we receive information from the child's school or other sources that your address has changed before the start of the allocation process, we will update the address for allocation purposes which may impact on the criteria for your preferred schools.**

Parents who are moving house but who are unable to provide evidence of this move by the closing date are advised to submit their application on time using their current address and address evidence.

The local authority will then amend the application to the new address, if the relevant evidence is received by **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary applications or by **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school and transfer to junior applications. However, if evidence is received after this date, as the allocation process will have begun, the allocation will be based on the previous address. If your application is unsuccessful, your new address will be used if you confirm you wish to remain on the school's waiting list. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure the evidence is received by us by the dates specified.

We will determine the matter of residence, if necessary, and must be satisfied with the evidence provided for an address to be accepted for the purpose of a child's admission to school. Admissions staff will also verify addresses by checking council tax records and by requesting further address evidence direct from parents. We may make further checks if claimed addresses, including temporary addresses, cause concern. **Please note places can be withdrawn if the address given is not the child's permanent residence.**

## Children of UK service personnel

For service families moving into the area a letter from the Drafting Officer or confirmation of service family accommodation will be sufficient providing it is received by **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary applications or by **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school and junior transfer applications. Please ensure you indicate on your application that you are a service family.

NB: not all schools have an oversubscription criterion relating to service premium. See *pages 22 to page 68*.

If you are making a late application, see *page 17*.

## Evidence requests and false information

Evidence supplied at the request of the Admissions Team must be recent. Evidence must be received by the required date.

If requests for evidence are not responded to by the required date, the application will either not be considered under that criterion or, if a change of address, the application may be considered using the old address.

Checks are made on the information provided and we will also investigate any allegations of fraud including using a false address. If it is established that fraudulent or misleading information has been used in order to gain a place at a school, the law allows admission authorities to withdraw places. An example of false information would be the use of an address which is not the child's normal residence. A child's place may be withdrawn even if the child has started at the school. If the child were allowed to remain at the school, any subsequent children within the same household would not benefit from the sibling link criterion.

**! It is an offence to give false information to obtain a place at a school.**

## Pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

If a child has an Education Health and Care Plan you will need to apply for school via the SEND team not through the admissions application process.

The admission limit of each school includes the number of EHCPs. These applicants are usually allocated places before the mainstream application process is completed. However, if the EHCP is not completed until after allocation day, the law requires the named school to admit these children over number if necessary.

Further information about SEND and the admissions arrangements for children with an EHCP is available on *page 89*, or:

Web: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk)

Phone: **023 9284 1238**

Email: [sen.education@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:sen.education@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

## Make sure you apply by the closing date

Your online application or application form must be submitted by the relevant closing date.

Secondary transfer

**Friday 31 October 2025**

Starting school and junior transfer

**Thursday 15 January 2026**

**! Failure to apply on time will seriously affect your child's chances of being offered a place at your preferred school.**

## Applying online

You will receive an email confirming that you have applied.

**! If you do not receive an email you may not have submitted your application.**

Please go back into your application and submit, or check your spam/junk/trash folder before contacting the Admissions Team.

## Where do I return my application form?

### Applications for children starting school

If you are unable to apply online, you can request and complete a paper application form and return it directly to us at the address on *page 9*.

## Applications for children transferring to junior school or transferring to secondary school

Applications should be completed online. If you need to complete a paper application form, return it directly to us at the address on *page 9*.

**! If you are posting your form we recommend you obtain proof of posting or hand deliver your form to the Civic Offices.**

## Non-Portsmouth residents applying for a Portsmouth School

Parents should apply online through their home local authority's website or return their applications as advised to their home local authority.

For example, if you live in Havant and want to apply to a Portsmouth school you will need to apply to Hampshire County Council and follow their instructions. You can include Portsmouth or other area schools, not just schools from your home local authority.

## How do I know if my application has been received?

If you have applied online, you will receive a confirmation email straight away. If it has been necessary to complete a paper application before the closing date, you will receive a letter to acknowledge receipt of your application form. Please contact us if you do not receive an acknowledgement by **January 2026** for secondary transfer applications, or by **March 2026** for starting school and junior transfer applications.

## What happens if my application is late? (Received after the relevant closing date)

All applications received by the closing date will be considered first. Late applications will only be considered after all those applications received on time have been considered and allocated places.

A late application, even to your catchment area school, is unlikely to be successful if your preferred schools have been oversubscribed with on time applications.

Late applications will also mean that you will have a delay in going onto the school's waiting list as you will have to wait for your application to be processed before this can happen.

If you consider you have significant and exceptional reasons for your late application you will need to put your reasons in writing to us for consideration before **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary transfer or **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school or junior transfer.

Late applications will be processed in batches within time frames determined by the LA. Each batch will be allocated under the equal preference scheme (see *page 8*).

### Children of UK service personnel

Applications from service families moving into Portsmouth will be accepted as on time until **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary applications and **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school or junior transfer providing there is proof of drafting or confirmation of service family accommodation.

If your application is late and you are applying for a starting school place (Year R), the School Admissions Code allows for admission authorities to consider admitting your child to a school even if it is full (as an excepted pupil). This decision will be based on all the circumstances including those relevant to your family and child and the impact on the school, including the 'efficient education and efficient use of resources'.

The current guidance is that an excepted pupil can only be admitted from the top of the waiting list.

## Can I change my preferences?

### BEFORE the closing date

If you are applying online, you cannot change your preferences online once you have submitted your application. You will need to email the Admissions Team with any changes.

If you have submitted a paper application and wish to change the original preferences made on your form before the closing date, you should put your request in writing or email to us.

## AFTER the closing date

You are not able to change your preferences after the application closing date. Only additional preferences received in writing may be added which will be considered as late preferences and processed after all the on-time applications.

If you feel you have significant and exceptional reasons for changing your preferences after the closing date you will need to put your reasons in writing to us for consideration before **Friday 9 January 2026** for secondary applications and before **Friday 6 March 2026** for starting school and junior applications.

## When will I know whether my application has been successful?

Offers will be sent by email on national offer day. If no email address is available offers will be posted by letter.

Secondary Transfer National Offer Day is **Monday 2 March 2026**.

Primary National Offer Day is **Thursday 16 April 2026**.

Other applicants will have a letter sent out to the home address on allocation day by post.

Parents need to ensure that the Admissions Team holds the correct email address details.

- ! **Allocation details will NOT be given over the telephone.**
- ! **Offers will be sent by email on national offer day. If no email address is available offers will be posted by letter.**

## What do I do when I receive notification of allocation?

Parents are required to confirm their acceptance of the place offered via the online response – or if a paper application – in writing by the deadline in your offer information.

**Refusing the allocated place making your child unallocated will not increase your chances of getting your preferred school at a later date.**

**Your child may also end up being allocated a school place much further away.**

If a parent does not confirm their acceptance of the place offered within the time specified, the offer of the place may be withdrawn.

## What can I do if I am not successful in gaining a place at my preferred school(s)?

You can confirm that you wish your child's name to remain on the waiting list and make an appeal to an independent appeal panel.

**We strongly recommend accepting the allocated school place if you have opted to remain on a waiting list and/or lodge an appeal as we cannot guarantee places will be allocated from waiting list or via appeal.**

## Waiting lists

If you have not gained a place at one or more of your preferred schools, we will place your child's name on the school's waiting list. Your child's position on the waiting list will be prioritised according to the admissions criteria in their admissions policies.

Note: there is no distinction between on time applicants and late applicants on the waiting list.

**It is important to note that a child's position on the waiting list can change, moving both up or down, as children either join or are removed from the waiting list. No priority is given based on the length of time on the waiting list. They must be ordered by oversubscription criteria.**

Please note: you can have your child's name on more than one waiting list at the same time as making an appeal to the school.

We manage all waiting lists for starting school, junior transfer and secondary transfer until the end of each academic year (31 August). We also maintain all waiting lists for in-year year groups except for St. Edmund's Catholic School. For this school, please contact them directly with waiting list queries.

### Appeals process

If you have been refused a place at any of your preferred schools, you have the right of appeal to an independent panel, which is set up under Section 94 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. This right of appeal may be for more than one school. You may only appeal where you have applied and have been refused admission to a school. You have 20 school days within which to state that you intend to appeal or by the specified deadline date given in your letter.

If your appeal form is received after the deadline date, we cannot guarantee that your appeal will be heard before the start of the academic year. On-time appeals for admissions in September are usually heard in April and May for secondary schools and June and July for starting school and junior transfers.

The appeals process is independent and separate from the process followed by the Admissions Team for the allocation of places and for the operation of waiting lists. Successful appellants are allocated a place in a school above the published admission number by the appeals panel.

Please refer to *page 86* for information on the number of appeals upheld for junior transfer last year and previous years. Please refer to *page 87* for the number of appeals upheld for secondary transfer last year and previous years.

Please carefully consider and review your grounds for appeal before submitting it.

### Appeals for admission to infant classes

If you are applying for admission at Key Stage 1 (year groups R, 1 and 2), your grounds for appealing are **limited** because of legislation on the statutory legal class size limit. The law only allows a Key Stage 1 appeal to be upheld where one or more of the following grounds are established:

Ground A: The admission of additional children would not breach the infant class size limit.

Ground B1: The admission arrangements do not comply with admissions law.

Ground B2: The school's admissions arrangements were not correctly and impartially applied.

To be successful under grounds B1 and 2, your child must have been disadvantaged and would otherwise have been offered a place.

Ground C: The decision not to admit your child was a decision that no reasonable authority would make in the circumstances.

**The appeal panel are limited to a review of the decision of the LA to refuse a school place based on the information available at the time, so it is important to be clear about your grounds for appeal.**

Please refer to *page 85* for information on the number of infant appeals upheld for starting school last year and in previous years.

Please carefully consider and review your grounds for appeal before submitting it.

This is available online at

**[portsmouth.gov.uk/services/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/waiting-list-and-appeals-for-a-school-place](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/services/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/waiting-list-and-appeals-for-a-school-place)**

### How many times can I appeal for a particular school?

If your appeal is unsuccessful, you cannot appeal for a place at the same school in the same academic year again unless there is a significant and material change in your circumstances.

A significant and material change in your circumstances would be, for example, if you moved into the designated catchment area for your preferred school or if a brother or sister of the child you have made an application for, is offered a place in another year group at the school. You would need to notify the Admissions Team of any change in circumstances prior to lodging a further appeal.

You can, of course, remain on the waiting list for a school even if your appeal was unsuccessful.

# Schools and admissions policies

This section gives information on schools in Portsmouth and their admissions policies

## Types of school

### Community schools

These are maintained by Portsmouth City Council as the local authority. These are run by the headteacher and governors in partnership with the local authority. The council is responsible for the admission policy and admissions.

### Voluntary controlled schools

These were originally set up by bodies such as the Church of England or Roman Catholic Church but are now maintained by Portsmouth City Council as the local authority. These are run by the headteacher and governors in partnership with the local authority. The council is responsible for the admission policy and admissions.

### Voluntary aided schools

These were originally set up by bodies such as The Church of England or Roman Catholic Church and are jointly funded by the Church Diocesan Boards and the city council. The governors are responsible for their admission policy and procedures.

## Academies

Academies are publicly funded, non-selective schools that operate within the state system although they are independently governed. Academies are responsible for their admission policies and admissions.

## Enquiries for more information

All schools are pleased to receive enquiries and can provide an individual prospectus. They are happy to meet parents but you must arrange an appointment first. There is also lots of information on individual schools on their websites.

**The LA is required to coordinate all admissions applications for the main point of entry in September for Year R, Year 3 (Infant – Junior only) and Year 7.**

# Infant, primary and junior schools admissions policies

This section contains information on schools' admissions policies for 2026/27

## Community Infant Schools/academies with the exception of Court Lane Infant, Meon Infant, Moorings Way Infant, Penbridge Infant, Solent Infant and Stamshaw Infant

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in-year applications. For details of Published Admission Numbers (PANs) for each infant school please refer to list on *pages 69 to 73*.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with

the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with the priorities below.)
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) at the school or an adjacent junior school in the following academic year.  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household

or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household

- ii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- iii) children of staff employed at the school (or school on an adjacent site)
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

- iv) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria, then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

**Note: Attendance at a linked / on-site nursery is not a criterion for a starting school application.**



## Court Lane Infant Academy and Stamshaw Infant School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please visit each school's website.**

The published admission number (PAN) for Court Lane Infant is 120.

The published admission number (PAN) for Stamshaw Infant is 90.

### Over-subscription criteria

The following oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places should there be more demand than places available as set out in an academy's published admission number (PAN). Any children with Education, Health and Care Plans that name an academy must be allocated a place even before the over-subscription criteria are applied.

#### 1) Looked after Children

These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.

#### 2) Children or families with significant, physical, psychological or social need.

Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the local authority are inappropriate.

#### 3) Children of staff employed at the school

Children of a member of staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (see additional information).

#### 4) Children with a sibling in the school

Children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school or a linked school (Court Lane Junior for Court Lane Infant applicants and Stamshaw Junior for Stamshaw Infant applicants) the following academic year.

This does include step-brothers/step-sisters/ foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

#### 5) Catchment Area

Children living within the school's designated catchment area. If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 6(i) to 6 (ii), will be used to allocate places.



## 6) Out of Catchment Area

Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:

- i) Children eligible for the service premium at the time of application to the school.

Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

- ii) Children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications- see additional information).

Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots (see additional information). Should the academy be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 6(i) to 6 (ii) above, then any additional criteria as given in 6(i) to 6 (ii) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Solent Infant School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please visit the school's website.**

Solent Infant has a published admission number (PAN) of 90.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered according to the following priorities in the order set out below: -

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the

most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children of staff employed at the school** (or school on an adjacent site)
  - i) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made, or
  - ii) the member of teaching staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- 4) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 5(i) to (iii) below.)
- 5) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school – or adjacent school Solent Junior – the following academic year.

Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive and foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

- ii) children eligible for service premium.
- iii) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots. Note: Should a school within the Trust be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 5(i) to 5(iii) above, then any additional criteria in 5(i) to 5(iii) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Meon Infant, Mooring's Way Infant, Penbridge Infant and New Horizons Primary Schools

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to each academy's website.**

### Published Admission Number (PAN)

Each school has a published admission number for Year R. It will admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. If fewer applications are received, all applicants will be offered a place. If more applications than the PAN are received, the oversubscription criteria below will be used to determine which applicants can be offered a place.

The PAN for each school is as follows:

Meon Infant	60
Moorings Way Infant	30
Penbridge Infant and Nursery	60
New Horizons Primary	60

### Oversubscription criteria

The school will admit any pupil with an Education, Health and Care plan which names the school. Priority will then be given to children who meet the criteria set out below, in order.

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children (for definitions, refer to the explanatory notes in the full policy)
2. Children who have an exceptional medical or social need that means there is a significant need for them to attend this school rather than another e.g. if it is their nearest school and they have an illness which means it would be extremely difficult for them to travel to a further school. Children who have an exceptional social or medical need which means they should attend this school rather than any other or whose parents have such a need. Your application must be supported by evidence, for example from a medical specialist or social worker, of the [child's/parent's] need and why it means the child needs to attend this school. Applications that are submitted without supporting evidence cannot be considered under this criterion.
3. Siblings (for definitions of siblings – see notes in the full policy). Siblings of pupils who at the time of admission have a sibling attending the school and for infant schools, a sibling attending the linked junior school (For Meon Infant this is Meon Junior, for Moorings Way infant this is Meon Junior and for Penbridge Infant this is Penbridge Junior).
4. Priority will next be given to children of staff at the school, in either of the following circumstances:
  - a) The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or
  - b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
5. Children living within the School's designated catchment area. (If the School cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities in 6. below.

6. Children living outside the School's catchment area in the following priority order:

- i) Children eligible for service premium

Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

- ii) Children who live closest to the School, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on straight line 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications).

Note: Should the School be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories, in priority order as listed above.



## Beacon View, Copnor, Medina, Portsdown, The Victory, and Wimborne Primary

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in-year applications. Please see a list of primary schools and their published admission numbers (PANs) on *pages 69 to 72*. If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child

and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with the priorities below.)
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year;  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household
  - ii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

- iii) children of staff employed at the school
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- iv) for Wimborne Primary only – junior transfer applicants only – children attending Cumberland Infant School at time of junior transfer application
- v) Children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line 'as the crow flies' (this distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: Should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above, then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Ark Ayrton Primary Academy/Ark Dickens Primary Academy

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy's website.**

Each academy has an agreed PAN of 60 pupils in the Reception year. After the allocation of reception places, the academy will admit 'rising fives', i.e. all children with places can be admitted to the reception year at school in the September following their fourth birthday but before reaching compulsory school age.

### Oversubscription criteria

Where the academy is named on a pupil's Education and Health Care Plan, that child will be admitted by the academy. If the number of applications for admission to the school is greater than the PAN, applications will be considered against the criteria and order set out below:

**1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child

arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.

- 2) Children who are eligible for the Service Pupil Premium.**
- 3) Children of staff at the school who occupy, or have been recruited to, a post where there is a demonstrable skill shortage.** Ark Schools must approve the Principal's assessment process and designation of such posts to confirm the staff members' eligibility under this criterion. Priority will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year (i.e. 2 places in each 2-form year group).
- 4) Children who at the time of the admission have a sibling who attends the academy (but not the nursery).** For this purpose "sibling" means a whole, half or step-brother or – sister or an adopted child resident at the same address.
- 5) Children of staff in the school who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application is submitted.** Ark Schools must approve the Principal's decision to allocate places to staff under this criterion. Priority will be limited to

one place for each form of entry in any year (i.e. 2 places in each 2-form year group)

- 6) Children living in the schools designated catchment area** – A map of the area will be available at the academy.
- 7) Children living outside the catchment area.**

For categories 6 and 7, where it is necessary to prioritise applications within each category, the shortest distance from the child's home\* to school, measured in straight line distance, will be used.

The Local Authority measures distance on behalf of Ark Schools. Portsmouth city Council use their Geographical Information System and Ordinance Survey Data to calculate straight line distance between the child's home\* and the main entrance to the school.



**Note: A child's home will be the address at which the child normally resides and which has been notified to relevant agencies (e.g. the Local Authority) as being the child's normal place of residence. Where a child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the permanent home address for the purposes of school admissions will be the one where the child spends the majority of school nights Monday–Friday.**

### **Tie breaker**

If Ark Schools is unable to distinguish between applicants using the published oversubscription criteria, places will be offered via a random draw which will be supervised by someone independent of the school.

In the case of multiple births or siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place available in the school, all will be considered together as one application.

## Arundel Court Primary Academy, Highbury Primary School, Langstone Primary Academy and The Flying Bull Academy

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to each academy's website.**

The following oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places should there be more demand than places available as set out in an academy's published admission number (PAN).

The PAN for each school is as follows:

Arundel Court Primary School	90
Highbury Primary School	60
Langstone Primary Academy	90
The Flying Bull Primary Academy	60

Any children with Education, Health and Care Plans that name an academy must be allocated a place even before the over-subscription criteria are applied.

**1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.

**2) Children or families with significant, physical, psychological or social need.**

Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the local authority are inappropriate.

**3) Children of staff employed at the school**

Children of a member of staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

**4) Children with a sibling in the school.**

Children who have a sibling (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year. This does include step-brothers/step-sisters/foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

**5) Catchment Area.** Children living within the school's designated catchment area. If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 6(i) to 6(ii), will be used to allocate places.

**6) Out of Catchment Area.** Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:

i) Children eligible for the service premium at the time of application to the school.

Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

ii) Children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This will be used where necessary to prioritise applications).

Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots. Should the academy be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 6(i) to 6(ii) above, then any additional criteria as given in 6(i) to 6(ii) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Cottage Grove Primary and Milton Park Primary School

**For a full copy of their policies and explanatory notes visit the individual school's website.**

This policy will be used during 2026-27 for allocating places in the main admission round for entry to Year R in **September 2026**. It will also apply to in-year admissions during 2025/26. It does not apply to those being admitted to nursery provision.

### Published Admission Number (PAN)

Each school has a published admission number (PAN) for entry to Year R. The school will admit this number of children if there are sufficient applications. Where there are fewer applications than the published admission number, places will be offered to all applicants.

Number of Admissions

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for entry to our academies into Reception Class from **September 2026** is:

Cottage Grove Primary School	60
Milton Park Primary School	60

### Oversubscription criteria

If the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to children in the following order:

- 1) Looked after children or children who were previously looked after.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order. (see definition i).
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child

and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate. (see definition ii).

- 3) Children of staff.** (See definition iii) who have, (1) been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or (2) have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- 4) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities in 5. below. (see definition iv)
- 5) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year (see definition v)
  - ii) children eligible for service premium

Note - service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002 2.

- iii) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Please see "Additional Information" below. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots. Note: Should a school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.



## Gatcombe Park Primary School and Westover Primary School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the individual school's website.**

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for each school is shown in the table below. Each school will admit up to the PAN into Year R in **September 2026**

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is;

Gatcombe Park Primary School	30
Westover Primary School	30

### **Children with Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that name the school**

Children with EHCPs that name a school must be admitted to that school under the Education Act 1996 and with regard to the SEN Code of Practice. These children will be admitted to the named school, even if it is full, and are therefore outside the normal admission arrangements. As required by the Code these children will count as part of the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

Applications submitted by **15 January 2026** will be dealt with first. If the number of applications submitted by **15 January 2026** is greater than the PAN for a school, admissions to the school will be decided according to the following priorities:

- 1) Children in public care (looked after children) and previously looked after children as defined by section 1.7 of the School Admissions Code 2021.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need. Evidence must be attached with the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the area are inappropriate – see Explanatory Note 1 in the full policy.
- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area who, at the time of application, have a sibling already on roll at the school and who will still be attending the school in the following academic year – see Explanatory Note 2 for catchment definition and Explanatory Note 3 for Sibling definition in the full policy.
- 4) Children living in the school's designated catchment area who are eligible for service premium – see Explanatory Note 4 in the full policy.
- 5) Children who live within the school's designated catchment area and are children of staff employed at the school for two or more years at the time of application and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill.
- 6) Other children living within the school's designated catchment area.

- 7) Children living outside the school's designated catchment area who, at the time of application, have a sibling already on roll at the school and who will still be attending the school in the following academic year - see Explanatory Note 2 for catchment definition and Explanatory Note 3 for Sibling definition in the full policy.
- 8) Westover Primary School only: Children who are eligible for early years pupil premium who are in the school's pre-school class -see Explanatory Note 5 in the full policy.
- 9) Children living outside the school's designated catchment area who are eligible for service premium.
- 10) Children who live outside the school's designated catchment area and are children of staff employed at the school for two or more years at the time of application and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill.
- 11) Other children living outside of the school's designated catchment area.

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the criteria, then distance, as defined in Explanatory Note 6 will be used to prioritise applications. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by drawing lots.

## Catholic primary schools: Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School, St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School, St Paul's Catholic Primary School and St Swithun's Catholic Primary School

Corpus Christi is an academy school and part of the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust.

St John's Cathedral, St Paul's and St Swithun's are voluntary aided schools in the trusteeship of the Diocese of Portsmouth.

They were founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The schools are conducted by their governing boards as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and instrument of government, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As Catholic schools, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school.

This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The governing boards/academy trust are the admissions authorities and have responsibility for admissions to these schools. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round. The Governing Body of each school has set its admission number for pupils entering the Reception year group in the school year which begins in **September 2026** as follows:

Corpus Christi	45
St John's	30
St Paul's	45
St Swithun's	45

### Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted.

Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

### Oversubscription Criteria

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available at any one of the schools, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

- 1) Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 and 3).
- 2) Catholic children (see note 3).
- 3) Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).
- 4) Siblings of children at the school at the intended time of entry (see note 7).
- 5) Members of an Eastern Christian Church (see note 4).
- 6) Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion (see note 5).
- 7) Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader (see note 6).
- 8) Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provision will be applied:

**i) Sibling link**

The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made (see note 7)

**ii) Distance**

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the front door of the child's home address

**Tie Breaker**

In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

**Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)**

- 1) An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
- 2) Looked after Children. These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

- 3) Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional Notes for further information.
- 4) 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child in the process of adoption and living within a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic. For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their parish priest who, can consult with the diocesan Catholic Academies and Schools Office if they need further guidance.

- 5) 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
- 6) 'Children of other Christian denominations' means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.
- 7) All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.
- 8) 'Children of other faiths' means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
  - i) A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
  - ii) A religion which does not involve belief in a God.
- 9) Siblings (brother or sister) includes:
  - i) all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters,
  - ii) stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
  - iii) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

## St Jude's Church of England Primary School

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in year applications.

The published admission number is 60.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional

involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

**3) Children whose parents have a religious conviction for attending the school.**

Supporting evidence must be submitted with the application on the supplementary form provided, signed by the appropriate religious leader. If the school cannot admit all applications from this criteria applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities below.

**4) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities below.

**5) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**

- i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school

the following academic year;

Note: this category does include step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive and foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

- ii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- iii) children of staff employed at the school
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

- iv) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on straight line 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: should a school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.



## St George's Beneficial Church of England Primary School

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in year applications.

The Published Admission Number is 30.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application form. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional

involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 4(i) to 4(v) below:
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year;
  - ii) Children whose parents have a religious conviction for attending the school. Supporting evidence must be submitted with the application on the supplementary form provided, signed by the appropriate religious leader.

- iii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- iv) children of staff employed at the school
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- v) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on straight line 'as the crow flies'.

Note: Should a school be oversubscribed from within any criteria then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## All Community Junior Schools and Academies (except Court Lane Junior, Meon Junior, Penbridge Junior, Solent Junior and Stamshaw Junior)

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in-year applications. Please see list of junior schools and their published admission numbers (PANs) on pages 69 to 72.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) **Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on page 66.
- 2) **Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating

clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) **Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities below.)

- 4) **Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**

- i) children who have a brother or sister (living in the same household) at the school or an adjacent infant school the following academic year.

Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

- ii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

- iii) children of staff employed at the school (or school on an adjacent site)
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- iv) children attending, at the time of application, a named feeder infant school; Please see list of feeder infant schools on page 75.
- v) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above, then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Court Lane Junior Academy and Stamshaw Junior School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the individual school's website.**

The following oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places should there be more demand than places available as set out in an academy's published admission number (PAN). Any children with Education, Health and Care Plans that name an academy must be allocated a place even before the over-subscription criteria are applied.

Court Lane Junior Published Admission Number (PAN) for 2026/27 is 120.

Stamshaw Junior Published Admission Number (PAN) 2026/27 is 90.

### **1) Children looked after or previously looked after by a local authority**

These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements

order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.

### **2) Children or families with significant, physical, psychological or social need.**

Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the local authority are inappropriate.

### **3) Children of staff employed at the school**

Children of a member of staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (see additional information).

### **4) Children with a sibling in the school**

Children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school or a linked school the following academic year.

This does include step-brothers/step-sisters/ foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household (see additional information).

### **5) Catchment Area**

Children living within the school's designated catchment area. If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 6(i) to 6 (iii), will be used to allocate places.

### **6) Out of Catchment Area**

Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:

- i) Children attending, at the time of application, a named linked feeder school.

For Court Lane Junior applicants this will be Court Lane Infant Academy. For Stamshaw Junior applicants this will be Stamshaw Infant School.

- ii) Children eligible for the service premium at the time of application to the school.



Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

- iii) Children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications).

Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots (see additional information). Should the academy be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 6(i) to 6 (iii) above, then any additional criteria as given in 6(i) to 6 (iii) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Meon Junior School and Penbridge Junior School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the individual school's website.**

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in year applications.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is;

Meon Junior	90
Penbridge Junior	120

They will admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. If fewer applications are received, all applicants will be offered a place. If more applications are received, the oversubscription criteria below will be used to determine which applicants can be offered a place.

The school will admit any pupil with an Education, Health and Care plan which names the school. Priority will then be given to children who meet the criteria set out below, in order.

- 1) Looked after children and previously looked after children** (for definitions, see notes in full policy)
- 2) Children who have an exceptional medical or social need that means there is a significant need for them to attend this school rather than another** e.g. if it is their nearest school and they have an illness which means it would be extremely difficult for them to travel to a further school. Children who have an exceptional social or medical need which means they should attend this school rather than any other or whose parents have such a need. Your application must be supported by evidence, for example from a medical specialist or social worker, of the [child's/ parent's] need and why it means the child needs to attend this school. Applications that are submitted without supporting evidence cannot be considered under this criterion.
- 3) Siblings** (for definitions of siblings – see notes in full policy). Siblings of pupils who at the time of admission have a sibling attending the school or a linked infant school, Meon Infant or Moorings Way Infant School for Meon Junior and Penbridge Infant for Penbridge Junior.
- 4)**
  - a) Children who attend the following infant schools that are part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust namely Moorings Way Infant School, Meon Infant School and Penbridge Infant School. If the school cannot admit all children from the named feeder infant schools, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 5,6,7.
  - b) Children who attend Manor Infant School for applications to Penbridge Junior. If the school cannot admit all children from the named feeder infant schools, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with any of the additional priorities listed in 5(a) to 5(b).
- 5) Priority will next be given to children of staff at the school**, in either of the following circumstances:
  - a) The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or

- b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

**6) Children living within the School's designated catchment area.** (If the School cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities in 7. below.

**7) Children living outside the School's catchment area in the following priority order:**

- i) Children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- ii) Children who live closest to the School, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on straight line 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications).

Note: Should the School be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above then any additional

criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories. In priority order as listed above.

### **Tie breaker**

If a tie-break is necessary for distance, random allocation will be used to determine which child will be offered a place. This will be verified by someone independent from the school who will conduct the random allocation

## Solent Junior School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the individual school's website.**

Solent Junior has a published admission number (PAN) of 90.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person involved

stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children of staff employed at the school** (or school on an adjacent site)
  - i) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made, or ii) the member of teaching staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- 4) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 5(i) to (iv) below.)
- 5) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school or an adjacent infant school the following academic year.

Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive and foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

- ii) children eligible for service premium
- iii) children attending Solent Infant School (as part of The De Curci Trust).
- iv) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots (see "Additional information"). Note: Should a school within the Trust be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 5(i) to 5(iv) above, then any additional criteria in 5(i) to 5(iv) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

# Secondary school admissions policies

## This section contains information on each school's admissions policy

### Mayfield All Through School

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in year applications. Mayfield has a published admission number (PAN) of:

- 60 for entry into Year R
- 110 additional places for entry into Year 7 (total PAN of 200 including children moving up from year 6)

For year 7, if fewer pupils transfer automatically then any additional places will be offered to external applicants.

There are two points of main phase entry for this school to Year R and to the secondary phase in Year 7. This policy applies to all cohorts.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information on *page 66*.

- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.
- 3) Children of staff employed at the school:**
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

- 4)**
  - a) Children living in catchment who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year;
  - b) Children living outside of catchment who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive and foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

**5) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities below.)

**6) Children eligible for service premium.**  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

**7) Children attending a feeder junior/primary school** (this is only relevant for Secondary Transfer applicants):

- New Horizons Primary
- King's Academy College Park Junior
- Penbridge Junior
- King's Academy Northern Parade Junior
- Stamshaw Junior

**8) Children who live closest to the school,** based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured on a straight line (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications) below. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: Should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria above, then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Admiral Lord Nelson School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy website.**

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 250 for Year 7 2026.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most

appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 4i to 4iv, will be used.
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year,  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.
  - ii) children attending a feeder junior/primary school, these are Copnor Primary, Westover Primary and Gatcombe Park Primary

- iii) Children of staff at the school where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- iv) children who are eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- v) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'.

Note: should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 4i to 4iii above, then any additional criteria as given in 4i – iv, will be used to prioritise applications within these categories. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

## Trafalgar School

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy's website.**

The published admission number (PAN) is 220.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered according to the priorities in the order set out below.

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most

appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area** (shared with Mayfield School). If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 4i to 4v, will be used.
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year:  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.
  - ii) children attending a feeder junior/primary school (King's Academy college Park Junior, Penbridge Junior, New Horizons Primary, King's Academy Northern Parade Junior, Stamshaw Junior)

- iii) children of staff employed by the school – where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time that the application of admission to the school is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- iv) children who are eligible for service premium.  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002.
- v) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications, see additional information).

Note: should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 4i to 4v above, then any additional criteria as given in 4i-v, will be used to prioritise applications within these categories. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

## Ark Charter Academy

### For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy website.

The academy is a Church of England Secondary School.

The academy has an agreed PAN of 180 pupils in Year 7.

### Oversubscription criteria

Where the academy is named on a pupil's Education and Health Care Plan, that child will be admitted by the academy. If the number of applications for admission to the secondary school is greater than the PAN, applications will be considered against the criteria and order set out below:

- 1) **Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) **Children who are eligible for the Service Pupil Premium.**
- 3) **Children of staff at the school who occupy, or have been recruited to, a post where there is demonstrable skill shortage.**  
Ark Schools must approve the Principal's assessment process and designation of such posts to confirm the staff members' eligibility under this criteria. Priority will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year group.
- 4) **Children who at the time of the admission have a sibling who attends the academy.**  
For this purpose "sibling" means a whole, half or step-brother or – sister or an adopted child resident at the same address.
- 5) **Children of staff in the school** – who will have been have been employed in the academy for two or more years at the time the application is submitted. Priority will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year.
- 6) **Children who attend one of the following feeder primary schools at the time of application:**
  - Ark Ayrton Primary Academy (URN: 139713)
- Ark Dickens Primary Academy (URN: 141020)
- St George's Beneficial CE Primary School (URN: 116346)
- St Jude's CE Primary School (URN: 116344)
- 7) **Pupils who live in the catchment area for the academy**, which is defined as: south of and including both sides of Kingston Crescent; west of centre of Kingston Road and Fratton Road; west of and excluding Victoria Road North; west of centre of Victoria Road South, Lennox Road South and Clarence Parade down to Jack Cockerill Way then south of Clarence Parade and part of South Parade. A map of the area is available at the academy and on the website.
- 8) **Children living outside the catchment area but currently attending one of the following primary schools at the time of application:**
  - Arundel Court Primary Academy (URN: 144194)
  - Cottage Grove Primary School (URN: 116203)
  - The Flying Bull Academy (URN: 140719)

Note: where there are more applications than available places within each criteria, priority will be given to children living closest to the school measured by straight line distance from the child's home to the school.

Distance measurement – Children living outside the catchment area and not attending a feeder primary school will be prioritised by the nearest straight line distance between their home address and Charter Academy. A child's home will be the address at which the child normally resides and which has been notified to the academy and other relevant agencies as being the child's normal place of residence. Portsmouth City Council measures distance on behalf of Ark Schools using their Geographical Information System and Ordnance Survey data to calculate straight line distance between home and school.

### Tie breaker:

If Ark Schools is unable to distinguish between applicants using the published criteria, places will be offered via a random draw which will be supervised by someone independent of the academy.



## Castle View Academy

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the school's website.**

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 200.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most

appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

- 3) Children living within the school's designated catchment area.** If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, priorities 4i to 4iii, will be used.
- 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:**
  - i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year:  
Note: this category includes step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.
  - ii) children attending a feeder junior/primary school; (Medina Primary, Beacon View Primary Academy, Portsdown Primary, The Victory Primary).

- iii) children who live closest to the school, based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.

Note: should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria 4(i) to 4(ii) above, then any additional criteria as given in 4(ii) to 4(iii) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## Miltoncross Academy

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy website.**

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 200.

### Oversubscription Criteria

If there are more applications than places available we will apply the oversubscription criteria listed below:

**1) Looked after children and previously looked after children.** A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). Previously looked after children also includes those who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need which makes the school particularly suitable for the child.** Priority will be given to those children or families who have a demonstrable and significant need to attend Miltoncross Academy. Applications for priority in this criterion will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other professional who can demonstrate a special connection between the applicant's or their family's needs and Miltoncross Academy.
- 3) Children living in the school's designated catchment area who have a sibling in school at the time of application and at the time of proposed entry.** The catchment area is an area that is bordered by the following: Tangier Road to the North, Kingston Cemetery and Park and then Milton Road, Cromwell Road and St George's Road to the West, the coastline to the South and the coastline to the East – please see attached map. Sibling refers to a brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner,

and in every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.

- 4) Other children living in the school's designated catchment area.** Priority will be given to those children living nearest to the school. Distance to the school is measured in a straight line using the Local Authority's Geographical Information System. The Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) unique property reference co-ordinates will be used to represent the school, whilst home co-ordinates will be primarily derived from the LLPG. Where a child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the permanent home address for the purposes of school admissions on the application form is expected to be the one where the child spends the majority of school nights.
- 5) Other children who have a sibling in school at the time of application and at the time of proposed entry.** See definition above.
- 6) Children attending one of the following schools at the time of application:** Langstone Primary; Meon Junior; Milton Park Primary.



**7) Distance. Priority will be given to those children living nearest to the school.**

Distance to the school is measured in a straight line using the Local Authority's Geographical Information System. The Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) unique property reference co-ordinates will be used to represent the school, whilst home co-ordinates will be primarily derived from the LLPG.

**Tie-break**

If the distance criterion is not sufficient to distinguish between two or more applicants for the last remaining place then random allocation will be used. This process will be supervised by somebody independent of the school.

## The Portsmouth Academy

### For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to each academy's website.

The Portsmouth Academy (part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust) is a co-educational school and has no defined catchment area; applications are welcome from anywhere in Portsmouth and the surrounding area.

Where the Academy is named on a student's Statutory Education, Health and Care Plan, the student will be admitted by the Academy. If the number of applications for admission to the Academy is greater than the Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 250, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

**1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See additional information.

**2) Children who, at the time of the admission, have a sibling who attends the Academy.**

For this purpose, "sibling" means a whole, half or step-sister or brother, or an adopted child resident at the same address. The Academy will also include in this criterion children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household. In the case of multiple births or siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place available in the Academy, the other child/children will be offered place above PAN.

**3) Children who attend Penbridge Junior School** (part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust).

**4) Children attending New Horizons Primary and Meon Junior School** (schools who are part of the Thinking School Academy Trust).

**5) Children of staff at the school where there is a demonstrable skill shortage.**

Note: priority will be given to the children of members of staff if the staff member is filling a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

TSAT will be required to approve the Principal's designation of such posts and confirm the assessment that a member of staff appointed meets the requirements of the shortage.

**6) Children of staff at the school.**

Note: priority will be given to the child of a person who has been employed in the Academy for two or more years at the time the application is made.

**7) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.**

Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

**8) Children eligible for service premium.**

Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002".

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above categories 1–8 then distance as described in category 9 will be used to prioritise applications.

**9) Children who live closest to the school.**

Distance will be based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured in a straight line, using the LA Geographical Information System. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots by an independent party such as the LA Admissions Team.



## Priory School (Academy)

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes of the criteria please go to the academy's website.**

The published admission number (PAN) is 250.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the following priorities in the order set out below.

### **1) First priority: Looked after Children and previously looked after children**

'Looked after children and children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became the subject of a child arrangements order or special guardianship order'

A previously looked after child is a child who was looked after by a local authority but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became the subject of a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

It also includes children who have been provided with child arrangements orders (previously known as residence orders) under the provisions of section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014 which amends section 8 of the Children Act 1989 and the children with special guardianship order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian under section 14A of the Children Act 1989. It also includes those children who appear to the School to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

### **2) Second priority: Exceptional medical or social needs**

For main round of applications only, children who have exceptional medical or psychological conditions that make it essential that they attend Priory School rather than any other school. Appropriate medical or psychological evidence must be produced in support.

When submitting applications under exceptional medical or social needs, this must be supported by written evidence from an independent professional aware of the case relating to the child (e.g. doctor, hospital consultant or psychologist for medical grounds or registered social or care worker, housing officer, the police or probation officer for social needs). This evidence must be specific to Priory School it must show why the school is the most suitable; what facilities will benefit the child, and why no other school can offer the same support.

### **3) Third priority: Children of staff**

Children of BET staff at the school where the member of staff is the legal parent / guardian of that child and:

Children of staff\* who have, (i) been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or (ii) have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

\*The term 'staff' includes support and teaching staff on a permanent contract.

**4) Fourth priority: Children who at the time of application have a sibling on the roll of Priory School and who will still be on roll at the time of the sibling's admission.**

By sibling we mean:

- Children living at the same address who have one or both natural parents in common
- Children living at the same address who are related by a parent's marriage
- Children living at the same address whose parents are living as partners at this address
- Foster children or adopted children living at the same address
- We do not include 'cousins' within our definition of sibling

**5) Fifth Priority: Children living within catchment and attending a linked school**

Children whose permanent home address is inside the school's designated catchment area and attend a linked school.

In alphabetical order:

- Craneswater Junior School
- Fernhurst Junior School
- Wimborne Junior School

**6) Sixth Priority: Children living in catchment not attending linked school.**

Children whose permanent home address is inside the school's designated catchment area and who live closest to the school, based on a straight line from the main front door to the entrance of the property. Parents should note that if they apply for free transport, different criteria may apply and the distance from home to school might be measured using a different route.

**7) Seventh priority Children: living outside the catchment area, in order of priority**

- i) Children living outside the designated catchment area who attend a linked school as mentioned above.

- ii) Children who are eligible for the Service Premium. Note; Service Premium is eligible to children of people in the Armed Services as outlined in S14 of the Education Act 2002.
- iii) Children who live closest to the school based on a straight line.

### Tie breaker

Where it is necessary to prioritise applications the criterion will be prioritised based on the shortest distance from the child's home to school, measured in a straight line 'as the crow flies'. Distances will be measured using the council's Geographical Information System (GIS) department. The Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) unique property reference co-ordinates will be used to represent the school, whilst home co-ordinates will be primarily derived from the LLPG, with Ordnance Survey's ADDRESS-POINT® product used as support. Only distances measured by GIS will be taken into account for the purposes of the distance criterion. Should there be two or more identical distances, the prioritisation will be done by random allocation.

## St Edmund's Catholic School (voluntary aided)

### For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the school's website.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for 2026/27 is 224.

Should there be more applicants than places available based on the evidence provided with each application, the governors will use the criteria for admission to place every applicant in one of the categories listed below. The order of the categories listed below determines the order of priority for admission. Applicants who qualify for more than one category will be placed in the highest one in which they appear.

### Admission categories:

- 1) Baptised Catholic looked-after children and previously looked after children
- 2) Baptised Catholic children
- 3) Other looked-after children and all previously looked after children
- 4) Children being prepared to be received into the Catholic Church (RCIA)
- 5) Children of staff employed at the school
- 6) Children who are members of Eastern Orthodox Churches and children from families who are members of other Christian churches.
- 7) Children who have a sibling(s) at the School at the intended time of entry
- 8) Children whose parent(s) are baptised Catholic
- 9) Children attending schools who are part of the Edith Stein Catholic Partnership (Corpus Christi, St John's Cathedral, St Mary's, St Paul's, St Swithun's Catholic Primary Schools).
- 10) Other applicants

### Tiebreakers:

Oversubscription within the above criteria.

Should there be more applicants than places available in any of the above criteria, priority will be given in order of:

- 1) Category 2:
  - i) Distance
  - ii) Random allocation
- 2) All other categories:
  - i) Distance
  - ii) Random allocation

## Springfield School

### For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the academy website.

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2026/27 including in year applications. Springfield has a PAN of 240.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered according to the following priorities in the order set out below:

- 1) Looked after Children.** These are defined as Looked after Children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. See Additional information.
- 2) Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need.** Evidence must be attached with the application. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person involved

stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate.

### 3) Children of staff employed at the school

- a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made, and/or;
- b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- c) Children living within the school's designated catchment area. (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 4i) to 4iv) below.)

### 4) Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:

- i) children who have a brother or sister (living within the same household) already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year;

Note: this category does include step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive and foster brothers/sisters living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

- ii) children eligible for service premium  
Note: service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002
- iii) children attending a feeder junior/primary school (Highbury Primary, Court Lane Junior and Solent Junior);
- iv) children who live closest to the school, measured as a straight line (this distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this will be done by casting lots.  
Note: should a school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria then any additional criteria will be used to prioritise applications within these categories.

## University Technical College (UTC) Portsmouth

**For a full copy of the policy and explanatory notes please go to the UTC website.**

### Application Process

Students have the option to join UTC Portsmouth at the beginning of either Year 10 or Year 12. UTC Portsmouth will process applications for the college outside the normal process of local authority coordination - this means that a separate application will have to be made. Applications should be sent to the Admissions Team at UTC Portsmouth using the website link below. Applications are live online for the duration of the admissions period only after which time waiting list applications can be made by contacting the college directly.<sup>1</sup>

- Website: **[www.utcportsmouth.org](http://www.utcportsmouth.org)**

Paper copies of the application form are available on request from the Admissions Team at UTC Portsmouth:

- Email: **[admissions@utcportsmouth.org](mailto:admissions@utcportsmouth.org)**

- Postal address: UTC Portsmouth, London Road, Portsmouth, PO2 9DU

### Year 10 Application Process

Applications for places in Year 10 starting **September 2026** will be made directly to, and be administered by, the college either online on UTC Portsmouth's website or via a paper form.

Applications open on **3 October 2025** and close at noon on **14 November 2025**.

Typically, every potential applicant is invited to attend a short meeting with a member of the UTC Portsmouth Senior Leadership Team on completion of their application.

These meetings provide students and parents with essential information and also help the college with important curriculum planning for the next academic year.<sup>2</sup> Offers of places must be accepted within the first 5 school days of the January term (Portsmouth term dates apply). Failure to do so will likely result in the reallocation of the offer.

UTC Portsmouth will consider all applications for places and, where there are fewer applications than the Published Admission Number for Year 10, an offer of a place will be made to all applicants. (Exceptions to this rule will be made where an applicant has previously been permanently excluded twice from any school and the date of the last permanent exclusion is within two years of the application closing date as set out in Section 3.8 of the School Admissions Code.)

If more applications are received than there are places available, then places will be allocated in line with UTC Portsmouth's oversubscription criteria below.

### Allocation of places

#### Published Admission Numbers (PAN)

The college has an agreed Published Admission Number of 125 students for entry in Year 10.

#### Oversubscription criteria

If the college is not oversubscribed all applicants will be offered a place.

<sup>1</sup> Schools Admissions Code: **[www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2)** and Schools Appeal Guidelines: **[www.gov.uk/government/publications/college-admissions-appeals-code](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/college-admissions-appeals-code)**

<sup>2</sup> Any information recorded during these meetings is only used to assist curriculum planning. Information is not retained if the prospective student doesn't enrol at the college.

If the college is oversubscribed, applicants with statements of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) for which UTC Portsmouth is named and offers a suitable provision, will be admitted first.

Thereafter, in the event of oversubscription, the following criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- 1) Looked after children and previously looked after children.<sup>2</sup>
- 2) Children of UTC Portsmouth's staff where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- 3) 50% of the remaining places will be allocated to girls, where there is an odd number of places to be allocated, random selection will be used, if required, to determine whether to allocate the extra place to a boy or a girl. If there are more female applicants than places, the following oversubscription criteria are to be used:

- a) 50% of these places will be allocated to girls resident in Zone A, which will include all postcodes in the City of Portsmouth.
  - b) 50% of these places will be allocated to girls resident in Zone B, which will include all postcodes outside of Zone A.
  - c) If there are an odd number of girls' places, random selection will be used to determine which zone to allocate the extra place to.
  - d) If one zone is undersubscribed then remaining places will be allocated to the remaining zone.
- 4) The remaining places will be allocated to boys, if there are more male applicants than places, the following oversubscription criteria are to be used:
    - a) 50% of these places will be allocated to boys resident in Zone A, which will include all postcodes in the City of Portsmouth.
    - b) 50% of these places allocated to boys resident in Zone B, which will include all postcodes outside of Zone A.

- c) If there are an odd number of boys' places, random selection will be used to determine which zone to allocate a place to.
- d) If one zone is undersubscribed then remaining places will be allocated to the remaining zone.

### Tie-break

Should there be a need for a tie breaker for two or more applicants that cannot be otherwise separated, the decision will be made by independently verified random selection (drawing of lots) to determine which applicant is offered a place.

<sup>2</sup> A 'looked after' child is a child who is a) in the care of a local authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services function at the time of making an application to a college. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became the subject of a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

# Guide to criteria and additional information on admission policies

**NOTE:** Not all schools have the criteria below. You must check the school's policy. If the criterion is not in the policy then it cannot be considered in allocating places eg. medical evidence cannot be considered for schools without this criterion. Meeting a criterion within an admission policy for a school **does not guarantee** a place at the school.

## Pupils with special educational needs and an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP)

The Admissions Code states that all children with an EHCP which names a particular school must be admitted. These children have priority over and above all applications and so are allocated first or overnumber if the school is already full.

## Looked After Children

These are defined as Looked after Children<sup>3</sup> and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.<sup>4</sup> Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted<sup>5</sup> or became subject to a child arrangements order<sup>6</sup> or special guardianship order.<sup>7</sup>

## Medical, physical, psychological or social need

If your child or a family member has a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need which relates to your school application, please tick the relevant box on the application form and attach supporting evidence to your form.

All evidence must be sent together with the application form. The evidence must be in writing from your doctor or other appropriate professional involved with your child's health, wellbeing or your specific family circumstances. **In all cases evidence must show why it is appropriate that your child attends your preferred school and why other schools in the city are inappropriate.**

Please note that many children experience anxiety linked to changing schools or leaving friendship groups and this will not usually be considered a significant medical or psychological need.

A medical diagnosis or identified SEND needs does not automatically mean that medical criteria will be given. The evidence would have to demonstrate that the 1st preference mainstream school is the only suitable school. We would expect that all our mainstream schools would be able to support and meet a range of needs.

3 A "looked after child" is a child who is in a) the care of a local authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions ( Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

4 A child is regarded as being in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

5 This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12 Adoption orders) and children adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46 adoption orders).

6 Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22/4/14 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

7 Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a "special guardianship order" as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian/s.

**Note: evidence should be a letter or summary page of a report to confirm medical condition, we do not require a full copy of assessments.**

Failure to attach supporting evidence will delay the progress of your application and/or result in it not being considered under this criterion. It is your responsibility to provide the necessary evidence to support your application. All information given will be treated confidentially.

If you are in any doubt about whether or not to include details, please contact the Admissions Team for further advice.

## Catchment areas

A catchment area is a geographical area defined by the council. The idea of having a catchment area is to give some priority for the admission of children living in the local area of the school. Please note: living in the catchment area does not guarantee a place at the school. Your catchment area is determined by your home address (the child's permanent residence). Further details of the individual school's catchment area is provided on the council's website.

## Sibling link

A sibling link is defined as a child's brother or sister (living in the same household) already on roll and attending the school you have applied to or at an adjacent infant/junior school and who will still be attending the school the following academic year. This category includes step-brothers/step-sisters; adoptive brothers/sisters living in the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household. This does not include siblings who live in a different household unless stated otherwise in an individual school's admission policy. If you have twins, triplets or more children in the same household who are due to transfer into the same year group, please be aware that should the admission limit of a school be reached by admitting one child, your other child(ren) will be offered a place at the same school.

Please note: a sibling link at the school does not guarantee admission to the school.

## Feeder schools

Junior schools have named feeder infant schools, see *page 75*.

Secondary schools have named feeder junior/primary schools, see *page 76*.

Attendance at a feeder school does not guarantee admission to a linked school.

## Children eligible for service premium

Service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002

The service premium is designed to support children with parents serving in the regular British armed forces. Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

- One of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- One of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years

- One of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS).
- The child must live with the service parent to be eligible for service premium.

Evidence may be required if none available from current educational setting.

### Children of staff employed at the school (or school on an adjacent site)

- 1) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and / or
- 2) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a skill shortage

We will contact the headteacher to confirm this information.

### Distance measurement

Where it is necessary to prioritise applications the criterion will be prioritised based on the shortest distance from the child's home to school, measured in a straight line 'as the crow flies'. Distances will be measured using the council's Geographical Information System (GIS). The Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) unique property reference co-ordinates will be used to represent the school, whilst home co-ordinates will be primarily derived from the LLPG, with Ordnance Survey's ADDRESS-POINT® product used as support. Only distances measured by GIS will be taken into account for the purposes of the distance criterion. Should there be two or more identical distances, the prioritisation will be done by casting lots. The Admissions Team will arrange for this to be carried out by the LA's Democratic Services who are independent of the school and the admissions process.

### Fair Access Protocol

The Local Authority operates a Fair Access Protocol which prioritises admissions for certain categories of children. This protocol relates to admission applications during the year (but not the transfer of year 6 pupils from primary/junior to secondary schools or transfer of year 2 pupils from infant to junior schools). The protocol takes priority above the school's admission policy for those on a waiting list and the LA may require the school to admit above their published admission number.

# List of primary, infant and junior schools

## School types

**COM:** Community    **VA:** Voluntary Aided    **VC:** Voluntary Controlled    **ACAD:** Academy

**PAN** = Published Admission Number, i.e the number of places available for **September 2026** entry.

Name of school	Address	Head	Website	Tel	Type	PAN
<b>Ark Ayrton Primary Academy</b> (part of ARK Schools Academy Trust)	Somers Road, Portsmouth, PO5 4LS	Executive Head: Anne Hibberd-Chapman Head of School: Mrs S Bennet-Acres	arkayrtonprimary.org	9282 4828	ACAD	60
<b>Ark Dickens Primary Academy</b> (part of ARK Schools Academy Trust)	Turner Road, Portsmouth, PO1 4PN	Executive Head: Anne Hibberd-Chapman Head of School: Miss L Berry	arkdickensprimary.org	9282 6514	ACAD	60
<b>Arundel Court Primary Academy</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Fyning Street, Portsmouth, PO1 1FG	Headteacher: Ms R Worswick	arundelcourt.com	9282 4893	ACAD	90
<b>Beacon View Primary Academy</b> (part of United Learning Academy Trust)	Allaway Avenue, Portsmouth, PO6 3PS	Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Williams	beaconviewprimary.co.uk	9237 5302	ACAD	30
<b>Bramble Infant School and Nursery</b>	Bramble Road, Portsmouth, PO4 0DT	Headteacher: Mr O Bradley	bramble.portsmouth.sch.uk	9282 8604	COM	60
<b>Copnor Primary School</b>	Copnor Road, Portsmouth, PO3 5BZ	Headteacher: Mr M Johnson	copnorprimary.co.uk	9266 1191	COM	90
<b>Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School</b> (part of Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust)	Gladys Avenue, Portsmouth, PO2 9AX	Headteacher: Miss U Clark	corpuschristi.portsmouth.sch.uk	9266 1818	ACAD	45
<b>Cottage Grove Primary School &amp; Nursery</b> (The Gateway Trust in Collaboration with the University of Portsmouth)	Chivers Close, Portsmouth, PO5 1HG	Headteacher: Mr L Branscombe	cottagegrove.co.uk	9234 1133	ACAD	60
<b>Court Lane Infant Academy</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Hilary Avenue, Portsmouth, PO6 2PP	Headteacher: Mrs L Flitton	courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk	9237 8890	ACAD	120
<b>Court Lane Junior Academy</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Hilary Avenue, Portsmouth, PO6 2PP	Headteacher: Mrs L Flitton	courtlanejunior.chimat.uk	9237 5444	ACAD	120
<b>Craneswater Junior School</b>	St. Ronan's Road, Portsmouth, PO4 0PX	Headteacher: Mr D Jones	craneswater.portsmouth.sch.uk	9273 4787	COM	120

Name of school	Address	Head	Website	Tel	Type	PAN
<b>Cumberland Infant School</b>	Methuen Road, Portsmouth, PO4 9HJ	Headteacher: Mrs R Herbert	cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk	9273 3161	COM	60
<b>Devonshire Infant School</b>	Francis Avenue, Portsmouth, PO4 0AG	Headteacher: Mrs R Arnold	devonshire.portsmouth.sch.uk	9273 4902	COM	60
<b>Fernhurst Junior School</b>	Francis Avenue, Portsmouth, PO4 0AG	Headteacher: Mrs R Kirby	fernhurst.portsmouth.sch.uk	9273 5998	COM	90
<b>Gatcombe Park Primary School</b> (part of Hamwic Education Trust)	St. Barbara Way, Portsmouth, PO2 0UR	Headteacher: Mr B Simpson	gatcombeparkprisich.co.uk	9269 4412	ACAD	30
<b>Highbury Primary School</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Dovercourt Road, Portsmouth, PO6 2RZ	Headteacher: Mrs J Watson	highburyprimary.chimat.uk	9237 5404	ACAD	60
<b>King's Academy College Park</b> (Infants) (part of King's Group Academy Trust)	Crofton Road, Portsmouth. PO2 0LB	Headteacher: Mrs R Carlyle	kgacollegepark.uk	9266 3645	ACAD	120
<b>King's Academy College Park</b> (Juniors) (part of King's Group Academy Trust)	Crofton Road, Portsmouth, PO2 0NT	Headteacher: Mrs R Carlyle	kgacollegepark.uk	9266 3645	ACAD	120
<b>Kings Academy Northern Parade</b> (Infant) (part of King's Group Academy Trust)	Kipling Road, Portsmouth, PO2 9NJ	Headteacher: Mrs K Wilden	npschools.co.uk	9266 2596	ACAD	90
<b>Kings Academy Northern Parade</b> (Junior) (part of King's Group Academy Trust)	Doyle Avenue, Portsmouth, PO2 9NE	Headteacher: Mrs K Wilden	npschools.co.uk	9266 2129	ACAD	90
<b>Langstone Primary Academy</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Lakeside Avenue, Portsmouth, PO3 6EZ	Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Bush	langstone-jun.portsmouth.sch.uk	9282 4138 9283 2642	ACAD	90
<b>Manor Infant and Nursery School</b>	Inverness Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5QR	Headteacher: Mrs H Castle	manorinfantschool.co.uk	9282 0548	COM	60
<b>Mayfield School</b> <sup>a</sup> (part of Salterns Academy Trust)	Mayfield Road, Portsmouth, PO2 0RH	Headteacher: Mr A Howard, Head of Primary: Miss R Osborne	mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk	9269 3432	COM	60 (Yr R) 110 (for Year 7 secondary transfer)
<b>Medina Primary School</b>	Medina Road, Portsmouth, PO6 3NH	Headteacher: Ms A McGarvey	medinaprimay.co.uk	9237 5475	COM	30

<sup>a</sup> Mayfield is an all through school ( Year R-11) so pupils on roll automatically transfer through from the primary phase to the secondary phase. There are also 110 additional places for external pupils to apply for via the secondary transfer process.

Name of school	Address	Head	Website	Tel	Type	PAN
<b>Meon Infant School</b> (part of Meon Way Federation) (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	Shelford Road, Portsmouth, PO4 8NT	Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Paine, Head of School: Mrs R Vonk	meonwayfederation.org.uk	0333 360 2170	ACAD	60
<b>Meon Junior School</b> (part of Meon Way Federation) (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	Shelford Road, Portsmouth, PO4 8NT	Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Paine, Head of School: Mrs S Paine	meonwayfederation.org.uk	0333 360 2170	ACAD	90
<b>Milton Park Primary School</b> (part of University of Portsmouth Academy Trust)	Eastney Road, Portsmouth, PO4 8ET	Headteacher: Mrs W Fowler	miltonparkprimaryschool.co.uk	9273 3792	ACAD	60
<b>Moorings Way Infant School</b> (part of Meon Way Federation) (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	Moorings Way, Portsmouth, PO4 8YJ	Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Paine, Head of School: Mrs R Vonk	meonwayfederation.org.uk	0333 360 2170	ACAD	30
<b>New Horizons Primary School</b> (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	Portchester Road, Portsmouth. PO2 7JB	Head of School: Mr J Jones	newhorizonsprimaryschool.org.uk	0333 360 2160	ACAD	60
<b>Penbridge Infant School</b> (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	Lincoln Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5BG	Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Webb, Head of School: Miss C Morris	penbridgeschool.org.uk	0333 360 2185	ACAD	60
<b>Penbridge Junior School</b> (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	New Road, Portsmouth, PO2 7RW	Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Webb, Head of School: Ms A Cole	penbridgeschool.org.uk	0333 360 2190	ACAD	120
<b>Portsdown Primary School and Early Years</b>	Sundridge Close, Portsmouth, PO6 3JL	Headteacher: Mr A Vaghela	portsdownprimary.co.uk	9237 8991	COM	60
<b>Solent Infant School</b> (part of the De Curci Trust)	Eveleigh Road, Portsmouth, PO6 1DH	Executive Headteacher: Mrs L Wilby, Head of school: Mrs E Curthoys	solentinfant.thesolentschools.org	9237 1073	ACAD	90
<b>Solent Junior School</b> (part of the De Curci Trust)	Solent Road, Portsmouth, PO6 1HJ	Executive Headteacher: Mrs L Wilby, Head of School: Mrs L Peterkin-Aldred	solentjunior.thesolentschools.org	9237 5459	ACAD	90
<b>Southsea Infant School</b>	Collingwood Road, Portsmouth, PO5 2SR	Headteacher: Mrs R Holmes	southsea.portsmouth.sch.uk	9282 8176	COM	60
<b>St. George's Beneficial CE Primary School</b>	Hanover Street, Portsmouth, PO1 3BN	Headteacher: Miss I Lewis	stgbs.co.uk	9282 2886	VC	30
<b>St. John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School</b> (aided)	Cottage View, Portsmouth, PO1 1PX	Headteacher: Mrs L Park	stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk	9282 1055	VA	30

Name of school	Address	Head	Website	Tel	Type	PAN
<b>St. Jude's CE Primary School</b>	St. Nicholas Street, Portsmouth, PO1 2NZ	Headteacher: Ms C Pidgeon	st-judes.portsmouth.sch.uk	9282 4061	VC	60
<b>St. Paul's Catholic Primary School and Nursery</b>	Bourne Road, Portsmouth, PO6 4JD	Headteacher: Mrs Z Killick	st-pauls.portsmouth.sch.uk	9237 5488	VA	45
<b>St. Swithun's Catholic Primary School</b>	Taswell Road, Southsea, PO5 2RG	Headteacher: Mrs J Verhiest	sscps.co.uk	9282 9339	VA	45
<b>Stamshaw Infant School</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	North End Avenue, Portsmouth, PO2 8NW	Headteacher: Mrs J Cooper	stamshawinfant.chimat.uk	9266 1192	ACAD	90
<b>Stamshaw Junior School</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Tipner Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8QH	Headteacher: Mrs S Cantini	stamshawjunior.chimat.uk	9266 1045	ACAD	90
<b>The Flying Bull Academy</b> (part of University of Chichester Academy Trust)	Flying Bull Lane, Portsmouth, PO2 7BJ	Interim Headteacher: Ms G Brown	fbacademy.co.uk	9269 4313	ACAD	60
<b>The Victory Primary School</b> (part of United Learning Academy Trust)	Allaway Avenue, Portsmouth, PO6 4QP	Headteacher: Mrs K May	thevictoryprimary.co.uk	9200 1160	ACAD	30
<b>Westover Primary School</b> (part of The Hamwic Education Trust)	Westover Road, Portsmouth, PO3 6NS	Headteacher: Mrs J Dorricott	westoverprimary.co.uk	9266 0178	ACAD	30
<b>Wimborne Primary School</b>	Wimborne Road, Portsmouth, PO4 8DE	Headteacher: Mrs C Jacobs	wimborne.portsmouth.sch.uk	9273 3784	COM	70 (Year R), 20 <sup>b</sup> (for Year 3 Junior transfer)

b PAN for Y3–6 is 90 so there are an additional 20 places to allocate for the junior transfer process.

# List of secondary schools

## School types

**COM:** Community    **VA:** Voluntary Aided    **VC:** Voluntary Controlled    **ACAD:** Academy

**PAN** = Published Admission Number, i.e the number of places available for **September 2026** entry.

Name of school	Address	Head	Website	Tel	Type	PAN
<b>Admiral Lord Nelson School</b> (part of Salterns Academy Trust)	Dundas Lane, Portsmouth, PO3 5XT	Headteacher: Mr C Doherty, Admissions: Katie Holness	alns.co.uk	9236 4536	ACAD	250
<b>ARK Charter Academy</b> (part of ARK Schools Academy Trust)	Hyde Park Road, Portsmouth, PO5 4HL	Principal: Mr C Down, Admissions: Sally Turner	charteracademy.org.uk	9282 4204	ACAD	180
<b>Castle View Academy</b> (part of United Learning Academy Trust)	Allaway Avenue, Portsmouth, PO6 4QP	Principal: Mr A Potter, Admissions: Mrs E Coleshill	castleviewacademy.org.uk	9237 0321	ACAD	200
<b>Mayfield School</b> <sup>a</sup> (part of Salterns Academy Trust)	Mayfield Road, Portsmouth, PO2 0RH	Headteacher: Mr A Howard, Admissions: Laura Phillimore	mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk	9269 3432	COM	60 Yr R 110 Yr 7
<b>Miltoncross Academy</b> (part of The Kemnal Academies Trust)	Milton Road, Portsmouth, PO3 6RB	Headteacher: Mr N Giles, Admissions: Mrs Cross	miltoncross-tkat.org	9273 8022	ACAD	200
<b>Priory School</b> (part of Bohunt Education Trust)	Fawcett Road, Portsmouth, PO4 0DL	Headteacher: Mr Vaughan, Admissions: Mrs Williams	priorysouthsea.org	9281 9115	ACAD	250
<b>St. Edmund's Catholic School</b>	Arundel Street, Portsmouth, PO1 1RX	Headteacher: Mr Graham, Admissions: Mrs White	saintedmunds.org.uk	9282 3766	VA	224
<b>Springfield School</b> (part of The De Curci Trust)	Central Road, Portsmouth, PO6 1QY	Executive Headteacher: Ms Sara, Spivey, Headteacher: Ms L Kelly, Admissions: Joanna Goodship	springfield.uk.net	9237 9119	ACAD	240
<b>The Portsmouth Academy</b> (part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust)	St. Mary's Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5PF	Principal: Mr D Botting, Admissions: Miss Meale	theportsmouthacademy.org.uk	0333 360 2200	ACAD	250
<b>Trafalgar School</b> (part of Salterns Academy Trust)	London Road, Portsmouth, PO2 9RJ	Executive Headteacher: Ms Copeland, Headteacher: Gemma Pearse, Admissions: Amanda Collis for In-Year, Victoria Dring for Secondary	trafalgarschool.org.uk	9269 3521	ACAD	220
<b>University Technical College Portsmouth</b>	London Road, Portsmouth, PO2 9DU	Principal: Mr J Doherty	utcportsmouth.org	9312 0200	–	125 (Yr 10)

<sup>a</sup> Mayfield is an all through school (Year R-11) so pupils on roll automatically transfer through from the primary phase to the secondary phase. 110 additional places for external pupils to apply for via the secondary transfer process.

# School catchment areas

You can also view your catchment areas, including infant, junior and primary catchment areas online at [portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](https://portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions)



# Junior Feeder schools chart

Note: some infant schools are feeders for more than one junior school.

Attendance at a feeder school is not a guarantee of a place.

Infant	Junior
Court Lane Infant *	Court Lane Junior *
Bramble Infant *	Craneswater Junior *
Cumberland Infant *	
Southsea Infant *	
Bramble Infant *	Fernhurst Junior *
Devonshire Infant *	
King's Academy College Park (Infant) *	King's Academy College Park (Junior) *
Meon Infant *	Meon Junior *
Moorings Way Infant *	
Penbridge Infant	

\* Infant/Junior schools considered as adjacent which is relevant to sibling link criteria.

Infant	Junior
Manor Infant	Penbridge Junior *
Meon Infant	
Moorings Way Infant	
Penbridge Infant *	
King's Academy Northern Parade (Infant) *	King's Academy Northern Parade (Junior) *
Solent Infant *	Solent Junior *
Stamshaw Infant *	Stamshaw Junior*
Cumberland Infant *	Wimborne Primary
For junior transfer (yr3) only	

# Secondary Feeder schools chart

Note: some schools are feeders for more than one school.

Attendance at a feeder school is not a guarantee of a place.

Junior/Primary	Secondary
Copnor Primary	Admiral Lord Nelson School
Gatcombe Primary	
Westover Primary	
Ark Ayrton Primary	Ark Charter Academy
Ark Dickens Primary	
Arundel Court Primary	
Cottage Grove Primary	
Flying Bull Academy	
St. George's Beneficial Primary	
St. Jude's Church of England Primary	
Beacon View Primary	Castle View Academy
Medina Primary	
Portsmouth Primary	
The Victory Primary School	
Penbridge Junior	The Portsmouth Academy
New Horizons Primary	
Meon Junior	

Junior/Primary	Secondary
King's Academy Northern Parade (Junior)	Mayfield and Trafalgar Schools
Stamshaw Junior	
King's Academy College Park (Junior)	
New Horizons Primary	
Penbridge Junior	Miltoncross Academy
Langstone Primary	
Meon junior	
Milton Park Primary	
Fernhurst Junior	Priory School
Craneswater Junior	
Wimborne Junior	
Court Lane Junior	Springfield School
Solent Junior	
Highbury Primary	
Corpus Christi RC Primary	St Edmund's Catholic School
St John's RC Primary	
St Paul's RC Primary	
St Swithun's RC Primary	
St Mary's RC Primary	

# Infant, junior and primary school allocation breakdown for 2025 intake

This section tells you how many applicants were successful, and admission criteria used in the allocation process. This information is for on-time applications only.

