

WE ARE
SANDWELL!



Preparing to apply for secondary school



Key dates and information

Applications:

- Opens by **Monday 22 July**
(due to system upgrade)
- Close **31 October 2025**
- Notification **2 March 2026**

Some facts:

- It is NOT first come first served
- You can (and should) apply for up to 6 places.
- Only applying for one school does not make it more likely that you will get a place there. It means that if you do not get a place at that school, the council will choose a school for you because you did not specify a second, third, fourth etc choice of school. .
- You apply to the council you live in. This includes if you are applying for a school in a neighbouring borough.
- Only list a grammar school as a preference if your child has sat the entrance test (results in October 2025). Deadline to register 27 June 2025 4pm.
- Form cannot be changed once submitted.



How to apply

- Check the admissions policy for each school
- Available via each school's website (check policies section)
- Check if your child meets the criteria (for example: EHCP, siblings, distance)
- Not all schools offer sibling places and distance criteria varies
- Look out for any additional requirements
- For example: Sandwell Academy, Shireland Collegiate Academy and West Bromwich Collegiate require your child to sit a non-verbal reasoning test after applications are submitted



Number of preferences and published admission number (PAN) per school

School Name	September 2023 intake			September 2024 intake			September 2025 intake		
	PAN	1 st Pref	All Prefs*	PAN	1 st Prefs	All Prefs*	PAN	1 st Prefs	All Prefs*
Bristnall Hall Academy	220	268	669	220	247	658	220	235	696
George Salter Academy	250	253	603	250	248	590	250	199	497
Gospel Oak School	240	214	365	240	171	323	240	116	226
Holly Lodge High School	300	139	398	280	136	418	280	127	352
Oldbury Academy	310	82	486	310	84	467	270**	71	334
Ormiston Forge Academy	310	282	429	310	291	491	310	254	438
Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy	240	257	405	240	237	382	240	209	355
Perryfields Academy	240	124	371	240	61	288	240	59	236
Q3 Academy- Great Barr	210	198	569	210	237	597	210	202	514
Q3 Academy- Langley	300	353	790	300	403	899	300	355	854
Q3 Academy- Tipton	300	272	403	300	258	391	300	269	369
Sandwell Academy	200	461	1243	200	419	1248	200	395	1124
Shireland Biomedical UTC	120	26	169	120	42	195	120	56	186
Shireland CBSO Academy	150	39	126	150	83	233	150	84	256
Shireland Collegiate Academy	250	307	606	250	340	677	250	304	627
St Michael's CE High School	240	321	519	240	282	496	270***	293	508
Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School	150	91	278	150	87	278	150	86	273
The Phoenix Collegiate	350	223	526	350	214	494	350	184	386
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	150	197	603	150	185	570	150	204	590
Windsor Olympus Academy	180	School did own Admissions as 1 st year of opening		180	121	256	180	149	310
Wodensborough Ormiston Academy	230	232	400	230	235	393	230	187	350
Wood Green Academy	260	317	720	260	303	674	260	285	658

* All preferences are those made on time by a parent (Preference 1-6)

** Permanent decrease in PAN

*** Temporary increase of PAN for one year only

How to apply

- www.sandwell.gov.uk
- Click – schools and learning
- Click – apply for a school place
- Account requires an email address to set up / log in
- Enter parent details, child details, add one school at a time
- DO NOT submit until you are 100% sure.



Welcome to the Sandwell Parent Portal

If you have previously registered with the Sandwell Admissions online system prior to 15/07/19 - [you will need to re-register.](#)

To use this portal you must [create an account](#)

What's available :

[LOGIN](#) to :

Apply for a Reception, Junior (Year 3), or Secondary (Year 7) school place.

Apply for a mid year school transfer.



Sandwell schools with additional application forms

Aptitude:

- George Salter (Arts Aptitude)
- Shireland Collegiate Academy (Arts Aptitude)
- Wood Green Academy (Sporting Aptitude)
- Sandwell Academy (Sporting Aptitude)
- Shireland CBSO (Musical Aptitude)
- Windsor Olympus (Sporting Aptitude)

Denominational grounds

- Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School

Medical grounds:

- Holly Lodge High School
- Oldbury Academy
- Ormiston Community Sandwell Academy
- Ormiston Forge Academy
- Perryfields Academy
- The Phoenix School
- Wodensborough Ormiston Academy

Deadlines for additional forms can be as early as September. Additional forms go directly to the school. You must also complete the usual online application form to the council.

Appealing a school place

If you do not get the school you wanted:

- Accept the place you have been given, even if it is not the school you want.
- Download, complete and post appeals form (sandwell.gov.uk)
- **or** appeal the decision online (My Sandwell)
- You can only appeal for a place at a school that you put on your preference list
- To appeal for Sandwell Academy, contact them directly
- To appeal for a school outside of Sandwell you will need to contact the relevant local authority

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Hints and tips



What to look for in a school



- Open days
- Open evenings
- Tours



What to look for in a school



What to look for in a school



Practicalities



What to look for in a school



- Pastoral staff
- Form Tutor
- Transition lead
- Head of Year
- SENDCO



What else to consider



- Performance tables

<https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables>



What to look for in a school

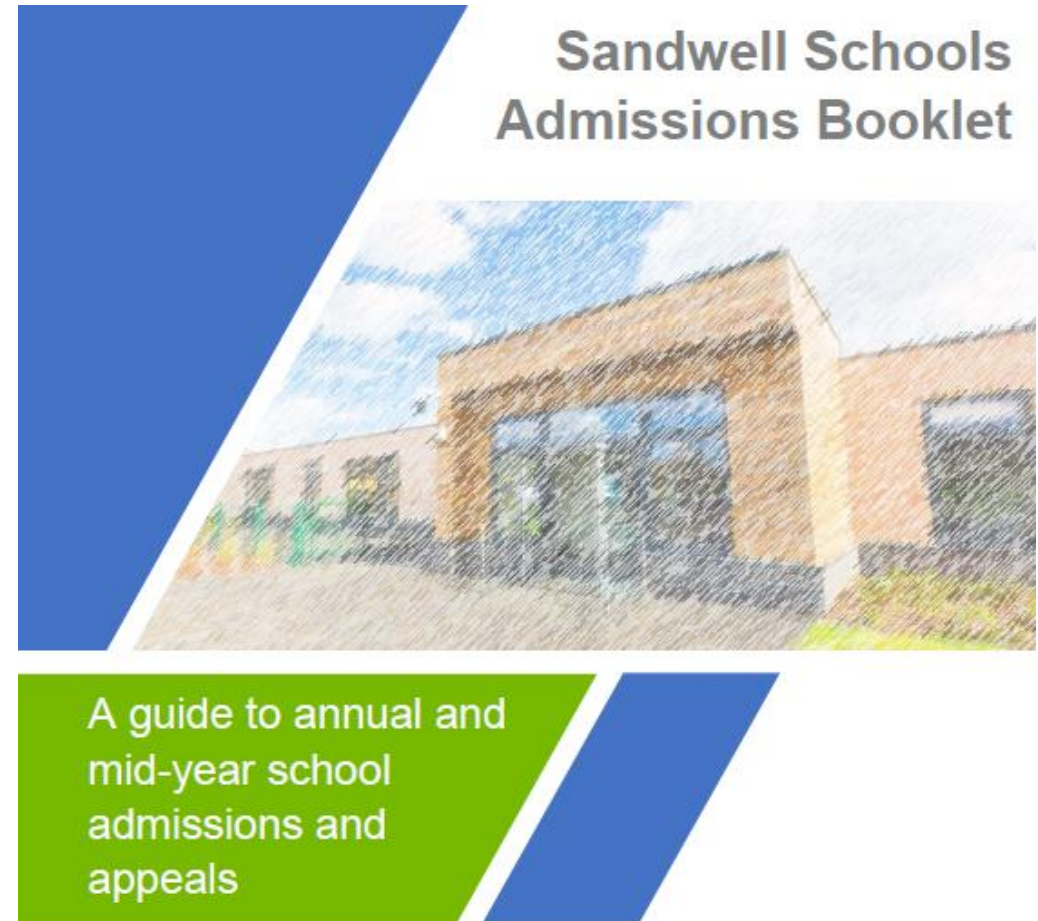


- Enrichment
- Schools teams and clubs
- Curriculum subjects
- Personal development
- Skills
- Career information



For more details

- 2025/26 Sandwell School Admissions Booklet available on the [sandwell.gov.uk](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk) website:
- <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/201/parent-guide>



Sandwell Schools
Admissions Service



Website support: Just Youth Transition



Questions

