



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



School Transfer 2020

For children transferring school in September 2020

You can apply online at - www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions

Children's Services

Any reference to school in this publication includes academies, community, foundation, foundation (trust), voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools within the same age range.

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We would like to thank the parents of the children who appear in our publications for permission to use their photographs.

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A message from the Mayor of Bedford Borough

Welcome to Bedford Borough Council's School Transfer Booklet. This booklet is for parents / carers of children who are due to transfer to a different school in September 2020.

As Mayor of Bedford Borough, I know how important it is for you to access all the necessary information to enable you to make the right decisions regarding your child's education.

This booklet provides you with important information to help you through the process of applying for a school place. It contains information about the schools in the area and explains how and when places are allocated.

You can apply for a school place using the online application system. Applying online is a quick, safe and efficient way of making your application and offers many benefits which are outlined in this booklet. Whilst the Council recommend that you apply online you may, if you prefer, complete a paper application form.

I hope that this booklet will provide you with all the information you need. If you require any further guidance, support or advice please contact the School Admissions general enquiries line telephone **(01234) 718120** or email admissions@bedford.gov.uk

I truly believe there is no more important investment we can make, than in the future of the Borough's children and young people therefore may I take this opportunity to wish your child every success in their education.



Dave Hodgson

Dave Hodgson
Mayor of Bedford Borough

Introduction

Legislation requires you to make an application to the local authority in which you live. Therefore, if you live in Bedford Borough you must list all of your preferred schools using the Bedford Borough application process even if the schools are within another local authority.

It is important, therefore, that you apply for a school place using the appropriate application form or online in accordance with the information contained in this booklet.

Don't forget that you can apply for a school place using the online application facility in accordance with the following directions:

Residents of Bedford Borough – only you can apply online at www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions

Residents of other local authorities – you must apply using the online system of your own local authority.

Please make the time to visit the schools before you apply so that you have all the information you need. We hope you find the information in this booklet useful. Please let us have any views you might have about this booklet by writing to: School Admissions Service, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AP.

Who to Contact

The School Admissions Service

We are based at Borough Hall in Bedford. If you have any enquiries about the transfer process, please contact our School Admissions general enquiries line on:

Tel: (01234) 718120

Fax: (01234) 228846 Email: admissions@bedford.gov.uk

If you would like details of schools in other authorities please contact that Local Authority directly.

Contact details for school admission teams in neighbouring authorities	
Cambridgeshire Tel: 0345 045 1370 admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Central Bedfordshire Tel: 0300 300 8037 admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Milton Keynes Tel: (01908) 253338 secondaryadmissions@milton-keynes.gov.uk	Northamptonshire Tel: 0300 126 1000 admissions@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

The Transfer Process Timetable

Transfer to Secondary School (Year 7)



September 2019

We will send you information on secondary school transfers through your child's primary school.



September/October 2019

Schools will hold their open evenings.



31 October 2019

Last day for applications.



2 March 2020

National Offer Day

Transfer to Upper School (Year 9)



September 2019

We will send you information on upper school transfers through your child's middle school#.



September/October 2019

Schools will hold their open evenings.



31 October 2019

Last day for applications.



2 March 2020

National Offer Day

Transfer to Middle School (Year 5)



September 2019

We will send you information on middle school transfers through your child's lower school*.



November 2019

Schools will hold their open days / evenings.



15 January 2020

Last day for applications.



16 April 2020

National Offer Day

If you have applied online, you will receive an email to let you know the outcome of the application.

If you have not applied online, we will post a letter to you on this day.

It is very important to apply by the date shown, so that we have time to deal properly with all the applications before we notify you of the outcome.

If you live in the area covered by Bedford Borough Council but your child does not attend a Bedford Borough school, please apply online or return your form to:

School Admissions Service, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP.

If you live outside the Bedford Borough Council area and are applying for a place at a Bedford Borough school, you must apply to your own Local Authority.

Only children who attend Marston Vale Middle School will receive this information.

* Only children who attend Broadmead and Wootton Lower Schools will receive this information.

Applying for a school place

Which schools can I apply for?

Most parents will want their child to attend their local school but you have the right to express a preference for another school or schools. You may wish to apply for your catchment school (if applicable), as well. This will usually mean that, if a place is not available at your preferred school, you will still have priority for a place at your catchment area school, although it is not a guarantee of a place.

If you do not ask for a place at your nearest school (if applicable), it could result in your child attending a school some distance from your home. You would be responsible for transporting your child to that school.

You can find out which school serves your local area by logging onto the Bedford Borough Council website:

www.bedford.gov.uk/catchmentareas

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact us.

What you should consider when expressing a preference for a school

At the back of this booklet, you will find information about every school. The “key” explains the difference between the various types of school. For each school you will find:

- the address
- the name of the headteacher
- the telephone number
- the fax number (where applicable)
- the email address
- the website address
- the category of the school and the age range
- the number on roll for January 2019
- the admissions number (how many pupils the school can admit)

As well as this basic information you will also find

- the admissions criteria
- the designated measuring point used in the event of the school being oversubscribed
- the number of applications received and the number of places offered for admission in September 2019
- at which point on the list of admissions criteria the last place was offered for admission in September 2019

Information about individual schools

We ask the headteacher of every school to arrange an open evening for parents / carers of children who are due to transfer to their next phase of school. The open evenings will help you to decide which school is best for your child. You will find the dates of the open evenings later in this booklet.

The headteacher and other school staff will be at the open evening and will answer questions about their school. The school must also publish information on its website.

This information will tell you things you need to know about the school, such as:

- what subjects the school curriculum covers
- the aims of the school
- what the school community is like
- public examination results (if appropriate)
- inspection reports by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED)

Performance tables and examination results can also be helpful when choosing a school, but they have limitations. Be careful when comparing the performance of individual schools based only on these results – they don't give you the full picture.

If you would like a copy of Bedford Borough Key Stage 2 results or Key Stage 3 results, or details of public examination results please contact the Department for Education, telephone **0370 000 2288**. Alternatively, the information is available from the DfE website or the Bedford Borough website. These websites also contain other useful information and statistics about schools, as does the OFSTED website.

Department for Education www.gov.uk/dfes

OFSTED www.ofsted.gov.uk

Bedford Borough www.bedford.gov.uk

When using the Bedford Borough website, the “Education and Learning” section has a range of information about Education in Bedford Borough.

Applying for a Bedford Borough school if you live outside Bedford Borough

If you live outside the Bedford Borough area and you wish to apply for a place in a Bedford Borough school, you must apply to your own Local Authority. Your own Local Authority will inform us if you have put any Bedford Borough school on their application form. We will not be able to process any applications we receive on the Bedford Borough application form from out of area parents.

Even if your Local Authority accepts more than three preferences, please note that we will only accept a maximum of three schools.

Oversubscription

The number of children choosing a particular school varies from year to year and different schools have different admission numbers.

In some cases the number of places offered could be more than the admission number. This does not mean that there will be a similar number of places in September 2020. Please refer to the admission limit for each school.

You may find this information helpful when you are considering which school to request as your preferred school. But be aware that subscription levels may vary from year to year.

A school may be oversubscribed one year but be undersubscribed the next. Likewise, the fact that a school was undersubscribed in September 2019 does not mean that you will definitely get a place there in September 2020.

Admission criteria

Admission criteria are the rules we apply when there are more applications for places than places available. They explain the order in which places are allocated. All schools have published admission criteria.

We have standard criteria which some schools use. You will find our standard admission criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools below.

Some schools have additions to our standard criteria and you will find details of these later in this booklet. This will help you to judge whether you meet the criteria for admission to a particular school. It will also help you when you make your application.

Local Authority standard admission criteria

The Local Authority will apply the following criteria (in the rank order shown) to decide the order in which places will be allocated when there are more requests from parents than the number of places available:

1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' (see definitions);
2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (see definitions);
3. Pupils living in the catchment area with siblings at the school (see definition of sibling);
4. Other pupils living in the catchment area;
5. Other siblings (see definition);
6. Any other children

Notes

1. If applying these criteria results in there being more children with an equal right to admission to the school than the number of available places, the tie break will be the distance the pupil lives from the school, measured in a straight line, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. The Local Authority will measure the distance from the address point of the pupil's home to a point on the school site agreed with the governing body of the school (published in the 'Starting School' and 'School Transfer' admissions booklets). The Local Authority will not give priority within each criterion to children who meet other criteria.
2. If a pupil moves into the catchment area outside the normal admissions round (or after the allocation process has begun) it may be more difficult to offer a place at the catchment area school if this would mean exceeding the admission number at the school. In this case, a place will normally be offered at the next nearest school or academy which caters for pupils of the same age and has places available.
3. Pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are required to be admitted to the school which is named in the plan, even if the school is full. Pupils identified for admission through the Fair Access Protocol will also be admitted even if the school is full.

Definitions

'Looked after' children

A 'looked after' child is a child in the care of a local authority as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. In relation to school admissions legislation a 'looked after child' is a child in public care at the time of application to a school.

Previously 'looked after' children

A previously 'looked after' child is a child who was 'looked after', but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or a Special Guardianship Order.

'Looked after' children from Outside of England

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

Sibling

A sibling refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, foster brother or sister where foster care has been arranged by a Local Authority or the child of the parent's / carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living at the same address. The sibling must be in the school at the time of application and be likely to remain in the school at the proposed date of admission.

Home Address

A pupil's home address will be regarded as the address of the parent / carer with parental responsibility with whom the child normally lives. This will not usually include grandparents, aunts or uncles. Where a child spends time with parents / carers at more than one address, the address used to allocate a school place will be the one at which the child spends the majority of the school week (Mondays to Fridays) including nights. If there is any query on the home address this will be checked against original official documentation e.g. council tax bill, a recent utility bill (gas, electricity or water), a rental agreement, child benefit annual statement or family tax credit information.

How to complete your application

The law says that every parent must have the opportunity to express a preference for the school or schools they want their child to go to. We will send you an information sheet which explains how you can do this. We would strongly recommend that you apply online at www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions (residents of Bedford Borough only).

You should complete only one application and list the schools you want your child to attend in order of preference. If you apply online please **do not** submit a paper application. If you do submit more than one application, we will process the most recent one.

The following notes and the notes on the form are designed to help you make an application. Please read them carefully and answer all the relevant questions, giving further details where the application asks for them. If you are not sure how to apply, please ring us.

Pupil's Details

Please complete your child's personal details in all the boxes in this section.

If you move after submitting your application, you should notify us as soon as possible providing appropriate evidence, but please be aware that we cannot guarantee to take account of your new address if the allocation process has begun.

Although we are not asking all parent / carers to provide evidence that they have Parental Responsibility or to provide proof of address, we reserve the right to carry out random checks and you may, therefore, be asked to provide this information at a later date. If you do not provide this information when asked it may not be possible to process your application.

Please note:

We will withdraw the offer of a place if we find that you have given fraudulent or misleading information that has effectively denied a place to a child with a stronger claim – for example if you claim to live in the catchment area when you don't.

School Preferences

This section allows you to express a preference for the school or schools you want your child to go to even if this school is in another Local Authority area.

Do **not** include independent schools in this section.

If you are applying for a school place and do not live within the Bedford Borough Council area, you must contact your own local authority to apply.

Most parents will want their child to attend the catchment area school (if applicable), but you have the right to express a preference for another school or more than one school. We will consider your child for each of the schools you put on the application. If there is a place for your child at more than one of those schools, we will offer you a place at the school you have identified as your highest priority. This may not apply if your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (see Other Information).

You may wish to put your catchment area school (if applicable) as one of your preferences. This will usually mean that you still have priority for a place at the catchment area school if there isn't a place for your child at your preferred school or schools. If you are not sure which is your catchment area school, please check our website:

www.bedford.gov.uk/catchmentareas

If you do not have access to the internet please contact us.

The school information sheets at the back of this booklet will tell you what type of school your catchment area school (if applicable) is and the "key" also gives definitions of the various types of school.

Some schools do not serve a local catchment area.

