

Reminder: Deadline for September 2024 primary school applications



This is a reminder that the deadline for September 2024 primary school place applications is on Monday 15 January. Please share the below information with families who have children in year 2, due to move to junior school next year.

This information also applies to parents with children due to start school in Year R in September 2024.

Parents and carers with children due to move to Year 3 at a junior school in September 2024 should apply for their child's school place by Monday 15 January 2024. This deadline also applies for parents with children due to start school in Year R in September 2024.

Applications can be submitted online.

Please follow the below guidance when submitting your application:

- Name three preferences to give yourself the best chance of being allocated a preferred school choice.
- Use the County Council's <u>school catchment area finder</u> to check the catchment school for your address.
- Name your catchment school as one of your preferences if you intend to apply for help with transport to school.
- It is helpful to read the schools' admissions policies and look at previous years' admissions data. This will give an indication of how many places schools can allocate and the criteria that will be used to allocate places.

Where three schools are named on applications, very few children are not offered a place at one of these preferences. However, where it is not possible to offer a

place at any of the schools named, the Local Authority will offer a place at the catchment school (if places remain) or the nearest school (measured by straight line) with a place available. Assistance with transport may be available, where the eligibility criteria is met. Parents need to name their child's catchment school as one of their preferences if they intend to apply for travel assistance.

In the circumstances where a refusal letter is issued for a school, children will be added to the waiting list. Often spaces become available via the waiting list because families move home or decide on a different school. Any parent who is unhappy with the place that has been allocated for their child can appeal against the decision.

Parents can log back into the system to amend their applications at any time before the closing date on 15 January 2024. Applications must be resubmitted after making any changes.

This academic year, the County Council has introduced several library drop-in sessions for parents who would like some additional guidance. Those who require support with their applications are encouraged to attend one of the following remaining sessions below:

- Tuesday 9 January Havant Library, 9.30am-3.30pm The Meridian Centre, Elm Lane, Havant, PO9 1UN
- Wednesday 10 January, 9.30am-3.30pm Andover Library, Chantry Centre,
 53 Chantry Street, Andover, SP10 1LT
- Thursday 11 January, 9.30am-3.30pm Farnborough Library, Pinehurst, Farnborough, GU14 7JZ

There is no requirement to book ahead on any of the sessions; parents can simply turn up and School Admissions Team staff will be available to support.

The County Council has also created two videos demonstrating how to <u>create an account on the Education Portal</u>, and <u>how to apply for a school place using the Education Portal</u>.

Parents who apply on time will be notified of the outcome of their application on 16 April 2024.

For more online guidance, parents should visit the County Council's website.