

Your life in

**THE EAST MIDLANDS**



# School Admissions

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# Your life in **THE EAST MIDLANDS**



## **School admissions**

Education is an important part of young life in the UK, but the application process can look very confusing at a glance and is something that has to be learnt by all parents.

### **Your protection**

- You should not be asked for proof of immigration from your local authority before they allow you to apply for a school placement.
- You should not be asked for immigration documents/passports during the application process for schools.
- As long as the child(ren) meet the eligibility criteria to study in the UK, they cannot be denied an application due to their immigration status or nationality

### **Your expectations**

- Children of compulsory school age (5-16) are required to be in full time education.
- To access schools as a foreign national, they need either the right of abode, or another given immigration status that permits entry and study.
- It is the parent's responsibility to ensure their children's study status and rights, before applying for educational placements.

## How to source and apply for schools

You can find out about schools within your area by speaking to your local authority or searching on their website, attending open days, and reading recent Ofsted reports. When applying for primary and secondary school placements, you have to register through your local authority. You can find your local council's school admission page through the links below.

### Local Authorities in the East Midlands

#### *Lincolnshire*



<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions>

#### *Northamptonshire*



<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions-and-appeals>



<https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions>

#### *Nottinghamshire*



<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/hub>



<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

## Derbyshire



Derby City Council

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/>



<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-school-place.aspx>

## Leicestershire



<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-and-colleges/school-admissions/>



<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/apply-for-a-school-place>



<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/education-learning/school-admissions>

## Ofsted

You can search for recent school reports from Ofsted using the link below.



<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>

## Primary School

- ▶▶ Primary schools are for ages 4-11, and cover reception year through to year 6.
- ▶▶ First applications are often made when the child(ren) are 3 years old, with the intention of starting by the age of 4.
- ▶▶ Children are required to be in full time education by the school term after their 5th birthday.
- ▶▶ Application windows open in September each year, and close on the 15th of January the following year.
- ▶▶ You can expect to hear if your application was successful on the weekday on or after the 16th of April.
- ▶▶ In some localities, they have a separate school for Reception to Year 2, this is called an 'Infant School'. You can choose to send your child to and Infant school, then to Primary school where they can then complete Years 3 - 6, or you can send them to a Primary School that fully covers reception through to Year 6.

## Secondary School

- ▶▶ Secondary schools are for ages 11-16, and covers year 7 through to year 11.

- ▶ Applications should be made in the child(ren)s final year of primary school.
- ▶ Application windows open on the 1st of September each year, and close on the 31st of October the same year.
- ▶ You can expect to hear if your application was successful on the weekday on or after the 1st of March.
- ▶ Similarly to Infant and Primary schools, some institutions split into Year 7 - 9, and Year 10 and 11. Often, secondary schools that start from Year 10 only are joined with a Sixth Form college, which your child can choose to go to for their extended education at ages 16-18.

There are exceptions if you are applying after the deadline, or at another point during the school term. If you find yourself in this situation, you should contact your local authority for guidance. Similarly, if for any reason your child does NOT have a placement - or hasn't been offered your preferential school - you can speak to your council about being placed on a waitlist.

Although you shouldn't be asked for any immigration documents during the application process, be prepared that you may be asked to prove your address. This is because almost all schools have a catchment area, and will therefore allocate spaces to those within that area first.

## Further education

- ▶▶ Further education for 16-18 years of age can come in different forms, whether that is A-levels, BTEC/Vocational courses or Apprenticeships
- ▶▶ In the UK, it is now compulsory to stay in education until the age of 18.
- ▶▶ Applications for college courses are mostly made online, you and your child can search for their ideal course, and then make a direct application to college by following the directions on their web page. Secondary schools will help support their students on their further education options and applications during their final year.
- ▶▶ Applying for apprenticeships works similarly, and you can search for them online. However, you can also search for them like you would any job, via jobsites such as Indeed, word of mouth and social media.
- ▶▶ Applications for further education in the forms of a college course should begin during the October and November of Year 11, which is when many institutes begin advertising their open days.
- ▶▶ Applications for apprenticeships can also start to be made in the October and November of Year 11, however some companies may not begin advertising their opportunities until later in the school year. This could even be as late as the summer at the end of year 11. If your child is interested in an apprenticeship with a particular company, but they aren't advertising currently, it may be worth your time to contact them directly and find out their plans for future placements.

## Glossary

**Local Authority:** The council that tend to your local area, also known as Local Government.

**Ofsted:** Ofsted are a public body that attends and inspect services providing education and skills for learners of all age.

**A-level:** A qualification in a specific subject typically taken by school students aged 16–18, at a level above GCSE.

**BTEC/Vocational Course:** A qualification or exam in a technical or vocational subject, typically taken by school students aged 16–18. They combine practical learning with subject and theory content.

**Apprenticeship:** A paid job which offers hands-on work experience alongside classroom training.

## Sources

[www.gov.uk/guidance/schools-admissions-applications-from-overseas-children](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/schools-admissions-applications-from-overseas-children)  
[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)  
[www.gov.uk/browse/childcare-parenting/schools-education](http://www.gov.uk/browse/childcare-parenting/schools-education)  
[www.gov.uk/find-ofsted-inspection-report](http://www.gov.uk/find-ofsted-inspection-report)

All information is correct as of October 2024.