Admission to these schools is in accordance with the schools' own admission criteria.

The law says that admission authorities must consider admitting children whose parents have expressed a preference for a school before they consider those whose parents have not expressed any preference. Because of this, if you do not make a request for your catchment area school (if applicable) according to the published admission arrangements it could result in a place not being available at that school.

Other children

In some cases your child may have a greater chance of being offered a place at a school if a sibling (see definition) already goes to that school, but this is not a guarantee of a place. **If, at the time of admission you will have another child still going to one of the schools you have nominated, please put their name, date of birth and the school they attend, in the boxes provided.** We will check this information with the school(s) concerned. If you do not provide this information or this section becomes relevant to you after the allocation process is completed, we cannot guarantee to take it into account as part of your application.

Other Information

i) Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan

It would be helpful if you could complete this section if your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan or if your child is currently going through the EHC needs assessment process. The arrangements for admitting a child with an EHC plan are different to those for children who do not have an EHC plan. The Children and Families Act 2014 says that we must consult with the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school before we can name a particular school in an EHC plan. This process is co-ordinated by the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Team.

The local authority must name your nominated school in the EHC plan provided that:

- the school is suitable for the child's age, ability and aptitude and the Special Educational Needs as set out in Section B of the EHC Plan;
- the child's attendance is not incompatible with the efficient education of other children in the school, and
- the placement is an efficient use of the LA's resources

The SEND Team will let you know by 15 February the name of the school which they propose to name on your child's Education, Health and Care Plan.

If you have any queries or concerns about the process, please contact the SEND Team, tel: **(01234) 228375**, where someone will be pleased to help you.

If your child's Special Educational Needs are supported at Additional Support level within the school, your preferences for their school place will be treated in the same way as all other applications.

If you have concerns about your child's Special Educational Needs when they transfer to a new school, you can talk in confidence with the Bedford Borough SEND Advice Service by telephone on **(01234) 276267**

ii) 'Looked after' children / Previously 'looked after' children / 'Looked After' children from Outside of England (see definitions)

'Looked after' children / previously 'looked after' children / 'looked after' children from outside of England have a higher priority for admission. If your child is 'looked after' / previously 'looked after' / 'looked after' from outside of England you must provide evidence to support your application. We will check this information with the appropriate authority. If you do not provide this evidence your child may be refused a place.

iii) Parent / Carer who works at the school

Some schools give a higher priority to children who have a parent who works at the school. But this does not guarantee a place.

If any of the schools which you have nominated have this as part of their admission criteria and you meet that criterion, you must include the details on your application. We will check this information with the school(s) concerned. If you do not provide this information, or this section becomes relevant to you after the allocation process is completed, there will be no guarantee of a place at the school(s) concerned.

iv) Exceptional Medical Grounds

Some schools have this as a criteria, therefore if your child has a genuine and longstanding medical condition this may give him or her a greater chance of a place at your preferred school(s). It is not, however, a guarantee of a place. We will consider your application on medical grounds where there are **exceptional** medical reasons which make it **essential** for your child to attend a particular school and where the preferred school is the **only** school locally that could meet your child's needs. In recent years very few applications have met this criterion. With the application, you must submit a medical report from your child's doctor or consultant, setting out valid medical reasons why admission to the school is essential and the difficulties that would be caused if your child had to attend another school. We reserve the right to seek further medical opinion, with parental consent, in order to determine whether it is essential for a child to be admitted to the preferred school on medical grounds. We cannot consider admission on medical grounds where grounds relate to the medical condition of a parent, brother or sister, other relative or childminder.

Additional Information (e.g. Feeder schools)

Some schools give a higher priority to children from outside the catchment area who go to one of the feeder schools. If a school has a feeder school criterion, the individual admission criteria for that school will identify this (see school admission criteria). **But this does not guarantee a place**, even though out of catchment area children attending feeder schools may have been offered places in the past.

If any of the schools you nominate have feeder schools as part of their admission criteria, and your child attends one of these schools, you must provide the details so that we can take it into account when we consider your application. Please note that some schools impose a time limit for attendance at a feeder school.

If your child is admitted to a feeder school after the allocation process is completed there will be no guarantee of a place at the school(s) concerned.

Declaration

Please complete this part of the application.

Religious / Faith Grounds

Some schools provide religious education that follows the teaching of a particular faith. We have a Catholic Secondary Academy, St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School in Bedford Borough, but there may be faith schools in other areas you may wish to apply for. Being a practising member of the appropriate faith, or having been baptised into that faith, may give your child a greater chance of a place at that school according to the school's admission criteria. But it does not always guarantee you a place. Being a practising member of another faith may also give your child a greater chance of a place at that school but, again, it is not a guarantee.

If you are applying for a place at a school on religious or faith grounds, it is important to provide all the information the form asks for.

If you are applying for a place on religious grounds at St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School because your child has been baptised, you must provide their baptismal certificate. In addition if you are a practising member of a religion or faith you must make sure that your priest, minister or faith leader completes the religious declaration on the secondary school transfer form. Without this information the governing body will not be able to consider your application on religious grounds.

If you live in Bedford Borough and your preferred school is in another Local Authority you will need to ask them how to provide this information.

If you live in another Local Authority's area you can obtain the "Confirmation of Religious Affiliation" form from our website www.bedford.gov.uk/admissions and click on "How to apply – School Place"

If you are applying online you can obtain the form to confirm religious affiliation at www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions

Data Protection

Under new Data Protection regulations (GDPR) Bedford Borough Council needs to inform you of the reasons why we are capturing your data and what we will do with your data. Any personal data collected and/or processed under this policy/procedure will be dealt with in accordance with Data Protection Legislation and the Council's Data Protection Policy. Data is held securely and accessed by, and disclosed to individuals only where relevant to this policy/procedure. To find out more information on this follow the link below.

View the Council's current Privacy Notices at www.bedford.gov.uk/gdprprivacy

Who allocates places?

Community and Voluntary Controlled schools

The Local Authority is the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools. This means that we allocate places at these schools. The headteachers of these schools **are not** authorised to offer your child a place. If the headteacher of one of these schools indicates that he or she will offer your child a place, you **cannot** assume that this will

one of these schools. If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan please see Other Information.

Academy, Foundation and Voluntary Aided schools

The admission authority for an academy, a foundation or a voluntary aided school is its Governing Body. This means that the school governors decide who to admit to these schools. However, we write to parents on the school governors' behalf to offer school places. You must have a letter from **us** offering your child a place before your child can start at one of these schools. A letter from the school is not a valid offer. If your child has an Education Health and Care Plan please see Other Information.

How are places allocated?

All our schools operate an equal preference system for allocating places. This means that there are two stages in the allocation process.

Stage 1

All first, second and third preference applications are considered equally against the schools' admission criteria. At this stage there is no distinction between first, second and third preference applications. For example, if the school has 130 places and there are 145 first, second and third preference applications, all applications are considered equally against the admission criteria.

Stage 2

If we are able to offer a place at more than one school, the school ranked higher by the parent (i.e: first or second preference on the application form or on-line application) will be offered and any lower ranking offers will be withdrawn. For example, a parent's first and third preferences might both qualify for a place, in which case the parent would be offered their first preference, leaving the place at the third preference school available for another pupil.

Offers

Occasionally the last child we offer a place to at a school is the first child from a family with multiple births. If this happens at a community or voluntary controlled school, we will offer a place to the subsequent child / children even if it takes the school over their admission number.

If this happens at an academy, foundation or voluntary aided school we would ask the school to admit the subsequent child / children.

Pupils living in the Bedford Borough Council area who have not been allocated a place at any of their preferred schools will be allocated a place at the nearest Bedford Borough school to their home address with vacancies.

Fair Access Protocol

The Local Authority has a Fair Access Protocol which has been agreed with all schools. The protocol applies in exceptional cases where the circumstances of the child mean that the normal admission procedure cannot ensure that the child will be admitted to a suitable school as quickly as possible.

In most cases children will be admitted to school in accordance with the arrangements set out in this booklet or in accordance with the in year admission arrangements (see separate

guidance notes for parents). However, for some children without a school place, for example children permanently excluded from a school, the normal admission process may not result in a suitable school placement for the child.

Children identified for a school place through the Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over other children on a waiting list for admission and may be admitted to a school even if that school is full.

Late applications

The closing date for applications in the normal admissions round is **31 October 2019 for secondary/upper schools** and **15 January 2020 for middle schools**. As far as is reasonably practicable we will accept applications for places in the normal admissions round that arrive late for good reason. If we receive applications late with good reason after the allocation procedure has begun we will consider them if it is practical to do so, but we cannot guarantee to do this.

If we receive applications late with good reason after places have been offered we will prioritise the applications and any waiting list according to the admission criteria of the individual schools and we will offer a place at the highest preference school that has a place available. If all preferred schools are full and the pupil lives in Bedford Borough, a place will generally be offered at the nearest school with places available. However, it may be necessary to make a priority placement available for Bedford Borough children whose application is late for good reason.

After the late application process if there are still children where parents/carers have not expressed a written preference, these children will be allocated a place at the nearest Bedford Borough school to their home address with vacancies.

How you will hear the result of your application

When we have completed the allocation process, we will email or write to tell you the outcome of your application.

If you have applied online you will receive an email to let you know the outcome of your application. If you have not applied online we will post a letter to you on this day. If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan, the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team will write to you at the appropriate time to tell you the school where your child has a place.

If we are not able to offer you a place at your preferred school or schools, you have the formal right of appeal to an independent Admissions Appeals Panel. We will tell you about the procedure to follow if you want to appeal. Appeals are normally held during the summer term.

If we are not able to offer a place at any of your preferred schools and you live in the Bedford Borough Council area, we will offer your child a place at:

- **the catchment area school, if there are still places available; or**
- **the next nearest Bedford Borough Local Authority school to your child's home address which has places available.**

We will also tell you which other schools still have places available. You will be able to request a place at one of those schools.

However, we will not be able to consider another application for a place at the same school in the same academic year unless there has been a significant change of circumstances relevant to the application.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan, the Admissions Appeals Panel cannot deal with your appeal. If you are unhappy about the school which has been named on the Statement, you should contact the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team, tel: **(01234) 228375**.

Waiting lists

If we have not been able to offer you a place at your preferred school(s), we will place your child's name on a waiting list which has been prioritised according to the admission criteria for individual schools. If a place becomes available we will contact you, even if you have accepted a place at another school. Your child's position on the waiting list could change if other children are added or removed. We will maintain the waiting lists for community and voluntary controlled schools until the end of the Autumn term 2020/ 31 December 2020. If you wish to remain on the waiting list beyond that time you will need to write to us. If you have been turned down for a place at an academy, foundation or voluntary aided school, their arrangements for maintaining a waiting list may be different.

Home to school transport

Parents and carers have a legal duty and a responsibility to ensure that their children attend school regularly and to make any necessary arrangements to ensure that they attend.

In certain circumstances Bedford Borough Council has a duty to provide free home to school transport. The Council arranges school transport for children and young people in Bedford Borough who are assessed as eligible under the Children's Services transport policy. Please note that from September 2017, Bedford Borough Council introduced a new home to school transport policy.

Before applying for a school place, please make sure you read and understand the transport policy information on the Bedford Borough Council website and consider how you will transport your child to school, taking into account any potential transport costs.

You can get full details of the transport policy from Customer Services – **Telephone (01234 718004)** or from the Bedford Borough website **www.bedford.gov.uk/schooltransport**

Admission to Other Year Groups

This composite prospectus is published primarily to allow parents to apply for places in schools that have a designated transfer point of entry into Year 5, Year 7 or Year 9.

