



Secondary Transfer Meeting

Welcome Year 5 Parents!

Purpose of this Presentation

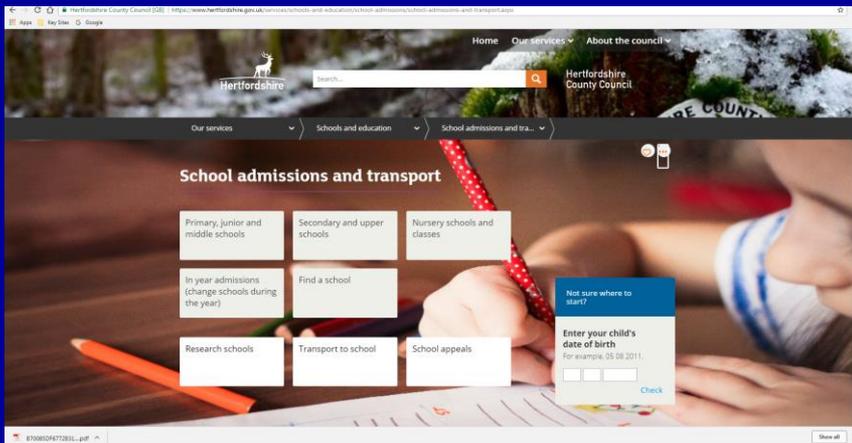
- To explain how the secondary transfer process works and how to apply
- To provide a timeline of what you need to do
- To explain how the aptitude test and musical aptitude tests take place
- To give you a brief overview of local schools that you may be thinking of applying to
- To direct you to where you can find more information

How the System Works

- School admissions are coordinated by local authorities to ensure that children across the country are offered a single school place on the same day.
- All applications are considered at the same time. Admission rules are applied equally, regardless of how you ordered (ranked) the schools on your form.
- Your order of preference (rank) is used if it's possible to offer your child a place at more than one of your preferred schools. If this is the case, you will be offered a place at the highest ranked school possible.
- The allocation process is automated for all community schools. Officers aren't involved and don't influence decisions. The only exceptions are when deciding whether a child qualifies for a place under medical or social needs or when allocating a school not ranked on your application form.
- Schools and academies responsible for their own admissions provide County with a list of pupils they will offer places to. Secondary schools get a list of every application made for their school, but they don't see your order of preference.
- The Admissions Team offer all places on behalf of schools in Hertfordshire.

How to apply

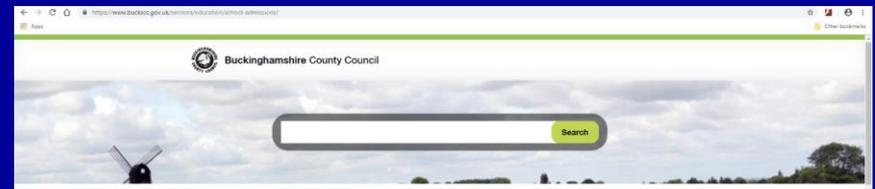
- If you live in Hertfordshire, you apply to via Hertfordshire County Council even if you're applying for a school outside of the county.
- If you live outside Hertfordshire, you must apply to your own council even if you're applying for Hertfordshire schools.
- You should apply online via your county's website.



<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/school-admissions-and-transport.aspx>



<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions>
<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/school-admissions/>



How to apply

- Decide upon up to four schools (six if you live in Buckinghamshire or Hillingdon) you want to apply for in order of preference. You can put down schools in and outside of Hertfordshire.
- Be realistic about your chances of getting a particular school. You can list up to four schools in order of preference.
- If you only apply to only one school, your child can only be considered for that school. We strongly recommend that you apply for as many schools as you can.
- Read the admission rules for the schools that you are interested in to ensure your chosen schools are realistic. (Most academies and voluntary aided or foundation schools have their own rules which are available on their websites.)
- Check whether the schools require additional information on an extra form (sometimes called a Supplementary Information Form) and make sure it is returned to the school on time.

Applying on-line

- Apply at: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/school-admissions-and-transport.aspx> or <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions> or <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/school-admissions>
- Applications open at the beginning of September and close on Thursday 31st October 2019, but we strongly recommend that you apply sooner in case you experience any problems
- If you leave your application to the end of October and encounter problems, we will be unable to help as we shall be closed for half term
- You can change your application/decisions right up until the deadline for applications on Thursday 31st October 2019
- You need to rank four schools
- In addition, contact Voluntary-Aided and Foundation schools (e.g. Rickmansworth, St. Clement Danes, St Joan of Arc) directly for any additional application packs/forms
- You can apply on-line anywhere e.g. local library

Important Notes

- Secondary schools get a list of every application made for their school, but they don't see your order of preference.
- They apply their own admission rules to applications and allocate places.
- In 2018/2019, 772 Hertfordshire children were allocated secondary schools they didn't rank. Of those, 83 parents only listed one school and 71% didn't list their nearest school.
- 95% of Hertfordshire children were offered 1 of their 4 school preferences in 2017/2018
- 79% got their 1st preference in 2017/2018

Application Timetable

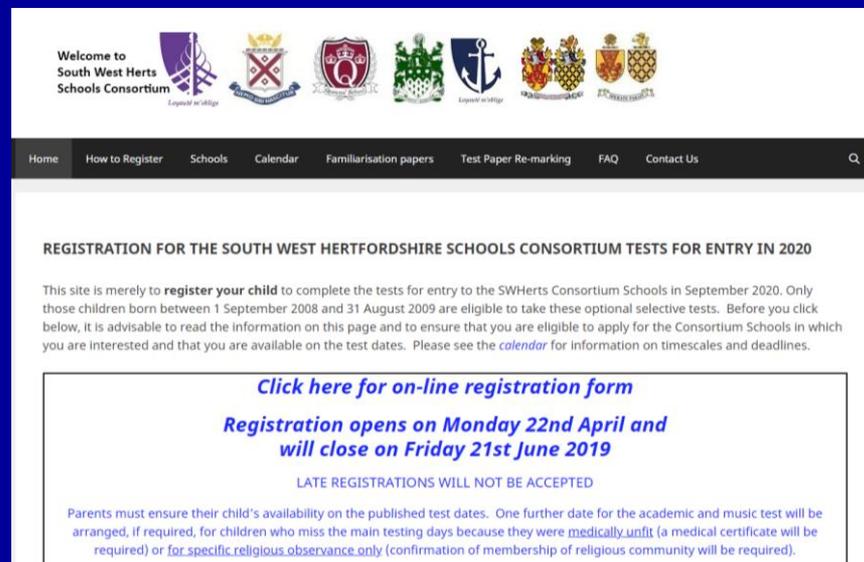
- **Online Application:** from first week of September 2019 onwards
- **Application Deadline Date:** Apply online by Thursday 31st October 2019
- **National Allocation Day:** Allocation emails will be sent on Sunday 1st March 2020 and the online allocation system will be available once all emails have been sent
- Notification letters will be posted first class to parents on Sunday 1st March 2020
- **Accept school place by:** Sunday 15th March 2020. Online applicants should accept the place online
- **Appeal form:** The last date to register an appeal is to be confirmed. Individual schools will send appropriate information
- **Appeals:** Appeals are usually heard April - June

Academic and Music Ability

- The School Admissions Code (Feb 2012) requires schools that use aptitude and academic tests as part of their admission arrangements to inform parents of the outcome of these tests before the secondary transfer application deadline. This is to ensure parents are able to make an informed choice of school
- You will need to enter your child to take the relevant test(s)
- Applications should be made at www.swhertsschools.org.uk from Monday 22nd April 2019 – Friday 21st June 2019. Once you register you must regularly log on to the secure web page to view the initial registration for the tests, the allocation of the test centre for the tests you wish your child to take, and the allocation of music audition times (if your child is successful in Music Stage 1)
- The test results will be published on Wednesday 16th October around midday. Results of tests will be available on the site. Please see www.swhertsschools.org.uk for information on timescales and deadlines. Please remember that it is your responsibility, as a parent, to log on to the secure website to view the information at the appropriate times throughout the testing process
- The schools in the consortium are:
- Rickmansworth, St Clement Danes, Parmiter's, Queens, Watford Grammar School for Boys, Watford Grammar School for Girls, Croxley Danes

Aptitude Test Timetable

- **Test Registration:** Open Monday 22nd April 2019 to Friday 21st June 2019
- **Test Venue Notification:** Wednesday 3rd July 2019
- **Academic Test:** Saturday 7th September 2019
- **Musical Aptitude Test:** Monday 9th September 2019
- **Second Round Music Tests:** w/c Monday 23rd September 2019
- **Test Scores Notification:** Wednesday 16th October 2019



Welcome to South West Herts Schools Consortium

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REGISTRATION FOR THE SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM TESTS FOR ENTRY IN 2020

This site is merely to **register your child** to complete the tests for entry to the SWHerts Consortium Schools in September 2020. Only those children born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 are eligible to take these optional selective tests. Before you click below, it is advisable to read the information on this page and to ensure that you are eligible to apply for the Consortium Schools in which you are interested and that you are available on the test dates. Please see the [calendar](#) for information on timescales and deadlines.

[Click here for on-line registration form](#)

Registration opens on Monday 22nd April and will close on Friday 21st June 2019

LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Parents must ensure their child's availability on the published test dates. One further date for the academic and music test will be arranged, if required, for children who miss the main testing days because they were **medically unfit** (a medical certificate will be required) or **for specific religious observance only** (confirmation of membership of religious community will be required).

<http://www.swhertsschools.org.uk/>

Academic Ability

- Academic ability will be determined by a test and places awarded in merit order
- You will need to enter your child to take the test
- Children sit an academic ability test (Saturday 7th September 2019)
- Scores are notified to parents on Wednesday 16th October 2019, two weeks prior to secondary applications closing
- This allows you to make a more informed choice of school

Academic Ability

- There are two tests, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning that will take approximately 45 minutes to one hour each with a short break in between the tests.
- Your child will sit the test at one of the schools in the Consortium. Parents will be informed of the test venue on Wednesday 3rd July 2019.
- The venue of the test centre is, where possible, based on the geographical location of your child's primary school and has nothing to do with school preference. The venue cannot be changed. Each test session is carefully planned in terms of numbers.
- Parents must leave the test centre once they have registered the children and return to collect them afterwards at the time given by the centre. Please provide your child with two pencils and a rubber. Any refreshment for the break should be neatly packed.

Music Ability

- Music ability will be determined by a test and places awarded in merit order:
- You will need to enter your child to take the test
- Children attend a music test (Monday 9th September 2019). This is a multiple choice aural test. Those children scoring well enough in this test will then be called back
- The only equipment required will be a pencil and an eraser. The test will consist of 60 questions of four types: Pitch, Melody, Rhythm and Texture.
- Pitch: For these questions candidates listen to two sounds and have to indicate whether the second sound is the same as the first, or whether it is higher or lower.
- Melody: For these questions candidates listen to two tunes consisting of five notes. Candidates have to decide whether the second tune is the same as the first or if one of the notes has been altered.
- Rhythm: For these questions candidates listen to two patterns of notes and have to decide whether the second pattern is the same as, or different from, the first and where any difference occurs.
- Texture: For these questions candidates listen to a number of notes played together at the same time. Candidates need to decide whether or not each chord has 2, 3 or 4 notes.

Music Ability

- A limited number of applicants will be invited back to perform a single piece on their chosen instrument or vocally. This will be a free choice of piece, which should last no longer than three minutes. As there is a free choice of instrument and piece, it will give candidates of all abilities and all cultures equal opportunity to succeed.
- Those applicants invited back will be given an individual appointment during the school day, w/c Monday 23rd September 2019.
- All parents must log on to the registration site to view the results of Stage 1 of the music test.
- The marks will be posted shortly after completion of the first music test and before the Music Audition week commences. Parents must check the secure website for information throughout the testing process.

Open Evenings

- **Croxley Danes:** Tuesday 24th September 2019
- **Harefield Academy:** to be confirmed
- **Rickmansworth School:** Thursday 26th September 2019
- **St Clement Danes School:** Saturday 28th September 2019
- **St Joan of Arc School:** to be confirmed
- **The Reach Free School:** to be confirmed
- **Watford Grammar School for Boys:** Saturday 5th October 2019
- **Watford Grammar School for Girls:** Thursday 10th October 2019
- **Westfield Academy:** to be confirmed

Criteria

Criteria applied by schools include:

- Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Looked after Children
- Siblings
- Distance
- Other criteria listed under the individual school pages

