

Apply online now



Secondary school admissions 2026

For children born between
1 September 2014 - 31 August 2015



For more information go to our website
www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions

Apply online at www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions
You must apply by 31 October 2025

How do I apply?

- Apply online at **www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions** if you live in Solihull.
- You will need an email address.
- We will send you an email to acknowledge receipt of your application once it has been submitted. If you do not receive this acknowledgement, please check your application to ensure it was completed. You can log into the portal at any time to check that the application has been submitted.
- You will need your login details to retrieve your outcome on national offer day.
- If you live outside Solihull, you must apply to your home council. You can still apply for Solihull schools on your home authority application. You cannot apply on the Solihull portal.

What do I need to know about making an application?

You can apply for up to six schools that you would like your child to go to. You must read the admission arrangements of the school you are applying for to see how places are allocated. You may need to carry out additional steps alongside submitting your application

You must rank the schools in order of preference. The school you name first should be the one you would most like your child to go to. If you can be offered the school you list as preference one, lowered ranked applications are withdrawn and offered to another child.

You can apply for any school. It may be in Solihull, a church school, an academy, or a school in another council area such as a grammar school. You cannot apply for independent fee-paying schools on this application.

Find out if your child needs to sit a test to get into the school you are applying for. There are no grammar schools within Solihull, the nearest are located within Birmingham and Warwickshire. You must read the admission arrangements for the grammar school you apply for. Some grammar schools have catchment areas. To submit a grammar school preference, you must have sat the test and include it as a preference on the local authority application as one of your preferred schools.

Find out if the school you are applying for needs any supplementary information, such as a baptismal certificate. Baptised Catholic children will have a high priority for Catholic schools. You must read the admissions arrangements for the school to find out what evidence of faith you need to provide. Your child will only be assigned a faith criteria if you provide the required evidence.

There is no guarantee of a place at any secondary school. In 2025, some children were not offered places at their catchment school. Ensure you add as many schools to your application as possible.

If you live in Solihull, we strongly recommend that you include your catchment-area school among your preferences, even if it is your lowest preference. If you don't and you do not qualify for any of your preferred schools, you will be offered a place at the nearest school with a vacancy after all the offers are made. (This may not be your catchment school.) Your catchment school is likely to be full of applicants who did apply. For 2025 admissions, those applicants that did not include their catchment school and did not qualify for a place at their preference schools were offered a place over 7 miles from their home.

Most secondary schools do not give priority to children attending a particular primary school. Some schools do not give priority to younger siblings. You must check the school's oversubscription criteria.

Is your application realistic? Are you likely to be offered a place? You can use this booklet and information on our website as a guide to find out if you would have been offered a place last year.

Check the schools' or council's websites for more information about open days and open evenings to be held in September.

More information about the process and the schools is available at **www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions**.

You can find out about catchment areas and measure the distance from your home to school at **www.solihull.gov.uk/online maps**.

Exceptional social or medical reasons

Many, but not all admissions authorities give priority to applicants if there is a strong medical case or exceptional social need. This does not mean common childhood complaints or childcare and working arrangements. It also does not cover a child's academic ability or a school's Ofsted rating. It is more than a parental preference to attend a particular school.

- If you think that your child has exceptional social or medical reasons that should give them priority at a particular school you must:
- Read the admission arrangements to see if that particular school has exceptional social medical reasons within their criteria
- Tick the relevant box and add your reasons notes to your online application.
- Provide independent evidence from a reliable source (e.g. a medical professional) which explains why only one school can meet your child's needs. It must be clear to explain what this school can offer that other schools cannot.
- Check if the documents need to be sent to school or to the Admissions Team

If you do not provide evidence your application will not be considered for exceptional social medical reasons but will still be processed under the remaining criteria. The request for exceptional social or medical reasons must be made at the point of application, late or repeat requests cannot be considered.

What do I do if I live outside Solihull?

You must apply to your home Council.

You can apply for Solihull schools by including them on your application. You will not qualify for a catchment-area place because you do not live in Solihull, but your application will be assessed to see which of the remaining criteria your child qualifies for. Attending a Solihull primary school will not give you any additional priority for a Secondary school.

This booklet and information on our website will show you how places have been offered in previous years. This will tell you if an application from your address would have been successful in the past although, this is no guarantee for future years. You should always include a preference for a school where you are very likely to get a place, even if it is your lowest preference.

You can check your distance from home to school on our website.

How do I know if my application for a school is realistic?

This section will help you to find out if your application would have been successful last year. This does not mean that you will be offered a place, but it will give you a good indication. Living in the catchment area for a school does not guarantee you a place at that school.

If a school has more applications than places available then all the applications are put in priority order, according to the oversubscription criteria.

Find out the oversubscription criteria for the school you want to apply for and then find out what priority would be given to your application. Oversubscription criteria for all schools and academies can be found online.

If the school you want to apply for is a Catholic school it is likely that they will give priority to children who are baptised Catholic and/or those who live within the parish, and/or attend a Catholic primary school.

It is likely that you will have to provide proof of your child's baptism or church attendance. Check the schools over subscription criteria for more details.

This example uses the admission arrangements for Langley School 2025-26.

Priority 1 - Looked after children and all previously looked after children who are now adopted or subject to a residence order or special guardianship order, including those children 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.

Priority 2 - Children whose exceptional social or medical reasons can only be met at this school

Priority 3 - Children who normally live in the school's catchment area

Priority 4 - Children who have an older brother or sister at the school at the same time

Priority 5 – Children of staff at the school

Priority 6 - Other children, outside catchment, living closest to the school, measured in a straight line from the child's home

Distances are measured by our admissions system. This is the only measurement we will use (measurements taken from other websites, such as Google Maps, will not be valid.)

You can measure your approximate distance online, at **www.solihull.gov.uk/online maps**.

Once you have worked out your priority you can compare it with the priority and distance of the last person offered a place last year. If you have a higher priority, or the same priority and live closer to the school you have a chance of being offered a place. If you have the same priority and live much further away your chance of being offered a place is not good.

Use this example to help:

You want to apply for Langley School	
Question: Is your child in foster care or was prior to being adopted?	Answer: No
Question: Have you been awarded exceptional social or medical grounds?	Answer: No
Question: Do you live in Solihull and in the Langley catchment area?	Answer: No
Question: Will an older brother or sister be attending next September?	Answer: No
Question: Are you a member of school staff?	Answer: No
Question: How far do you live from Langley School?	Answer: 1.48 miles
This means your application will be given priority 6 - distance 1.48 miles	

You should then find out the priority and distance of the last person offered a place in previous years. For September 2025 this was priority 6 - 0.64 miles. This means that your child would not have been offered a place in 2025 because you live too far away. However, this is only a guide and does not mean your application would be unsuccessful every year.

The number of places available for out-of-catchment applicants will vary every year depending on how many applications are made and how many live in the catchment area. This means that the distance of the last person offered a place will also vary, for example, it will not always be 0.64 miles for Langley School.

You can find out the priority and distance of the last child offered a place for the last three years online.

You can still apply for this school and if it is the school, you want the most you should put it first on your application. However, you should also apply for other schools where you have a better chance of getting a place.

How places were offered for children starting in September 2025

This information shows how places had been offered on national offer day, 1 March 2025. Some places were offered from the waiting lists after the offer day. The number of places available for 2025 is shown in brackets next to the school's name.

Alderbrook School (280)

The application of the last person offered a place had sibling priority and lived 3.75 miles from the school. 1454 applications were received for a place at Alderbrook School in 2025.

Arden (300)

The application of the last person offered a place had distance criteria and lived 3.21 miles from the school. 875 applications were received for a place at Arden School in 2025.

Grace Academy (190)

The application of the last person offered a place lived in the catchment area and lived 1.01 miles from the school. 713 applications were received for a place at Grace Academy Solihull in 2025.

Heart of England School (215)

Everyone that applied was offered a place. 457 applications were received for a place at Heart of England School for 2025.

John Henry Newman Catholic College (240)

The application of the last person offered a place was non-Catholic child attending a named feeder school and lived 2.42 miles from the school. 769 applications were received for a place at John Henry Newman Catholic College for 2025.

Langley School (196)

The application of the last person offered a place was had distance criteria and lived 0.64 miles from the school. 950 applications were received for a place at Langley School for 2025.

Light Hall School (190)

The application of the last person offered a place had distance criteria and lived 1.32 miles from the school. 600 applications were received for a place at Light Hall School for 2025.

Lode Heath School (240)

Everyone that applied was offered a place. 688 applications were received for a place at Lode Heath School for 2025.

Lyndon School (240)

The application of the last person offered a place had distance criteria and lived 0.93 miles from the school. There were 770 applications received for a place at Lyndon School in 2025.

Park Hall Academy (240)

The application of the last person offered a place had distance criteria and lived 0.98 miles from the school. There were 600 applications received for Park Hall Academy for 2025.

St Peter's Catholic School (205)

The application of the last person offered a place was a Catholic child not attending a feeder school and lived 3.4 miles from the school. There were 732 applications received for St Peter's Catholic School in 2025.

Smith's Wood Academy (240)

Everyone that applied was offered a place. There were 370 applications received for Smith's Wood Academy for 2025.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst (250)

Everyone that applied was offered a place. There were 415 applications received for Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst for 2025.

Tudor Grange Academy Solihull (280)

The application of the last person offered a place was had distance criteria and lived 0.14 miles from the school. There were 1565 applications received for Tudor Grange Academy Solihull for 2025.

When will I find out which school my child has been offered?

You will find out which school your child has been offered on 2 March 2026.

Your right of appeal

You can appeal if you are unhappy with your offer. You will receive more information with your outcome. The appeals section on our website provides information on how the appeal will be carried out and how the panel make their decision. The threshold for granting an appeal is high. At the point of publication only 2 appeals were upheld for secondary schools for September 2025.

What happens if my application is late?

Applications received after the closing date are late and are processed after those that were received on time. Applying late will affect the offer you can expect to get.

Can I change my application?

If you want to change your application and you are a Solihull resident, you can email us with the details. We will send you an email confirming your changes. You cannot make changes online after you have submitted your application. Any changes we make for you will not be seen online. Your online outcome, on offer day, will show your changes.

If you make changes to your application involving schools outside Solihull the details will be sent to the relevant council to be dealt with by their rules.

No changes can be made to an application after the end of the autumn term in December. At this point the allocation of places will have commenced. Any changes received after this date will be processed after national offer day.

Waiting lists

Your child will be added to the waiting list for any school ranked higher on your application than the school you were offered. Waiting lists will be created after offer day. On national offer day we will give you the date that the waiting lists will be released. You will then be able to contact us to find out your waiting list position. Waiting list positions are held in criteria order. New applications are added to the waiting list according to the criteria assigned and the distance from the school. This means your child can go both up and down on a waiting list.

What happens if I move house?

If you are moving house, you should apply on time to your home council. You can include schools in the new council area on your application form if you wish.

When you have moved into your new home, you will be required to evidence that you have moved into your new home and also that you have left your previous home. Once this has been received, we will update your application and take it over from your home council.

Address changes can only be processed up to the end of the autumn term in December. After this date the allocation of places will have started. Any change of address submitted after this date will be updated after national offer day.

If you move house after your child has been offered a place your application will be reassessed based on your new distance and criteria. If the new distance and criteria mean that you would not have qualified for an offer on national offer day, the place may be withdrawn. The offers we make are conditional on the information remaining the same as on national offer day.

If your child moves into the home of a friend or relative, or you change address temporarily to improve your priority for a school place, we will not use that address. Owning a home in the catchment area but living elsewhere will not qualify as a catchment address. You must be living at the address.

What happens if the information I give is not correct?

The law says that a school place can be withdrawn after a child has started at the school if the place was gained by providing fraudulent or intentionally misleading information. We reserve the right to check the address on the application at any time using a variety of methods or resources.

It is important that the information you provide is accurate and honest. If we find that any information in your application is false and you are not entitled to the place you have been offered, it will be withdrawn.

If you know anyone who is using an incorrect address, you should contact us and we will investigate.

How can I find out more?

Go to our website

www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions

Contact us

School Admissions, Solihull Council, Manor Square, Solihull B91 3QB

✉ admissions@solihull.gov.uk

☎ 0121 704 6693

If you or someone you know needs this document in another format or language contact School Admissions.

Apply online at www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions

You must apply by 31 October 2025

If you live in Solihull you can check catchment areas online. You can measure your distance from home to a Solihull school wherever you live at www.solihull.gov.uk/online maps