In addition to these transfer entry points schools can admit children to other year groups, we call these In Year admissions. Here is the link to the appropriate page on our website where you can find out how to apply www.bedford.gov.uk/inyearadmissions

Schedule of Open Days/Evenings

School Name	Date and time of Open Evening / Day	Intake Year Group
Bedford Academy	12 September 2019 6:00pm - 7:30pm	7
Bedford Free School	19 September 2019 5:30pm - 8:30pm 23 September 2019 9:15am - 11:00am 25 September 2019 9:15am - 11:00am 27 September 2019 9:15am - 11:00am 28 September 2019 10:00am - 12:00pm	7
Biddenham International School & Sports College	30 September 2019 5:00pm - 8:00pm	7
Castle Newnham School	10 October 2019 7:00pm - 8.00pm	7
Daubeney Academy	26 September 2019 6:00pm	7
Goldington Academy	26 September 2019 7:00pm - 9:00pm	7
Kempston Challenger Academy	18 September 2019 6:00pm	7
Lincroft Academy	25 September 2019 5:30pm	7
Mark Rutherford School	3 October 2019 5:30pm - 9.00pm	7
Marston Vale Middle School	14 November 2019 6:00pm - 8:30pm	5
Sharnbrook Academy	26 September 2019 5:45pm – 8:30pm	7
St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School	1 October 2019 6:00pm – 8:30pm	7
Wixams Academy	17 October 2019 5:30pm - 8:30pm	7
Wootton Upper School	26 September 2019 5:00pm – 8:00pm	9

Central Bedfordshire schools - Middle and Secondary Schools Open Evenings

This information is provided for those parents / carers whose catchment area middle or secondary school is within the Central Bedfordshire Council area. Please visit the Central Bedfordshire website, or contact the School Admissions Service, for information about open evenings for other schools in the Central Bedfordshire Council area.

School Name	Date and time of Open Evening / Day	Intake Year Group
Sandy Secondary	26 September 2019 5:00pm	7 & 9
Holywell Academy	7 November 2019 6.00pm	5

Schools Information Sheets - Key

The following pages contain detailed information about our schools to help you to consider which school(s) you would like your child to attend.

KEY	
Academy	Academies are all ability schools established by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and sponsors from business, faith and/or voluntary groups working in partnership with local education partners. The Governing Body is responsible for the admission arrangements. The Government has published proposals to increase the number of schools applying to become Academies. As a result the status of a school may subsequently change from that printed in this booklet.
Community	The Local Authority is responsible for the admission arrangements. Religious Education in community schools follows the Agreed Religious Education Syllabus for the Authority.
Foundation	The Governing Body is responsible for the admission arrangements in a Foundation School. Religious Education in Foundation schools follows the Agreed Religious Education Syllabus for the Authority.
Foundation (Trust)	This is a Foundation school which is supported by a charitable trust. A Trust may include just one school or a group of schools working with external partners to share best practice and to support transition between phases. The Governing Body is responsible for the admission arrangements in a Trust School. Religious Education in Trust schools follows the Agreed Religious Education Syllabus for the Authority.
VA	Voluntary Aided. The Governing Body is responsible for the admission arrangements in a VA school. Religious education follows the teaching of the Church of England (if C of E) or Catholic faith (if Catholic). The Local Authority maintains the school but the governors employ the staff and have wider responsibilities for the upkeep of the building than in a Community or Controlled School.
Admission Number	This represents the number of pupils the school can admit in each year. Schools are expected to admit up to that limit during the course of the year, if there are requests for places. Where there are more requests for places than the number of places at that school, we allocate places in order of priority according to the school's admissions criteria. The Year 12 admission number represents the minimum number of external candidates likely to be admitted to the sixth form, in addition to the pupils currently attending the school who wish to continue their education in the sixth form (subject to meeting entry requirements for the course they wish to follow). Applications for admission into Year 12 should be made to the school direct.
NOR 2019	Number on Roll. We have included the roll for January 2019 to show you the likely size of the school.

