

## School applications

**Children must be in full-time education from the school term after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday until they are 16 years of age. 16 & 17 year olds must be in either full-time education or a mix of work/training and part-time education.**

You must apply to the council for a school place for your child; pupils don't automatically get a place. This applies whether your child is transferring from primary to secondary, or starting a new school after moving to a new area.

The application form can be found on your local council's website or you can contact them to get a paper copy.

You must apply for at least 3 schools. Put the schools in order of preference, with the school you prefer first.

Normally you will need to provide a copy of your child's birth certificate plus proof of your address – such as a bill or letter from the council which has your name and address. Some religious schools might ask for a letter from your church or usual place of worship.

The deadline for pupils starting primary school to apply for the first time is 15<sup>th</sup> January, ready to start in September.

The deadline for pupils moving to secondary school to apply for year 7 is 31<sup>st</sup> October, ready to start the next September.

If you are changing school in the middle of the school year or your child is over 5 and not registered at any school, there is no deadline.

**If your child has a disability, their education, health and care plan will recommend a school for them. If you apply there, that school must give your child a place.**

Schools and the local council usually set admission criteria to decide which children get places. These criteria can be different for each school.

For example, schools may give priority to children who have a brother or sister at the school already, or who live close to the school.

You can appeal if your child doesn't get the preferred school or you think the school's decision was unfair.

For information & advice contact the Traveller Movement; telephone: 02076072002  
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