

Working Together for Wirral's Children



PRIMARY SCHOOLS ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

2020



Children & Young People's Department

TIMETABLE

SEPTEMBER

Online application system goes live
Preference forms and booklets available
from primary schools

15th January 2020

Deadline for preference forms and online
applications

Please send paper forms **directly to the
Council**, not via a school. You will get a
postcard acknowledging receipt within 15
days.

24th March 2020

Councils share data on offers

16th April 2020

Offer emails sent (online applicants) or
letters posted out (paper form applicants)

Finding out when to apply

- **Nursery Providers, playgroups and primary schools will hand out leaflets**
- **Libraries, clinics, supermarkets, post offices and one stop shops have posters and leaflets**
- **You can apply online at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

The online system works with phones and tablets as well as computers and laptops

- **If you don't have internet access, make an appointment to pick up preference form and booklet at any One Stop Shop or call 0151 606 2020 to have one posted to you**

Who needs to apply?

- Parents of all children born between **1st September 2015** and **31st August 2016** must apply for a place in Foundation 2 in 2020 before 15th January 2020.
- If you have **older children** at the primary school, you must still fill in an application.
- If you are attending a **school nursery**, you must still fill in an application. Bear in mind that attending a school nursery does not guarantee a place in that school if there are more parents whose applications are ranked higher than yours.
- We always recommend putting your **zone school** down as one of your three preferences.

WHAT ARE THE ADMISSION CRITERIA?

The general admission criteria for primary schools (some are slightly different*) are:

- **Children in care or previously in care; then**
- **In Zone children with siblings at the school**
- **In Zone children with medical reasons**
- **In Zone children in order of distance; then**
- **Out of Zone children with siblings at the school**
- **Out of Zone children with medical reasons**
- **Out of Zone children in order of distance; then**
- **Late applications in same order (only if places are still available)**

*There is a booklet with all the school admission policies available on-line at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions or on request from 0151 606 2020

Important to apply on-time

- Your online or paper application must be received by the LA by **15th January 2020** to be considered as on-time.
- Applications received after 15th January are LATE and are considered only after all the on-time applications have been dealt with.
- To have the best possible chance of getting a place at one of the schools you have requested, you must apply on-time.
- Many appeals are made by parents who applied late. Please apply on-time!

ORDER OF PREFERENCES

Primary schools are not sent the actual preference forms.

They are sent information about the children who have given their school as a preference:

Name, address, date of birth, current school, siblings and baptism information (if relevant)

Schools are not told in what order their school has been put down as a preference by the parent.

The official offer of a place can ONLY come from the Council.

CO-ORDINATION

If you live in Wirral but want a school place in another Council area (local authority) you must apply on the Wirral online system or preference form.

Parents who don't live in Wirral, but want to apply for a Wirral school, must apply on the online system or form issued by their home local authority.

There will be a single offer of a primary school place.

Parents will be informed of their outcome of their applications by their home local authority, not by the local authority where the school is located.

Allocation Day – 16th April 2020

- **On-line applicants will be sent an email on this day**
- **For paper applications, the offer letter will be sent by 2nd class post on this day**
- **The offer will be the highest preference that can be allocated**
- **Each Council sends an offer to their own residents on behalf of the Council or admission authority that can offer a place**
- **Parents can appeal for a different school**

APPLYING ONLINE

- Go to www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Why apply on-line?

- It is quick and easy
- You can apply from home 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There is no risk your application will be lost in the post
- You will receive an email confirming receipt that your application has been submitted and received
- The system is secure and has a series of security features that will prevent others from seeing your information
- You will receive your child's allocated place by e-mail on offer day

For more information

- Go online to

www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions