

Starting primary school

September 2026

For Hillingdon residents only

Apply online, apply in time at

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/
schooladmissions](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Closing date for applications is
15 January 2026



HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions

This leaflet explains how to apply for a primary school place for

**children born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022**

If your child already has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you are not required to complete an application. You will follow a different admissions process with your allocated SEND officer.

For more information, please contact the SEND team on

 sensupport@hillingdon.gov.uk

Before you apply

1. Read the *School admissions 2026* brochure,

which is available on our website:



www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The brochure contains a lot of useful information on making your application, choosing your schools, frequently asked questions and all of the schools' individual admissions criteria and contact details.

2. Visit schools and their websites – Attend open mornings or afternoons where available. For specific dates and details, please refer to each school's website. Some schools may also offer virtual information which may include the following:

- a video message from the headteacher
- a tour of the school
- a Q&A session

3. Did you know - The Family Hubs and Children's Centre's are offering a transition package to support children and their parents as they begin nursery or start reception at school.

This support package includes:

- An online workshop
- Three weeks of group sessions held at the Family Hubs and Children's Centres

For more details, visit their website www.hillingdon.gov.uk/family-hubs

Supplementary information forms

Some schools request additional information using a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). Please check with all the schools you are applying for whether or not a SIF is required.

The forms can be obtained from the schools' individual websites, the Hillingdon Council website or by calling the school direct, and must be returned to the school by 15 January 2026.

If you are applying for schools outside of Hillingdon, please check with each school to see if they require a form or any other additional information.


Top tips when choosing your preferences

- **Be realistic when deciding your preferences** – your child may end up without a preference school offer if you do not meet a high enough criterion for the schools you apply for. This may happen, for example, if you live too far from the school or if you name a faith school and do not meet the faith criteria.
- **Try to use all six preferences** – or as many as you can. Failure to do so will restrict our ability to offer you a place at a school of your choice if the other preferences cannot be met. If you only apply to one school, you will only be considered for one school. You are, therefore, missing the opportunity to be considered for other schools, should your preference not be successful.
- **Include your local school in your preferences** – even if you list the school as your lowest preference. Failure to apply now may mean the school is full after offer day.
- **Do not make decisions based on other people's opinions or experiences.** Your situation is different and things change every year.
- **Choosing your preference** – you should list your preferences in the order you would like us to consider them if more than one school is able to make an offer. We recommend putting your favourite school as first preference even if you think it's unlikely that that school will be able to make an offer.

How to apply

Closing date for applications is Thursday 15 January 2026.

If you do not apply on time, you will greatly reduce your chances of being offered one of your preference schools. We recommend you submit your application by Friday 9 January 2026, to ensure it is received on time.

You will need to complete the primary school application form online via  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Benefits of applying online

Last year, 99% of applications were made online.

- It is quick, easy to use and secure.
- You can apply from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- There is no risk your application will be lost in the post.
- You will receive email confirmation that your application has been received.
- You can change your application up to midnight on the closing date.
- The result of your application will be available online on offer day.
- You can accept your offer online.


Proof of address

When making your application, you must supply proof of address for yourself (the person making the application) and for the child. More information is available in the *School admissions 2026* brochure.

How places are offered

Each school has a Published Admissions Number (PAN); this is the maximum number of pupils that can be admitted to the school in that year. Many schools receive more applications than there are places available. To decide which children to offer the places to, each school's oversubscription criteria are used. Some schools may have different criteria's, so it is important you check the admissions arrangements for all the schools you apply for.

For a summary of each school's criteria, please read our *School admissions 2026* brochure via

 www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

The application criteria

A number of Hillingdon schools allocate places by taking into consideration the following criteria.

