

Admission arrangements for Solihull community and voluntary-controlled schools 2022-2023



1. Background

- 1.1 Solihull Council is the admissions authority for Solihull community and voluntary-controlled schools. These admission arrangements, including the oversubscription criteria, explain how places will be offered.
- 1.2 All other academies, schools (including all secondary schools and voluntary aided schools) and the 14-19 university technical college in Solihull are their own admissions authority and responsible for determining their own admission arrangements, including oversubscription criteria. They all take part in the local authority coordinated scheme, subject to their funding agreement, and must comply with the School Admissions Code.

2. Normal points of intake

2.1 14-19 Education

- 2.1.1 A range of educational options is available to children aged between 14 and 19 starting at the beginning of year 10 or year 12. Year 10 applicants should find out from each individual UTC or college how to apply. All Year 12 applicants should go direct to the college or UTC.

2.2 Secondary

- 2.2.1 Children transfer to secondary school in the September after their 11th birthday.
- 2.2.2 All secondary schools in Solihull are responsible for determining their own admission arrangements including the oversubscription criteria which can be viewed on each school's website or the council's website. They all take part in the local authority coordinated scheme.

2.3 Junior

- 2.3.1 Children attending an infant school transfer to junior school in the September after their 7th birthday.

2.4 Reception

- 2.4.1. Children start in a reception class in a primary or an infant school in the September after their 4th birthday.

3. Oversubscription criteria

- 3.1 If a community or voluntary-controlled school receives more on-time applications than there are places available, places will be offered in priority order according to the oversubscription criteria as follows:

3.2 Junior schools

- 3.2.1 **Priority 1** Looked after children and previously looked after children who are now adopted or subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order
- Priority 2** Children whose exceptional social or medical reasons can only be met by that particular school
- Priority 3** Children at the linked infant school
- Priority 4** Children living in the catchment area of the linked infant school(s) and would have a brother or sister at the school or the linked school at the time they start school
- Priority 5** Children living in the catchment area of the linked infant school(s).
- Priority 6** Children living outside the catchment area of the linked infant school(s) and would have a brother or sister at the school or the linked school at the time they start school
- Priority 7** Other children, measured in a straight line from the child's home
- 3.2.2 Children on the roll of an infant school listed below will be guaranteed a place at the specified linked junior school, provided the application is submitted by the published closing date.

Infant schools

Blossomfield Infant*
Burman Infant
Castle Bromwich Infant
Cranmore Infant
Damson Wood Infant
Marston Green Infant
Streetsbrook Infant
Woodlands Infant

Linked junior schools

Shirley Heath Junior or Sharmans Cross Junior
Haslucks Green Junior
Castle Bromwich Junior
Widney Junior
Coppice Junior
Marston Green Junior
Sharmans Cross Junior
Shirley Heath Junior

- 3.2.3 *Blossomfield Infant & Nursery School has a joint link to both Sharmans Cross Junior School and Shirley Heath Junior School. Parents are guaranteed a place at one of the schools. If there are more applications for Sharmans Cross Junior School or Shirley Heath Junior School than places available, priority will be given to children attending Streetsbrook Infant School and Woodlands Infant School respectively.

3.3 Infant and primary schools

- 3.3.1 **Priority 1** Looked after children and previously looked after children who are now adopted or subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order
- Priority 2** Children whose exceptional social or medical reasons can only be met by that particular school
- Priority 3** Children who normally live in the catchment area of the school and who would have a brother or sister at the school or the linked school at the time they start school
- Priority 4** Children who normally live in the catchment area of the school
- Priority 5** Children who would have a brother or sister at the school or the linked school at the time they start school
- Priority 6** Other children, measured in a straight line from the child's home

3.3.2 In September 2001 it became a legal requirement that all children in infant classes are taught in groups of no more than 30 with one qualified teacher. Children living within a school's catchment area will receive a higher priority for a place than children living outside the catchment area. However, a guarantee of a place cannot be given because to do so may breach infant class size legislation.

3.3.3 Children offered a reception place at a school are entitled to a full-time place in the September after their 4th birthday. Parents can defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made; and where parents wish, their child may attend part-time until late in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

4. Section 4 is relevant to all applications:

4.1 Catchment area maps can be viewed online at www.solihull.gov.uk/onlinemaps.

4.2 Definition of a brother or sister

A brother or sister must live at the same address and could be:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- a half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one parent;
- a stepbrother or stepsister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage or civil partnership;
- the separate children of couples who live together; or
- an adopted or fostered brother or sister.

Priority is not given if the brother or sister attends the nursery unit as this is non-statutory education.

4.3 If possible, places will be offered at the same school to twins, triplets and children from other multiple births, as long as we comply with infant class size legislation.

4.4 Distances are measured in a straight line from home to school by our admissions system. The admissions system uses six-figure grid references provided by the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). The grid references provide a unique point on each property.

4.6 If two or more applications in the same priority have the same distance, but only one place can be offered, a computerised random allocation system will be used to decide which applicant has the highest priority.

4.7 Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child (born between 1 April and 31 August) may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group.

Requests should be made to Solihull Council and may be supported by professional evidence such as a speech and language therapist or it may simply be the parent's

statement as to why they are making their request. The following is the process to be followed when applying for a reception, junior or secondary intake place:

- apply for a place for the child's normal age group at the usual time
- parents submit their request to school admissions for admission out of the normal age group at the same time and by the closing date
- request and evidence will be considered by Solihull Council taking into consideration the views of the head teacher
- a response to the request will be sent before national offer day
- if the request is agreed parents should withdraw their application for the normal age group and make a new application as part of the main admissions round the following year, or proceed with their application for the normal age group and start in September
- if the request is refused the application will proceed in the normal age group or the parent can make an in-year application for admission to year 1 for the September following the child's fifth birthday
- There is no right of appeal against the decision to decline the request. Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

5. Application procedure for the normal intake

- 5.1 Parents will have the opportunity to express a minimum of three preferences, rank them in order and give a reason for that preference.
- 5.2 A Primary Education and Secondary Education booklet is available for parents and comprehensive information is published on the Council's website.
- 5.3 Applications should be submitted by the published closing date.
- 5.4 Applications with exceptional social or medical grounds must be supported by independent professional evidence. The Advisory Group for Admissions will consider applications and evidence and make recommendations to Cabinet Portfolio Holder, who will grant priority 2 to applications deemed to have exceptional social or medical reasons.
- 5.5 All children whose education, health and care plan names a school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places at that school. The StART Team process these applications.
- 5.6 The home address is the place where the child is permanently resident with his or her parents. If care is shared between two parents, parents will need to provide a copy of the court order defining the arrangement. In the absence of a court order, we will use the address of the parent who is in receipt of the child benefit. Parents will need to send a copy of your child benefit award for the last two years.
- 5.7 All applications are subject to address checks.
- 5.8 All offers of school places, for children resident in Solihull who applied by the closing date, will be made by us on the published offer date.

- 5.9 We will tell parents which school can be offered. If a place cannot be offered a reason for refusal will be given. Parents will have the right of appeal.
- 5.10 Any preference ranked lower than the school offered will be withdrawn.
- 5.11 Parents are asked to accept or decline the offer within two weeks.
- 5.12 The places that are offered are provisional and are dependent upon the circumstances of the application remaining unchanged until the child has started the school. It is important that parents provide us with any information relating to changes in circumstances, as soon as they occur. If a house move or fraudulent information means that the child is no longer entitled to the place it will be withdrawn.

6. Late applications and changes to applications for normal intake

- 6.1 Applications, received after the closing date, are late and will be processed after the offer day.
- 6.2 Changes to on-time applications received before the allocation will be considered if possible. Changes received after the allocation will be processed after offer day.

7. Application procedure for in-year admission (admission at any time other than the normal intake)

- 7.1 An in-year admission is at any time other than the normal point of intake.
- 7.2 Parents will have the opportunity to express up to three preferences, rank them in order and give a reason for that preference.
- 7.3 A leaflet is available for parents and comprehensive information is published on the Council's website.
- 7.4 Applications with exceptional social or medical grounds must be supported by independent professional evidence. Cabinet Portfolio Holder will consider applications and evidence and grant priority 2 to applications with exceptional social or medical reasons.
- 7.5 All applications are subject to address checks.
- 7.6 Parents will receive an outcome to their application. If a place can be offered the child is expected to start within 6 school weeks. If a place cannot be offered at a preferred school parents will be given a reason for refusal and offered the right of appeal.
- 7.7 If a place cannot be offered at a preferred school applications will be prioritised for the waiting list using the oversubscription criteria for the normal intake to that school.

8. Waiting lists for normal intake and in-year admissions

- 8.1 Parents can request that their child's name be added to the waiting list for any Solihull school that is ranked higher than the school that has been offered.
- 8.1 Waiting lists are made in strict priority order against the published admission criteria for the school.

- 8.2 If a vacancy arises in a school, the place will be offered to the child with the highest priority.
- 8.3 Applicants will be put on the waiting list for the remainder of the half a term. Parents must contact School Admissions during the week before every school holiday if they want their child's name to stay on the waiting list. Those who do not make contact will be removed from the list.

9. Post-16 provision

- 9.1 The following schools in Solihull have post-16 provision. Each school is required to publish the minimum entry requirements for entry into Year 12:

Alderbrook School	Park Hall Academy
Arden	St Peter's Catholic School
Grace Academy	Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst
John Henry Newman Catholic College	Tudor Grange Academy Solihull
Heart of England School	WMG Academy Solihull

Published admission numbers for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2022-2023

School	Reception	Year 3
Blossomfield Infant and Nursery	90	
Burman Infant	60	
Castle Bromwich Infant	120	
Castle Bromwich Junior		120
Cheswick Green Primary	30	
Coleshill Heath	90	
Coppice Junior		60
Cranmore Infant	60	
Dickens Heath Community Primary	60	
Dorridge Primary	90	
Fordbridge Community Primary	60	
Greswold Primary	90	
Haslucks Green		60
Kineton Green Primary	30	
Kingshurst Primary	90	
Langley Primary	60	
Marston Green Junior		90
Meriden CE Primary	30	
Mill Lodge Primary	30	
Monkspath Junior and Infant	90	
Oak Cottage Primary	30	
Olton Primary	90	
Peterbrook Primary	60	
Sharmans Cross Junior		90
Shirley Heath Junior		120
Tidbury Green	60	
Valley Primary	90	
Widney Junior		66
Windy Arbor Primary	60	
Woodlands Infant	60	
Yorkswold Primary	60	

Qualifying scheme for admission to school at the normal point of intake 2022-2023

1. The purpose of the qualifying scheme is to establish a mechanism for ensuring that, so far as reasonably practicable, every parent of a child living in the area who has applied for a school place is sent an offer of one, and only one, school place.
2. Parents of children who are normally resident in Solihull will be able to apply online.
3. Parents can apply for any type of maintained school in Solihull or in another council area.
4. Applications must be submitted to Solihull by the published closing date.
5. We will send details of preferences for schools outside Solihull to the LA in which that school is situated, and pass on any relevant supporting information.
6. Neighbouring LAs will inform Solihull of preferences made by their residents for schools situated in Solihull.
7. We will inform Solihull schools, who are their own admission authority, of any preference made for their school, and pass on any relevant supporting information.
8. The admission authority for each school will consider the preferences for their school. If there are more applications than places available the preferences will be considered against the published oversubscription criteria. The list of preferences will be put into priority order and returned to us.
9. We will notify a child's home LA if a place can be offered at a Solihull school. The applicant's home LA will apply its own qualifying scheme to determine whether to offer the Solihull school place or a place within its own area.
10. Other LAs will notify us if a place can be offered to a Solihull applicant, at a school in their area.
11. With a system of equal preferences it is possible that more than one school may be allocated. In this event, a place will be offered at the highest ranked school which could be allocated.
12. We will notify own admission authority schools of children who qualify for a place at their school.
13. If none of the preferences listed by a Solihull applicant can be offered we will offer a place at the nearest school with a vacancy after all other offers have been made.
14. All offers of school places, to Solihull applicants, will be made by us. If the school is its own admissions authority the place is offered on behalf of the governing body.
15. Late applications for schools which are their own admissions authority or for schools outside Solihull will be passed to the admission authority or LA for them to consider.
16. Waiting lists will be maintained by Solihull Council. If a vacancy arises in a school the place will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list by Solihull Council.
17. Coordination with other LAs will continue until 31 August.

Timetable for admissions intake process for 2022-2023				
Round:	14-19	Secondary	Junior	Reception
Birth range	01/09/07-31/08/08	01/09/10-31/08/11	01/09/14-31/08/15	01/09/17-31/08/18
Number of preference	3	6	5	5
Closing date	31 Oct 2021	31 Oct 2021	15 Jan 2022	15 Jan 2022
Advisory Panel for School Admissions	N/A	Jan/Feb 2022	Jan/Feb 2022	Jan/Feb 2022
ADT exchange with other LAs Week commencing:	8 Nov 2021	8 Nov 2021	24 Jan 2022	24 Jan 2022
Ranked preferences returned to LA	17 Dec 2021	17 Dec 2021	28 Feb 2022	28 Feb 2022
ALT exchange with other LAs Week commencing:	3 Jan 2022 17 Jan 2022 24 Jan 2022 Final by 11 Feb 2022	3 Jan 2022 17 Jan 2022 24 Jan 2022 Final by 11 Feb 2022	7 Mar 2022 21 Mar 2022 Final by 31 Mar 2022	7 Mar 2022 21 Mar 2022 Final by 31 Mar 2022
Offer day	1 Mar 2022	1 Mar 2022	18 Apr 2022	18 Apr 2022

Coordinated scheme for in-year admission to Solihull schools 2022-2023

1. The purpose of the coordinated scheme is to establish mechanism to coordinate applications for school places at any time other than the normal intake, ensuring, so far as reasonably practicable, that parents can make an application for a Solihull school through a single point of contact.
2. Application forms are available to parents who wish to apply for a place in a Solihull school.
3. Parents wishing to apply for a school outside Solihull must apply direct to that school or local authority.
4. Completed applications for Solihull schools must be returned to Solihull School Admissions.
5. Preferences made for Solihull schools not partaking in this coordinated scheme will be passed to that school. Preferences for schools outside Solihull will be returned to the applicant.
6. The admission authority for each school will consider the preferences for their school. They will let us know if a place can be offered or, if a place cannot be offered they will give a reason for refusal and provide the oversubscription criteria so that the applicant can be placed on the waiting list. A response is expected within five school days or ten school days for the most complex cases, in line with DfE guidance.
7. With a system of equal preferences it is possible that more than one school may be allocated. In this event, the ranking stated by the parent on the application form will be used to determine which single offer will be made and schools concerned will be notified.
8. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the application.
9. Offers of school places will be made by Solihull Council. If the school is its own admissions authority the place is offered on behalf of the governing body.
10. Waiting lists can be maintained by Solihull Council. If a vacancy arises in a school the place will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list by Solihull Council in consultation with the admission authority for the school.