! Please note the pattern of applications and places allocated changes from year to year, so 2025 trends may not give an indication of what will happen in September 2026.

## Breakdown for Infant allocation

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	Children of staff	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Bramble Infant School	60	181	65	2	*	*	18	15	1	1	23	Distance (0.709m)
Cumberland Infant School	60	193	61	1	*	*	31	6	*	*	22	Distance (0.968m)
Devonshire Infant School	60	166	52	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
King's Academy	College Park Infant	120	193	81	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
	Northern Parade Infant	120	144	81	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Manor Infant School	60	89	36	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Meon Infant School	60	115	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Moorings Way Infant school	60	108	44	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Penbridge Infant School	60	111	54	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Southsea Infant School	60	173	48	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	SIB	CAT	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Court Lane Infant Academy	120	236	114	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Stamshaw	90	154	101	5	*	2	2	32	38	1	10	Distance (0.290m)

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Solent Infant School	90	191	103	2	*	3	*	51	14	*	21	Distance (0.976m)

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

## Breakdown for Primary allocations

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	Children of staff	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Beacon View Primary Academy	30	37	15	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Copnor Primary School	90	197	83	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Gatcombe Park Primary School	30	96	36	3	*	*	27	*	*	*	*	Catchment (0.433m) not all applicants under this criterion were successful
Medina Primary School	30	66	44	*	*	1	23	3	*	1	2	Distance (0.276m)
New Horizons Primary School	90	123	53	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Portsdown Primary School	60	86	38	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
The Victory Primary School	60	80	48	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Westover Primary School	30	98	50	1	*	*	29	*	*	*	*	Distance (0.254m)
Wimborne Primary School	70	219	85	2	1	*	47	15	*	1	4	Distance (0.298m)

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number for September 2023, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Cottage Grove Primary School	60	114	47	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Milton Park Primary School	60	114	45	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number for September 2023, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	SIB	CAT	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Arundel Court Primary Academy	90	151	83	*	*			*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Highbury Primary School	60	102	49	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
Langstone Primary Academy	90	175	118	4	*	*	1	45	40	*	*	Catchment (0.330m) not all applicants under this criterion were successful
The Flying Bull Primary Academy	60	83	42	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	REL	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	Children of staff	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
St Jude's CofE Primary School	60	132	76	*	1		27	10	12	1	*	9	Distance (0.440m)

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion (⊕ religious criterion applicable to St Jude's and St George's only), **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	REL	Service Premium	Children of staff	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
St George's CofE Primary School	30	38	25	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **REL:** Religion (⊕ religious criterion applicable to St Jude's and St George's only), **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

## Breakdown for Primary allocation – Ark academies

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	Service Premium	Staff-skill shortage	SIB	Staff-no skill shortage	CAT	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
ARK Ayrton Primary Academy	60	135	60	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
ARK Dickens Primary Academy	60	97	32	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** **PAN:** Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **DIST:** Distance.

## Breakdown for Catholic Primary allocations

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	ECHP	Catholic LAC	Catholic and SIB	Catholic	LAC	SIB	Eastern Christian	Other Christian denominations	Other Faith	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School	45	85	39	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School	30	97	50	*	*	9	15	*	2	*	4	*	*	Other Christian (0.691m)
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	45	45	28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful
St Swithun's Catholic Primary School	45	122	61	*	*	6	11	1	9	5	6	2	5	No Religious Criteria - Distance (0.207m)

Please contact the school regarding details of allocations against each criteria.

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process.

## Breakdown for Mayfield all through school allocation (Year R)

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	SIB in CAT	SIB outside CAT	CAT	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Mayfield	60	141	36	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All Applicants Successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **SEN:** Special Educational Needs (children with an EHCP), **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **DIST:** Distance.

## Breakdown for Junior allocation

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	Children of staff	FEED	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Copnor Primary School	15	41	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	All applicants successful
Craneswater Junior School	120	182	130	6	1	1	69	22	2	0	19	0	Feeder (0.591m) Not all applicants under this criterion were successful
Fernhurst Junior School	90	153	84	1	0	2	41	14	0	0	20	6	All applicants successful
King's Academy College Park Junior School	120	125	109	5	0	0	52	22	0	0	28	2	All applicants successful
King's Academy Northern Parade Junior School	120	93	74	4	2	1	36	12	1	0	13	5	All applicants successful
Wimborne Primary School	20	131	17	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	3	7	All applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	SIB	CAT	FEED	Service Premium	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Court Lane Junior Academy	120	155	123	0	2	2	5	53	41	17	0	0	Feeder (2.801m)
Stamshaw Junior School	90	84	65	0	0	0	0	27	24	13	0	1	All applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps Considered	SEN	LAC	MED	FEED	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	Children of staff	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Meon Junior School	90	113	92	4	1	2	83	0	0	0	0	0	Feeder (1.751m)
Penbridge Junior School	120	105	89	2	0	1	83	2	0	0	0	1	All applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **TSAT FEED:** The Thinking Schools Academy Trust feeder schools, **FEED:** Other feeder school, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Apps considered	SEN	LAC	MED	Children of staff	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	FEED	DIST	Last place offered was on criterion
Solent Junior Academy	90	138	95	5	2	1	1	53	15	0	13	0	Feeder(0.930m) not all applicants successful under this criteria

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Apps considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

# Secondary school allocation breakdown for 2025 intake

This section tells you how many applicants were successful, and the admission criteria used in the allocation process. This information is for on-time applications only.

! Please note the pattern of applications and places allocated changes from year to year, so 2025 trends may not give an indication of what will happen in September 2026.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	FEED	Children of staff	Service Premium	DIST	Notes
Admiral Lord Nelson	250	749	408	8	3	5	119	45	38	1	11	20	The final criterion under which places have been offered is distance (0.828 miles)

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	Service Premium	Children of staff (iii)	SIB	Children of staff (v)	FEED (vi)	CAT	FEED (viii)	DIST	Notes
ARK Charter Academy	180	330	171	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **CAT:** Catchment, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	Children of staff	CAT/SIB	SIB	CAT	Service Premium	FEED	DIST	Notes
Mayfield School	110	339	94	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	SIB	FEED (c)	FEED (d)	Children of Staff		MED	Service Premium	DIST	Notes
									(e)	(f)				
The Portsmouth Academy	250	383	165	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **MED:** Medical/social, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	FEED	Children of staff	Service Premium	DIST	Notes
Trafalgar School	200	699	329	6	2	4	179	9	0	0	0	0	The final criterion under which places have been offered is sibling and feeder school and distance of 2.019 miles

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	Children of staff	CAT	SIB	Service Premium	FEED	DIST	Notes
Springfield School	240	398	239	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	Baptised Catholic LAC	Baptised Catholic Children	Non Catholic LAC	Preparation for Catholic Church	Children of staff	Members of Eastern Orthodox Churches and Other Christian Churches	SIB	Children of Baptised Catholic Parents	FEED	Other Applications	Notes
St Edmund's Catholic School	239	680	474	9	1	161	5	14	3	46	0	0	0	0	The final criterion under which places have been offered is Eastern Orthodox/ Other Christian Denomination and distance of 0.728 miles

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	CAT	SIB	FEED	DIST	Notes
Castle View Academy	200	199	131	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	CAT/SIB	CAT	SIB	FEED	DIST	Notes
Miltoncross Academy	220	355	154	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	All on-time applicants successful

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **CAT:** Catchment, **SIB:** Sibling, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance, \* Not applicable.

School name	PAN	Total applications	Total applicants considered	EHCP	LAC	MED	Children of staff	SIB	CAT & FEED	CAT	FEED	Service Premium	DIST	Notes
Priory School	263	684	400	7	6	4	3	61	131	28	23	0	0	The final criterion under which places have been offered is feeder school and distance of 0.882 miles

**Table header key:** PAN: Published Admission Number, **Total applicants considered:** applications remaining after applicants allocated to higher preference schools during the first stage of the allocation process, **EHCP:** School named on EHCP, **LAC:** Looked After Child, **MED:** Medical/social, **SIB:** Sibling, **CAT:** Catchment, **FEED:** Feeder school, **DIST:** Distance.

# Independent appeal statistics

Independent appeals were made to the following schools for entry at the start of the academic year (not including in-year appeals) between September 2022 and September 2025.

## Starting school infant appeals

School	Appeals 2022		Appeals 2023		Appeals 2024		Appeals 2025	
	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted
Ark Ayrton Primary	1	0	-	-	2	0	-	-
Arundel Court Primary	0	0	-	-	1	0	-	-
Brambles Infant School	-	-	-	-	2	0	-	-
Gatcombe Park Primary	-	-	2	0	-	-	1	0
Langstone Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0
Meon Infant	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Solent Infant	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stamshaw Infant	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0
St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary	2	0	-	-	2	0	3	0
St Jude's CE Primary	0	0	-	-	-	-	3	0
St Swithun's RC Primary	0	0	-	-	3	0	2	0
Wimborne Infant	2	0	-	-	-	-	1	0
Westover Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	0

\*Latest data correct as of **24/7/25**

Independent appeals were made to the following junior schools for entry at the start of the academic year (not including in-year appeals) between September 2022 and September 2025

### Transfer to junior school appeals

School name	Appeals 2022		Appeals 2024		Appeal 2025	
	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted
Court Lane Junior	1	0	-	-	-	-
Craneswater Junior	2	0	7	1	1	0
Fernhurst Junior	1	0	-	-	-	-
Meon Junior	3	0	-	-	-	-
Solent Junior	2	2	1	0	1	0

\*Latest data correct as of **24/7/25**

**! There were no appeals heard for Junior Transfer 2023**

Independent appeals were made to the following secondary schools for entry at the start of the academic year (not including in-year appeals) between September 2022 and September 2025

### Secondary school appeals

School name	2022 entry		2023 entry		2024 entry		2025 entry	
	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted	Appeals heard	Admitted
<b>Admiral Lord Nelson School</b>	1	1	5	0	13	2	25	3
<b>Mayfield School</b>	7	4	2	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Priory School</b>	6	1	10	2	16	2	24	3
<b>St Edmund's Catholic School</b>	17	4	22	4	44	5	66	4
<b>The Portsmouth Academy</b>	4	3	0	0	-	-	-	-
<b>Trafalgar School</b>	8	4	1	1	8	2	42	3

\*Latest data correct as of **24/7/25**

# Useful information

## Starting school

### When can my child start school?

To start school in **September 2026**, your child must be born on or between **1 September 2021** to **31 August 2022**.

According to the law, your child must attend school at the start of the term following their fifth birthday. However, in Portsmouth, most children will start school when they are four years old.

Generally, most pupils will attend school on a full-time basis by the end of **September 2026**. Parents will need to contact schools direct for information as starting arrangements will vary between schools.

### Can I defer starting school for my child?

Once a child has been allocated a place, parents can ask their school to defer their child(ren)'s entry into school until the beginning of either the spring term or the summer term dependent on date of birth. Entry cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of term after the child's fifth birthday, or beyond the academic year for which the admission is sought.

Parents may also request that their child attends on a part-time basis until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Once your child has a place confirmed, any discussions about deferring or attending part time should be with the headteacher of the school.

You will not be entitled to any funding for a nursery place if you agree with the school part time attendance or deferred start date.

### Summer-born children – requests to delay entry into Year R

Parents have a right to request that their summer-born children start school in Year R the following academic year. The law has not been changed to give parents the right to insist their child starts in Year R the following year. Although you do not have to send your child to school until they are statutory school age, they will have to start in Year 1 if delayed entry has not been agreed.