Looked after children/previously looked after children

You need to state whether or not your child is, or has previously been, in the care of a local authority. A child currently looked after or in public care is defined as being in the care of the local authority, for example, in foster care or a children's home. A previously looked after child is a child who was adopted, or made subject to a child arrangement order or a special guardianship order, immediately following having been looked after. These arrangements include priority being given to internationally adopted previously looked after children alongside looked after children and children who were previously looked after by English local authorities. If the child meets the criterion to be classified as a looked after child or a previously looked after child, you must enclose either a letter from the relevant local authority confirming the legal status of the child, a copy of the care order, or a copy of the special guardianship order. This must be supplied if you would like to be considered under the looked after/previously looked after criterion.

Siblings

Generally, a sibling means a child's brother or sister, stepbrother or stepsister, with at least one parent in common, and/or an adopted brother or sister living in the same household. The sibling must be attending the school named at the time of admission in September 2026. All Hillingdon community schools consider children who have a sibling in the school and whether they are living within or outside a prescribed distance priority radius/area. The priority radius is set for individual schools.

Medical

The admission arrangements for most primary schools include a medical criterion that gives priority for children (or children with immediate family members) who suffer from a long-term medical condition that makes it necessary that they attend a particular school and where attendance at any other school would present significant difficulties.

Although each medical application is considered on a case-by-case basis, the intention of the criterion is that it should normally only be applied to children who need to attend their nearest school (or nearest suitable school) where mobility is a concern for either the child or for the family member with sole responsibility for taking that child to school. The criterion may also be applied if a school has specific resources to cope with a particular medical condition. Currently, however, all primary schools are equally well-equipped to cope with any long-term medical condition that does not require an Education, Health and Care Plan.


Decisions about whether to allow the medical criterion are made by the admissions authority, and are required to be fair and consistent.

For further information regarding medical/social criterion please refer to our School Admission Brochure 2026 which is published on our website.

Distance

Distance is measured in a straight line from the point set by Ordnance Survey at the child's home address (including flats/apartments) to a fixed point in the school.

All Hillingdon community schools consider children living within or outside a prescribed distance priority radius/area. The priority radius is set for individual schools.

Admissions criteria for all schools are published in the *School admissions 2026* brochure, available at  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/primary

Children of staff

Some schools, including all community schools, have a criterion for children of staff/teaching staff. If you work at a school for which you are applying, please indicate this, including the name of the school in which you work on the application form. Priority may only be given to applicants whose parent(s) is a member of staff of a preferred school recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.

All preferences are treated equally and the order of your preference is not revealed to the schools. When a child can be offered more than one school they have applied for, the ranked preference order will be used to determine which school to offer. This eliminates multiple

offers and will result in your child being offered the highest possible preference listed on your application. If your child does not qualify for any of the schools you have named as a preference, your child will be offered a place at a suitable school with a current vacancy.

What happens next?

Offer day is Thursday 16 April 2026.

If you applied online, you will receive an email on the evening of **16 April 2026** with the result of your application. You will then be required to log into your eAdmissions account to accept or decline your offer by **30 April 2026**.

Important: You must accept the offer to secure the school place. If you do not accept by the 30 April 2026, the offer may be withdrawn.

Your own online record

User name	
Password	
Application reference number	312-2026-09-E-

Important information

If you live in Hillingdon, you must apply through Hillingdon Council, even if the schools you list are outside Hillingdon.

Hillingdon Council cannot be held responsible for any delays in the postal system or problems encountered with internet providers. It is your responsibility to ensure that the application is received on time.

Nursery: If your child is currently attending the nursery at one of your preference schools, you must still apply. Please also be aware that attending the nursery does not guarantee your child a place in that school.

Please note that only a few nurseries take a child's attendance at nursery into account when allocating school places. It is important to check each individual school's admissions criteria to determine whether nursery attendance is included as part of their priority arrangements. If a school does not list this as part of its published criteria, we are unable to consider nursery attendance when processing applications.

Please check your application carefully

It is extremely important that the information you submit is correct. There are a number of schools that have similar names, so please take care when selecting your preferences.

For more information or advice



www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions



admissions@hillington.gov.uk