Croxley Danes School

- Website: www.croxleydanes.org.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/4025
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: Tuesday 24th September 2019, 6:00pm and 8:00pm (venue to be confirmed)
- Criteria:
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children with musical aptitude
 - Most places will be awarded to children by distance measured in a straight line from the site at Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green to the pupil's front door using Hertfordshire County Council's 'straight line' measurement system
- During 2017 - 2018, Croxley Danes School occupied temporary accommodation at Clement Danes School
- Currently, Croxley Danes School are temporarily occupying a building in Tolpits Lane that was vacated by The Reach Free School
- The proposed permanent location with effect from September 2019 is at the bottom of Baldwins Lane in Croxley Green

Harefield Academy

- Website: www.theharefieldacademy.org
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 312/6906
- SIF Required: No
- Open evening: to be confirmed
- Criteria:
 - Places will be awarded to children by distance measured in a straight line from the Academy to the pupil's home

The Reach Free School

- Website: www.reachfreeschool.co.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/4007
- SIF Required: No
- Open evening: to be confirmed
- Criteria:
 - Places will be allocated on the basis of proximity to the school. The distance from the school to the applicant's home address is calculated using a straight line distance measurement.
- Opened in September 2013 to meet the needs of the children of Mill End, Maple Cross and Rickmansworth

Rickmansworth School

- Website: www.rickmansworth.herts.sch.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/5400
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: Thursday 26th September 2019, 5:30pm to 9:00pm
- Criteria:
 - 10% distance
 - Siblings
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children with musical aptitude
 - Up to 25% places awarded to children by reference to academic ability in descending order of merit
 - Only 2 places under musical and academic ability will be available to children outside the priority catchment area
 - Distance

St Clement Danes School

- Website: www.stclementdanes.org.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/5421
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: Saturday 28th September 2019, 9:00am to 12:00pm
- Criteria:
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children with musical aptitude
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children by reference to academic ability in descending order of merit
 - Distance within WD3
 - Distance outside WD3

St Joan of Arc Catholic School

- Website: www.joa.herts.sch.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/5418
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: October (to be confirmed)
- Criteria:
 - Children from practising Catholic families
 - Siblings
 - Children of other Christian denominations
 - Other Applicants

Watford Grammar School for Boys

- Website: www.stclementdanes.org.uk
- School Type: Secondary Boys
- DfE number: 919/5401
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: Saturday 5th October 2019, 9:00am to 12:00pm
- Criteria:
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children with musical aptitude
 - Up to 25% places awarded to children by reference to academic ability in descending order of merit
 - 10% Distance (Catchment area)
 - Siblings
 - Sister at Girls
 - Distance (Catchment area first)

Watford Grammar School for Girls

- Website: www.watfordgrammarschoolforgirls.org.uk
- School Type: Secondary Female
- DfE number: 919/5403
- SIF Required: Yes
- Open evening: Thursday 10th October 2019, 6:00pm to 9:00pm
- Criteria:
 - Up to 10% places awarded to children with musical aptitude
 - Up to 25% places awarded to children by reference to academic ability in descending order of merit
 - 10% Distance (Catchment area)
 - Siblings
 - Brother at Boys
 - Distance (Catchment area first)

Westfield Academy

- Website: www.westfield.herts.sch.uk
- School Type: Secondary Mixed
- DfE number: 919/4111
- SIF Required: No
- Open evening: to be confirmed
- Criteria:
 - Siblings
 - Distance

Offers

- If your child is not offered a place at any of your preferred schools and you live in Hertfordshire, you will usually be allocated a place at the nearest suitable school to your home address with places still available. This might not be a school in Hertfordshire.

Appeals

- You are automatically registered on the continuing interest lists for any schools in Hertfordshire ranked higher than the allocated school in Hertfordshire. For schools outside of Hertfordshire, you must check with them direct whether you've been automatically added to their continuing list
- If you don't accept or decline, your place may be offered to someone else. You will then be offered a place at the nearest school that still has places
- We advise you to accept the place offered so your child definitely has a school in September. This doesn't affect your chances of getting a school you prefer later, either through the continuing interest process, or through appeal
- If unsuccessful with your choices, the date by which your appeal must be received for Community Schools is to be confirmed
- Academies will write directly to you explaining what to do next
- Appeals to Academies are made directly to the school concerned
- Parents can ask for academic test ranking
- Parents can ask for their child's position on continuing interest list

More Information

- Admissions on County Website (www.hertfordshire.gov.uk)
- Individual Schools' Websites
- Schools' Admissions departments

Questions

Please feel free to ask any
questions