TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL 2026
A guide for parents

Introduction

Transferring from primary to secondary school is an important step. The Local Authority wants to help parents by giving them clear information about the transfer process and about Barnet schools. All secondary schools in Barnet have open evenings and we encourage parents to visit as many schools as possible to take a closer look at the school, meet the staff and ask questions in order to help them make up their minds about which schools they prefer. Detailed information about the school, including key admissions information, admissions criteria and appeals information will be available on the individual school's website. It is very important that you read the admissions criteria for each school so that you have a good idea of your chances of being offered a place.

You will receive further information from your child's primary school in September when the online application system opens. Barnet's website will also be updated for the 2026 intake in September and you will be able to download a copy of the 2026 secondary transfer booklet from the website.

How do I apply for a school place?

- All London boroughs work together to coordinate the secondary transfer process. This means that you will complete ONE online application, even if you are applying for schools outside the borough where you live. You must complete and submit your application at www.eadmissions.org.uk, which will then be forwarded to the local authority where you live.
- You will also be asked to provide proof of your address.
- As well as completing an online application, all voluntary aided (faith) schools and some foundation schools, free schools and academies will also ask you to fill in a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and/or a Certificate of Religious Practice[1] (CRP) to provide additional information such as a priest's reference or information needed in order to arrange aptitude tests. These forms, including applications to take tests at selective schools, will be available at the schools.
- You can apply for up to **six** schools and rank them in order of preference.
- The closing date for applications is **Friday 31 October 2025**.
- You should be given the results of selection tests **before** 31 October 2025, where applicable.

[1] Jewish schools only

What happens next?

- We will let other local authorities know about any applications you have made for schools in their area.
- The admission authority for each of your preference schools is responsible for ranking your application against their published admission criteria.
- All your preferences will be ranked separately using each school's admissions criteria and this will determine your child's position on the ranked lists for the individual schools.
- Your ranking order is not passed to the schools.
- The rankings for each of your preferences will be passed back to your home local authority.
- If your child is eligible for more than one school offer, we will refer to the order in which you ranked the schools on your application and use this to make the highest eligible offer.
- School preferences you ranked lower than the one you have been offered will be automatically withdrawn at this stage.
- The lower school preferences that could have been offered to your child will be released and offered to other applicants, so it is very important that you rank schools in the order that you prefer them. You can change your preference order on your application as many times as you wish, until the deadline 31 October 2025.
- The process is the same whether you live in Barnet, or any other borough.

When will I get the result of my application?

- National Offer Day is **Monday 2 March 2026**.
- You will be sent an email with the result of your online application in the **evening of 2nd March.**
- You can then login into your eAdmissions account for further information.
- You must accept or decline your offer by **Monday 16 March 2026.**
- If you are offered a school that is not your first preference, your child's name will be kept on the waiting list(s) for a higher ranked school(s) and a place could be offered later in the process should this become possible.

What happens if I'm not offered a place at any of the schools I selected?

- Your child will be allocated a place at the nearest eligible school with a vacancy.
- Your child will automatically be placed on the waiting lists for your schools of preference.
- You will have the right of appeal against the refusal of your child's admission to your preferred school(s).
- You can add your child's name to the waiting lists for other schools.

Please note

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you will follow a different process and any queries you have about your child's transfer to secondary school should be addressed to the SEND Team. For more information visit www.barnetlocaloffer.org.uk/.

If you have any queries about the process that your child's primary school is unable to answer, please contact your home local authority. If you live in Barnet, you can visit our website or contact the School Admissions Team Customer Service line: **020 8359 7651**.