In Portsmouth the LA co-ordinates these requests with all own admission authority schools and academies. Please see the full guidance and request form on Portsmouth City Council website or contact the Admissions Team.

You must make your request by the closing date for applications of **15 January 2026**.

A decision not to start your child at school in their chronological year group will not give you additional criteria for Early Years' funding. You should enquire with your child's early years setting about the possibility of keeping your child there and whether they will continue to be able to access a free place if you are considering delaying your child's start at school.

If a delay is agreed you will need to re-apply for a Year R place for the following academic year – places cannot be reserved. Please note that any subsequent schools are not legally required to continue this arrangement and the agreement will not give any additional priority when you apply the following year.

## Information on schools

Specific information on individual schools, such as opening times, school policies, uniform etc. can often be found in the school prospectus which can be obtained direct from the school or from the school's own website.

Links to school websites are available on the council website – [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk)

## Information for families

Information, advice and guidance for families is available on the council website.

### Our services

We offer guidance on a range of topics, including:

- **Childcare**  
Sourcing childcare, understanding the jargon, accessing financial support to pay for childcare
- **Leisure opportunities**  
Family Hubs, local groups and clubs
- **Rights for working parents**  
Maternity/paternity leave, flexible working options, taking time off for dependents
- **Financial entitlements**  
Accessing family benefits; including funding for 2 year olds and early years education for 3 – 4 year olds, applying for free school meals and school transport, completing claim forms and estimating tax credits

- **Family support**

Help to make life as a parent/carer run smoothly

### How to access the information

Web: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) and search **Family Information**

Facebook: [facebook.com/portsmouthfis](https://facebook.com/portsmouthfis)

## Special educational needs

Many children and young people experience difficulties with learning at some point in their education. These are often temporary and are usually dealt with by the child's school. A very small number of children have significant, complex or long term needs. These children might need a co-ordinated assessment of Educational, Health and Care needs. Some of these children may be issued with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) – a legal document that describes special educational, health and care provisions and which school or further educational establishment the child or young person will attend.

Admissions arrangements for children with EHCP's are managed by the local authority's SEN team, and not the Admissions Team.

Further information about SEN and the admissions arrangements for children with Education Health and Care Plans is available at:

Web: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) and search **local offer**

Phone: **023 9284 1238**

## Fair Access Protocol

The Local Authority and schools have agreed a 'Fair Access Protocol' for certain categories of school age children. This protocol relates to admission applications throughout the year (but not children starting school, transferring to junior or secondary school in September). The protocol will take priority above the school's admission policy for those on a school's waiting list and may require schools to admit above their published admission limit.

## Admission out of chronological year group

Children will usually be admitted into their chronological year group except in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the school. Requests should be made alongside the application for a school.

Where children may have missed school, been educated in another country or have been out of education, these problems can be addressed by additional support in the child's chronological year group. For gifted and talented pupils, parents can discuss directly with a school the way it makes provision.

## Elective home education (educating your child at home)

Parents and carers electing to home educate must notify their school of this intention. It is advised by the DfE this should be done in writing and parents should meet with the LA and school prior to deregistration. If this is not done, the child may remain registered on their school roll. If your child is not already at school, please inform the Local Authority of your intention to home educate by contacting the Elective Home Education Team (see details below). If you do take the decision to home educate, you must provide a full time education that is suitable to your child's age, aptitude and ability and takes into account any special educational need.

Elective Home Education Team,  
Floor 4, Core 1, Civic Offices, PO1 2EA.

Tel: **023 9284 1419**

Email: **ElectiveHomeEducation  
@portsmouthcc.gov.uk**

## Concerns about your child's education

If you have a concern about any aspect of your child's education you should speak to your child's teacher first. It is quite likely that you will be able to sort problems out this way. If not, you may then wish to raise the matter with the headteacher. If the issue is not resolved by the headteacher you can take it to the school governors. A copy of a school's complaint procedure is available from schools on request.

## Leave of absence in term time

Only headteachers can authorise a leave of absence in term time through a 'leave of absence form' which is available from schools. Parents are reminded that headteachers will decide on a case by case basis whether they will authorise this absence based on exceptional circumstances.

If the leave is not authorised but taken, parents may receive penalty notices for the absence.

## School terms and holiday dates

Details of school terms and holidays can be found at [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) and search **school terms**.

## Free School Meals

Parent/carers of children in Yr 3 and above who are entitled to any of the following benefits are entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support
- **Income based** Jobseekers Allowance
- **Income based** Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax only, provided your annual household income (as by the evidence & customs) does not exceed £16,190

- Universal Credit (providing your household income does not exceed £7,400 per year excluding benefits)

Since the introduction of Universal Credit, the Government has agreed that all children who are eligible for free school meals will have their eligibility protected, regardless of any changes in financial circumstances. Free school meals are protected until **March 2026** or until the end of your child's current phase of education, whichever is the latest.

The application form to apply for free school meals is available at school, Portsmouth City Council or to download at: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk)

## Universal infant free school meal

All pupils in year R, 1 and 2 will be able to receive a school lunch at no cost to the parent/guardian. School meals in the city are healthy, tasty, social and fun and will help parents to save up to £400 per year. We encourage parents/carers to apply for low-income Free School Meals because schools will receive additional funding.

## Transport to school

Transport assistance to mainstream or special schools is provided to children based on specific criteria laid out in the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy. For further information contact **023 9283 4962**, [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) or visit the Portsmouth Local Offer website [portsmouthlocaloffer.org](https://portsmouthlocaloffer.org)

## Early years and childcare

There are various types of childcare support funded by the government, and depending on the age of your child you may be eligible for early education funding. This gives your child access to high quality early years education and childcare with an early years provider and these places should be offered to eligible families free of charge.

In Portsmouth there are a variety of providers offering the funded entitlements including pre-schools, childminders and nurseries. Parents can find information on which providers offer the funded entitlements by visiting [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) and searching finding childcare.

Your hours can be used per week for 38 weeks of the year (during school term time). You may be able use your hours for up to 52 weeks if you use fewer than your total hours per week.

Parents should consult with the provider of their choice with regards to what sessions are available and please note that parents may not always be able to access their full entitlement at the times they want with the provider of their choice.

You may also be eligible for Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare to support with childcare costs.

For further information about early years and childcare, help with paying for childcare, or support to apply for funding please contact the Early Years Team.

Email: [2yroidfunding@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:2yroidfunding@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

Web: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk) and search **Early Years and Childcare**

For information on help with paying for childcare.

Web: [childcarechoices.gov.uk](https://childcarechoices.gov.uk)

## Delaying your child's start in school and funding

A request and subsequent agreement, not to start your child at school in their chronological year group will impact on your entitlement to Funded Early Education; this will cease at the end of the term your child turns 5 years old. You should enquire with your child's early years setting about the possibility of keeping your child there and whether they will continue to be able to access a free place if you are considering delaying your child's start at school.



# 2026/27 Academic year groups

Transfer Group	Date of birth (between and inclusive of)	Age	Year	Key Stage
<b>Rising 4s</b>	1 Sept 2022 to 31 Aug 2023			
<b>Infant</b>	1 Sept 2021 to 31 Aug 2022	4 – 5	R	1
	1 Sept 2020 to 31 Aug 2021	5 – 6	1	1
	1 Sept 2019 to 31 Aug 2020	6 – 7	2	1
<b>Junior</b>	1 Sept 2018 to 31 Aug 2019	7 – 8	3	2
	1 Sept 2017 to 31 Aug 2018	8 – 9	4	2
	1 Sept 2016 to 31 Aug 2017	9 – 10	5	2
	1 Sept 2015 to 31 Aug 2016	10 – 11	6	2
<b>Secondary</b>	1 Sept 2014 to 31 Aug 2015	11 – 12	7	3
	1 Sept 2013 to 31 Aug 2014	12 – 13	8	3
	1 Sept 2012 to 31 Aug 2013	13 – 14	9	3
	1 Sept 2011 to 31 Aug 2012	14 – 15	10	4
<b>Secondary leavers</b>	1 Sept 2010 to 31 Aug 2011	15 – 16	11	4

# Interpreting support for parents

This may be available from the Ethnic Minority Achievement Team depending on language and availability. Support can be arranged through the Admissions Team.

## Pomoc tłumacza dla rodziców

Tłumacz będzie dostępny dla rodziców pod warunkiem że, EMAT będzie miał osobę która mówi konkretnym językiem. Za organizację pomocy jest odpowiedzialne Biuro Admissions. **023 9268 8008**

Acest lucru poate fi disponibil cu ajutorul echipei Ethnic Minority Achievement depinzand de limba disponibilă. Support in clasa poate fi aranjat intermediul Serviciului de Admitere.

الترجمة لأولياء الأمور الغير ناطقين بالإنجليزية  
هذه الخدمة ربما تكون متوفرة لدى مكتب دعم الأقليات العرقية للترجمة . وذلك حسب  
نوع اللغة المتوفرة لدينا , وعبر المكتب الخاص بنا .

## 協助家長的翻譯服務

如果家長需此服務，教育收生部儘可能安排，由少數族裔成就社提供的語言翻譯。023 9268 8008

## ছ - ভাষী পিতা- মাতার জন্য অনুবাদের সহযোগিতা

এই সহযোগিতা পেতে পারেন এথনিক মাইনোরিটি এচিভমেন্ট  
টিম থেকে, ভাষার উপর নির্ভর করে। আডমিশন সার্ভিস  
থেকে সাহায্যের ব্যবস্থা করা যেতে পারে। 023 9268 8008

# Useful contacts

## Portsmouth City Council

Admissions Team, Civic Offices, Guildhall Square,  
Portsmouth, PO1 2EA

Tel: **023 9268 8008** (City Helpdesk will be first  
point of contact)

Email: [admissions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

Web: [portsmouth.gov.uk](http://portsmouth.gov.uk)

## Hampshire County Council

Tel: **0300 555 1377**

Email: [admissions.team@hants.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.team@hants.gov.uk)

Web: [hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://hants.gov.uk/admissions)

## West Sussex County Council

Telephone: **033 301 42903**

Email: [admissions.south@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.south@westsussex.gov.uk)

Web: [westsussex.gov.uk](http://westsussex.gov.uk)

## Southampton City Council

Tel: **023 8083 3004**

Email: [school.admissions@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@southampton.gov.uk)

Web: [southampton.gov.uk](http://southampton.gov.uk)

## GOV.UK/department for education

This is a government website and has a variety of  
information including information about schools,  
admissions and appeals.

Web: [gov.uk/browse/education/school-  
admissions-transport](http://gov.uk/browse/education/school-admissions-transport)

## Ofsted

Office for Standards in Education. You can view  
school Ofsted inspection reports on this website:

[gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

## Portsmouth Local Offer

Information on services for children and young  
people (0 – 25) with special educational needs or  
disabilities.

Web: [portsmouthlocaloffer.org](http://portsmouthlocaloffer.org)

## Office of Schools Adjudicator

Deals with the legalities of and any objections to  
admission authority's procedures and policies.

Web: [gov.uk/government/organisations/office-  
of-the-schools-adjudicator](http://gov.uk/government/organisations/office-of-the-schools-adjudicator)

# Contact the Admissions Team

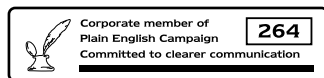
Admissions Team  
Portsmouth City Council  
Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth  
PO1 2EA

Tel: **023 9268 8008**

Email: **[admissions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)**

Web: **[www.portsmouth.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/admissions)**

If you require help face to face, please contact the City Helpdesk on the above number and ask for an appointment.



You can get this Portsmouth City Council information in large print, Braille, audio or in another language by calling 9268 8008.