

Starting secondary/upper school in September 2020

It is VERY important that you read a [guide for parents and carers \(PDF, 8.8MB\)](#) booklet which gives you all the information you need about the application and allocation process.

Research the schools that you are interested in applying to

- Visit schools you are interested in, most have open days you can go to (check the schools website for details).
- Find your [catchment area school \(PDF, 8.8MB\)](#). There is no guarantee that your child will be offered a place at your local school. This will depend on how many applications are received for the places available.
- Understand the admissions criteria for your preferred schools (read section D of the [guide for parents and carers \(PDF, 8.8MB\)](#) or visit the schools website for details). This information should give you an indication of how likely your child is to be offered a place, especially for those schools that are oversubscribed.
- Read the schools [Ofsted](#) reports, or visit school websites for information
- Check the [school league tables](#)

Choosing school preferences

Once you have done your research you are ready to decide your preferred schools. There is no right to a particular school place. You can state **four** preferences for schools on your application.

The school preferences you make are treated equally. This means that no matter where you place a school in your list of preferences, it will be treated the same way as all other applicants who also chose that school, regardless of where they have placed the school in their list.

Applying for a school place

Applications are made online via the [Citizen Portal](#) and need to be completed by midnight on **31 October 2019**. Important things to remember when applying:
