

Y6/7 TRANSITION MEETING

20TH MAY 2021

CHOOSING A SCHOOL

The Liverpool city council website includes information regarding admissions to secondary schools on its webpages at liverpool.gov.uk/admissions

This includes important information about how to apply to schools; what criteria are used to allocate places if a school gets more applications than it has places available and how places were allocated in the previous year. Before expressing a preference for a school it is important that you understand the school's admission policy and know whether or not the school was oversubscribed in the previous year. By using this information you can assess your child's chances of gaining a place in the school.

In addition to the admissions information online at liverpool.gov.uk/admissions there are several other sources of information that you can use to find out more about schools, these include the following:

- School Open Evenings – details usually available on website – may be virtual this year.
- School websites



APPLYING FOR SCHOOLS

In the online application there is a preference section which asks you to express preferences for up to five schools. As a Liverpool resident, to apply for schools in Liverpool or other Local Authorities you must complete this application.

There are different types of schools in Liverpool and they have different admission arrangements. Community schools follow the admission policy determined by the City Council. Academies, Foundation/ Trust and Voluntary Aided schools follow the admission policy determined by the governing body

Some schools require parents to complete a supplementary school application form (these are available to download at liverpool.gov.uk/admissions) as well as completing the local authority's online preference form/paper application.

Where this is the case you must complete both forms. The supplementary school application form is used by the governors when they are deciding which children to admit. The local authority's preference form is used as part of the coordinated admissions procedure.

HOW PLACES ARE ALLOCATED

If a school gets fewer applicants than it has places all applicants are admitted.

If there are more applicants than places the school's admission policy is used to decide which children are admitted. The local authority decides which children are admitted to community schools. The governors of Academies, Foundation/Trust and Voluntary Aided Schools decide which children are admitted to these schools.

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To ensure that parents are allocated a place for their child at only one school Liverpool coordinates the admission procedure with schools and neighbouring local authorities. This means that information about applications is shared between schools and other local authorities. The local authority only provides information which is needed to operate the admission arrangements. Academies, Foundation/Trust and Voluntary Aided schools use the school's admission policy to determine which children will be offered places. If your child meets the admission criteria for a place at more than one of your preferred schools, the local authority uses your school preference order to decide which school your child is offered. In these circumstances your child will be offered a place at the highest preference school which offered a place.

Schools are not informed of your preference order.



If the local authority cannot offer a place at any of the schools you have stated as a preference a place will be allocated at the nearest school with places available at the time of allocation.



ABILITY TESTS OR APTITUDE ASSESSMENTS

Some schools which use ability tests or aptitude assessments to allocate places require applicants to register for the tests or assessments before this closing date. This is because they intend to inform parents about the outcome of the tests or assessments before parents express a preference.

All dates, times and arrangements for the annual admissions timeline, schools assessments and tests along with open evenings are subject to change dependent on social distancing regulations due to Covid-19.

Please contact schools directly closer to the time of the relevant dates for assessments, tests and open evenings using the contact details included within the transition information booklet which you will receive in September. The local authority will make every attempt to keep information as up to date as possible via the website at:

liverpool.gov.uk/admissions

BANDING

If Liverpool College, The North Liverpool Academy and The Belvedere Academy are oversubscribed a banding system is used to decide which children are offered places. The results of the assessment will place applicants in one of five ability bands.

If these bands are oversubscribed, random allocation is used to allocate places. The aim of using banding is to help the academy to have a spread of children with different abilities and because of this applicants will not be informed about the results of the assessment