Transfer to Secondary School Parents' Information Meeting

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- Introduction & Basics
- Secondary Schools in Wandsworth
- Which School?
- The Pan-London Admissions Process
- How to Apply
- Taking the Year 6 Test
- How the System works
- Receiving the Decision

School Admissions – The Legal Basics

Right to express a preference

Number of places available

Fewer applications than places

More applications than places

Published admission criteria

Right to appeal if place refused

Responsibility to arrange a place

Transfer to Secondary Admissions Process

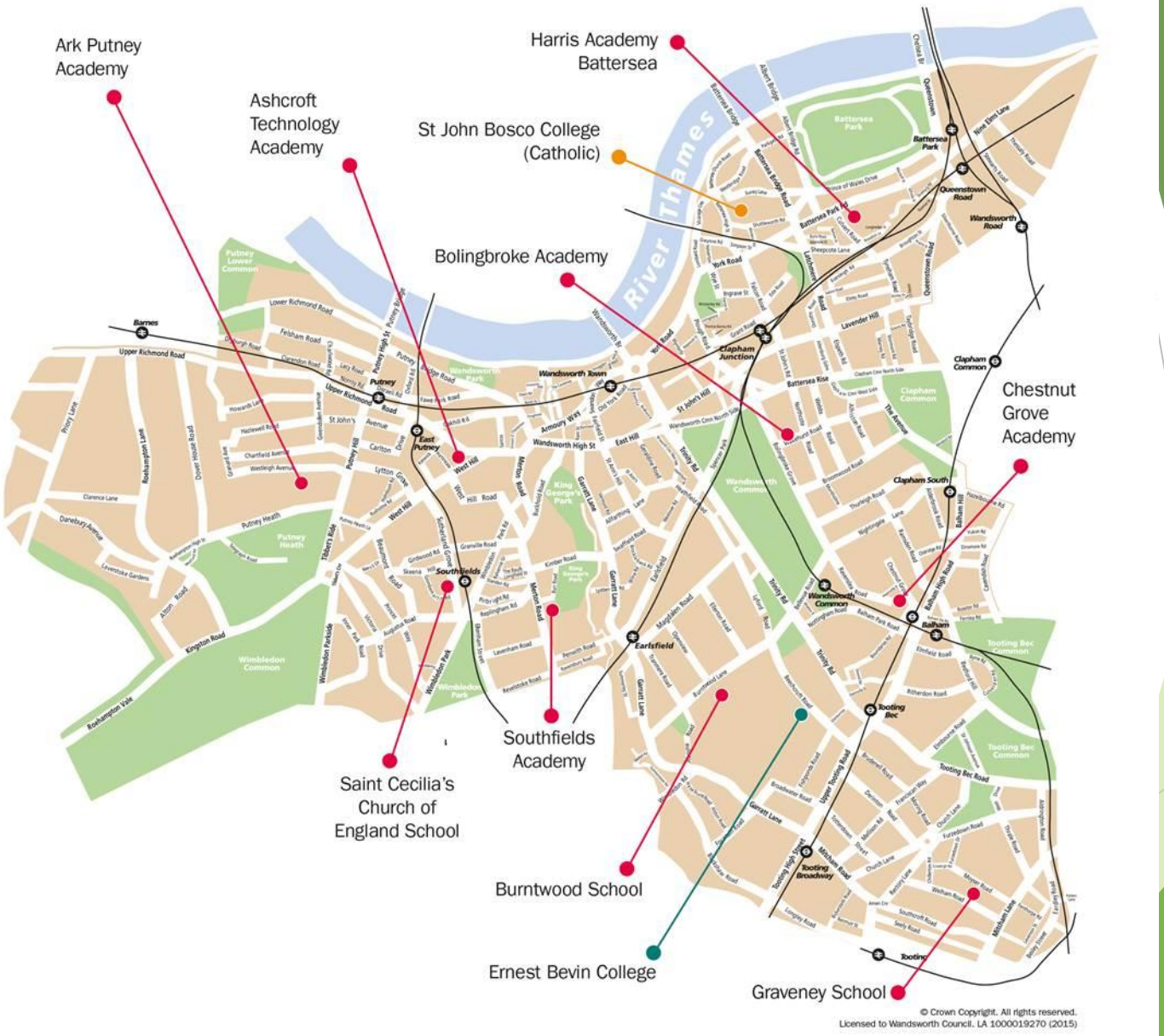
Types of school

Different types and status of school:

- Community Schools
- Voluntary Aided Schools
- Academies
- Foundation Schools
- Free Schools

Also independent schools (private) schools. Usually have to pay fees. Outside of state school admissions process.

Secondary Schools in Wandsworth



Secondary Schools in Wandsworth

School	Type	For	Places
Ark Putney Academy	Academy	Boys & Girls	180
Ashcroft Technology Academy	Academy	Boys & Girls	240
Bolingbroke Academy	Academy	Boys & Girls	120
Burntwood School	Academy	Girls	240
Chestnut Grove Academy	Academy	Boys & Girls	210
Ernest Bevin Academy	Academy	Boys	120
Graveney School	Academy	Boys & Girls	280
Harris Academy Battersea	Academy	Boys & Girls	180
St Cecilia's CE School	Academy	Boys & Girls	180
St John Bosco College	VA	Boys & Girls	150
Southfields Academy	Academy	Boys & Girls	180

Collecting information

- Investigate which would be the best school for your child.
- Secondary School Admissions Brochures & School Prospectuses & Websites, Ofsted Reports, Internet
- Attend the special open days/evenings – VISIT THE SCHOOL
- Discuss the transfer with your child's primary school teacher or headteacher
- Look at the admission criteria and previous years' admissions to see how likely you are to be offered a place
- Visit **www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions** or **www.eadmissions.org.uk** for information about schools in your area and elsewhere
- Information about schools in other boroughs in other council's brochures and websites and school websites.
- Can your child realistically travel to the school?

Oversubscription criteria

Non-Selective Places

- Children in Public Care (or adopted from care)
- Siblings (brothers or sisters on roll at time of application)
- Distance (straight line from home to centre of school site)
- Exceptional Medical/Social Needs (professionally supported)
- Church Attendance (Church of England & Catholic Schools)
- Feeder primary schools (Bolingbroke Academy only)

Banding (An equal spread of ability)

- Children divided into 5 equal groups based on test scores - Ashcroft & Chestnut Grove

Selective Places

- General Ability (Highest test scores) – Burntwood & Graveney
- Subject Aptitude (Tests in Art, Languages, Music, Technology) – Ashcroft, Chestnut Grove & St Cecilia's.

The chances of getting a place

- What are the admission criteria?
- How many places?
- How many applications were there last year?
- How many were admitted under each criterion?
- Up to what distance from the school were places offered last year?
- Information for last year within admission brochure and previous four years available online

The Pan-London Admissions Process

Why introduced?

- Complexity of admissions process in London
- This year over 86,000 students transferred to secondary school in London
- Over 60% applicants apply for schools in other boroughs – over 88,000 preferences were expressed for schools and academies in other boroughs
- Introduced to eliminate the multiple offer of maintained school and academy places to parents in London and thereby increase the number of parents offered a place at the initial offer stage

Key Features of the Pan-London Admissions Process

- Single application form to the council in which you live
- Apply for up to 6 schools in any borough
- Rank the schools in the order you prefer them
- Applications for schools in other boroughs are passed to other councils
- Schools consider applications separately using their criteria
- Schools tell the local council whether they can allocate a place
- If a child can be allocated a place at more than one school, the council will offer whichever of these the parent listed highest
- Information is exchanged between councils
- School offered is whichever one the parent ranked highest of those able to make an offer
- Single notification from 'home' council sent on **1 March**

Benefits of the Pan-London admissions process

- Easier for parents to apply on one form
- Helpful to parents to receive the outcome on the same day
- Because nobody is offered more than one school, more parents are offered one of their chosen schools at the outset
- Across London, just over 94% applicants offered a preferred school on the initial offer day in 2026. There have been fewer appeals since the system was introduced 20 years ago.

How to apply

Apply online - visit **www.eadmissions.org.uk** or www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions

OR

Alternatively, you can use a paper form available from Admissions Team.

If you live outside Wandsworth you must apply through your home Local Authority.

We strongly encourage you to apply online

Benefits of online application

- Secure and confidential – only your council's school admission team will see your whole application
- Straightforward to register
- Follow the simple instructions on screen to complete and submit form. Tips and prompts as you complete the form.
- You can use the system 24 hours a day/7 days a week
- You can save your form and log back in later to finish or make changes
- Attach supporting documents
- Email reminders to submit your form and
- When you submit your form, it will automatically be sent to the right place and acknowledged by email. Cannot be lost or delayed in post
- You can print a copy of your form
- You receive an email with the outcome during the evening of 2 March
- 98.7% London parents applied online last year.

Completing the application

- **Child and Parent Details**

  - Your child's only permanent address

  - Children in public care or previously in public care

  - Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) apply through separate process

- **School Preferences**

  - List up to 6 state schools in any area

  - List them in order of preference

  - Preference order decides between two or more offers of a place

- **Siblings (brothers or sisters)**

  - Must still be attending the school when the child starts.

- **Medical/Social Reasons**

  - Must provide professional evidence why essential for child to go to this school in particular. (Some schools do not have this criterion)

Listing School Preferences

- Remember you can apply for up to 6 state schools in any area
- Read the criteria and how places were allocated last year
- We recommend you apply for at least four schools
- Include at least one local school
- Make sure you list the schools in your genuine order of preference (cannot be changed after the closing date)

Faith schools

If you are considering applying for a school place on faith grounds, it is important you complete the school's **Supplementary Information Form (SIF)**

- **St Cecilia's (Foundation Place)**

  Complete the Foundation place form (the SIF)
- **St John Bosco**

  Complete the Catholic school religious affiliation form (the SIF)
- **Faith schools in other boroughs -** Check with borough or school if a SIF is required
- For these schools must include school in list of preferences **AND** complete supplementary information form (SIF)
- Return SIF direct to school

Specialist Aptitude Places in Wandsworth Schools

- Applications for specialist aptitude places

  Art & Design - 30 places at Chestnut Grove Academy - closing date 11 September

  Modern Languages - 30 places at Chestnut Grove Academy - closing date 11 September

  Music - 18 places at St Cecilia's School – closing date 6 October

  Technology – 24 places at Ashcroft Technology College – closing date to be confirmed
- Further details online on council website
- You will be advised of the test results before the main closing date for applications (31 October).
- This will enable you to assess whether to proceed with application for a specialist aptitude place. If you do, you must list the school as a preference on your online application or Common Application Form.

Submitting your application

- **The closing date for applications is Friday 31 October.**
- **Online applications** must be submitted by **midnight on 31 October**
- **Paper forms from Wandsworth residents** must be received by Pupil Services at Wandsworth Council by 31 October.
- Non-Wandsworth residents must return their application to the council in which they live.
- SIFs must be returned directly to the school.
- Applications for schools outside Wandsworth will automatically be passed to other councils
- **All applications will be acknowledged.**

Wandsworth Year 6 Test (1)

Timing of the Test

- The Wandsworth Year 6 admissions test will be in September 2026 for children starting secondary school in 2027.
- Requirement of the national admissions code and will help you to assess whether your child may be eligible for a selective (ability) place at Burntwood School or Graveney School before making an application.
- You must ensure that your child can take the test on the set date. Only in exceptional circumstances will there be an opportunity to take the test on another day.

Registration

You must register your child for the test if:

- You are considering applying for a place at Ashcroft Technology Academy, Burntwood School, Chestnut Grove Academy Graveney School.
- **Register online at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions by 3 September 2025**.
- If you are not considering applying for one of these schools, there is no need to register or for your child to take the test.

Wandsworth Year 6 Test (2)

- **When and where the test is taken**
  - The test will be held over four days during term time – **Thursday 24**, **Friday 25**, **Saturday 26** and **Monday 28 September 2026**.
  - All children registered will sit the test at one of the secondary school test venues on one of these dates.
  - Invitations will be emailed by or before Thursday 18 September 2026.
- **What the test involves**
  - Non Verbal Reasoning and Verbal Reasoning
- **How results are used**
  - Selective places (Burntwood [60 places] and Graveney [70]) offered to those applicants achieving test score.
  - Ability bands (Ashcroft, Chestnut Grove). if you are considering applying for Ashcroft or Chestnut Grove, your child must sit the Year 6 admissions test. Without this, the school(s) will not be able to place your child in an ability band.

Wandsworth Year 6 Test (3)

Results

- You will be notified of your child's test results by 23 October. The notification will provide information about:

  - how the test scores are used by the schools

  - previous years' admissions selective places, and

  - ability bands at Wandsworth schools.

- This will help you to assess whether your child may be eligible for a selective (ability) place at Burntwood School or Graveney School before making an application. It will also be a guide as to which ability band your child may be placed in if you apply for Ashcroft Technology Academy or Chestnut Grove Academy.

- Each school has its own admission criteria. Schools may use the test scores in different ways when allocating places or may not use them at all.

- A score that results in an offer of a place at one school will not necessarily result in an offer at another.

Other tests

- Subject aptitude tests if you apply for specialist place
- Selective schools in other boroughs have their own test

How places are allocated

- Schools consider your application separately using their criteria
- Your preference rankings are not revealed
- Schools tell their council if they can allocate your child a place
- If your child can be allocated a place at more than one school, the council will offer you whichever of these you ranked highest
- If your child can be allocated a place at a school in more than one borough, the councils will exchange information and offer you whichever of these you ranked highest
- Any lower ranked school places will be re-allocated to other children

How places are allocated

- **Example**

Preference	School Criteria met?	Outcome
1st Graveney School	No	Unsuccessful, can be added to waiting list and can appeal
2nd ARK Putney Academy	Yes	Place offered
3rd Holland Park School	No	Withdrawn as higher preference met
4th Southfields Academy	Yes	Withdrawn as higher preference met
5th Burntwood School	Yes	Withdrawn as higher preference met

National Offer Day - One Notification on 1 March 2027

- Email sent to online applicants during the evening of **1 March** via London Eadmissions Team
- Paper applicants emailed notification on evening of 1 **March**. If no email address posted outcome letter posted by first class mail on **1 March** by the council in whose area you live.
- Online applicants offered a lower preference or alternative school also sent a more detailed email notification direct from the Council.
- Outcome of each preference
- Offer of place (highest preference possible)
- Alternative offer (if no preference offered)
- Where to get further details
- How and when to appeal
- How to accept the place offered

What to do next

- Accept the place offered unless you have a definite place elsewhere
- Your child will be placed on the waiting list for any schools which are a higher preference than the school offered
- If a higher preference school becomes available later we will let you know
- Your child's position on the waiting list can move up or down
- You can appeal if you are refused a place at a higher preference school
- If none of the schools you applied for can offer a place on 1 March, we will offer a place at the nearest school with a vacancy. You can also make further applications.

Independent Appeals Process

- If not offered your preferred school, you have right of appeal to an independent appeal panel
- Panel will have no connection with the school or LA – made of lay people and people with experience of education
- Their role is to consider any exceptional reasons to attend the school that you may highlight and weight this against the school's reason for refusing admission
- Have discretion to uphold your appeal and instruct the school to admit your child over the school's admission number.
- Appeals heard May-July.
- No guarantee appeal will be successful – nationally for 2025 admissions, 19.9% of secondary school admission appeals were upheld.

Key Dates for Parents

- September – October: Secondary School open days/evenings
- September – October : Meeting your child's primary Headteacher or class teacher to discuss transfer
- 3 September – closing date for Year 6 Test registration
- 11 September - closing date for Chestnut Grove specialist place SIF
- 19 September – Chestnut Grove specialist place assessments
- To be confirmed – closing date for Ashcroft specialist place SIF
- 24-28 September - Year 6 test held in four secondary school venues
- 6 October – closing date for St Cecilia's specialist place SIF
- 17 and 21 October – St Cecilia's music aptitude assessments
- To be confirmed – Ashcroft specialist aptitude test
- 31 October - Closing date for applications
- 1 March – Online applicants receive email
- 1 March - Your council posts outcome letter by first class mail
- 2 March – Paper applicants receive outcome letter if no email.
- May-July – Appeals heard

If you live in Wandsworth and need help…

Web: visit www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions

Email: admissions@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Phone: (020) 8871 7316

Post: Admissions, Place Planning and Exclusions Section,
Children Services Department
Town Hall Extension, Wandsworth High Street
London, SW18 2PU