<p>Designated Measuring point</p>	<p>If applying the admissions criteria results in there being more children with an equal right to admission to the school than the number of available places, the tie break will be the distance the pupil lives from the school, measured in a straight line, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. The Local Authority will measure the distance from the address point of the pupil's home to a point on the school site, agreed with the governing body of the school. This point is the designated measuring point.</p>
<p>Admissions in September 2019</p>	<p>We have included this information as you may find it helpful when considering whether or not places are likely to be available at your preferred school. You should be aware, however, that numbers vary from year to year and the availability of places in September 2019 will not mean that places will be available in September 2020. Likewise, over-subscription in September 2019 will not mean over-subscription in September 2020.</p>

Schools Information Sheets

Bedford Academy Mile Road, Bedford MK42 9TR		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mr C Deller Tel: (01234) 301500 e-mail: info@bedfordacademy.co.uk website: www.bedfordacademy.co.uk		Academy 11 to 18 Secondary	1173	Year 7 - 224 Year 12 - 0
Designated measuring point: Front Gate on Mile Road				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who currently attend Cauldwell, Cotton End, Elstow, Shackleton, Shortstown and Kings Oak Primary Schools 3. Pupils living in the catchment area with siblings at the school 4. Other pupils living in the catchment area 5. 'Very exceptional' medical grounds 6. Other siblings 7. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 216	Requests received: 242	Places offered: 224	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'catchment' at a distance of 1,718.31m.	

Bedford Free School Caldwell House, Caldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AD		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mr T Blake Tel: (01234) 332299 e-mail: info@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk website: www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk		Academy 11 to 16 Secondary	502	Year 7 - 100
Designated measuring point: Front Door of the School				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or previously 'looked after' children 2. Pupils with exceptional medical or social need 3. Children who have siblings in the School at the time they are admitted to the School 4. Children of Staff 5. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 100	Requests received: 215	Places offered: 125	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'any other children' at a distance of 1,474.96m.	

Biddenham International School & Sports College Biddenham Turn, Biddenham, Bedford MK40 4AZ		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mr D Bailey Tel: (01234) 342521 Fax: (01234) 334530 e-mail: enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk website: www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk		Foundation (Trust) 11 to 18 Secondary	1055	Year 7 - 200 Year 12 - 20
Designated measuring point: Entrance to the School Reception				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Siblings 4. Pupils living in the catchment area 5. 'Very exceptional' medical grounds 6. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 200	Requests receive 227	Places offered: 203	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'catchment' at a distance of 3,821.46m	

Castle Newnham School Polhill Avenue, Bedford MK41 9DT		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mrs R Wilkes Tel: (01234) 303403 e-mail: office@castlenewnham.school website: www.castlenewnham.school		Foundation 11 to 16 Secondary	470	Year 7 - 150
Designated measuring point: Centre of the school site				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted Pupils currently attending Castle Newnham Primary or Hazeldene School Pupils with siblings already at Castle Newnham (North Site) Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 150	Requests received: 105	Places offered: 105	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.	

Daubeney Academy Orchard Street, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7PS		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mr M Lee Tel: (01234) 400111 e-mail: office@daubeneyacademy.co.uk website: www.daubeneyacademy.co.uk		Academy 11 to 16 Secondary	309	Year 7 - 120
Designated measuring point: Main block entrance				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' Children with siblings at the school Children who attend Springfield Primary Children of staff Other children who currently attend any of the following schools in Kempston: Balliol Primary, Bedford Road Primary, Camestone Primary or Kempston Rural Primary Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 120	Requests received: 58	Places offered: 58	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.	

Goldington Academy Haylands Way, Bedford MK41 9BX		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mr F Galbraith Tel: (01234) 261516 e-mail: office@goldington.beds.sch.uk website: www.goldingtonacademy.org.uk		Academy 11 to 16 Secondary	726	Year 7 - 150
Designated measuring point: School Library				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Children with siblings at the school 4. Children who attend Brickhill Primary, Castle Newnham School, Goldington Green Academy, Hazeldene School, Putnoe Primary, Scott Primary or The Hills Academy 5. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 60	Requests received: 78	Places offered: 78	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.	

Kempston Challenger Academy Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7EB		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mr M May Tel: (01234) 290900 e-mail: office@kempstonchallengeracademy.org website: www.kempstonchallengeracademy.org		Academy 11 to 18 Secondary	525	Year 7 -180 Year 12 - 20
Designated measuring point: Main Entrance off Hill Rise				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All "Looked after" children or children who were previously "looked after" 2. Students who have siblings at the school 3. Students who currently attend Springfield Primary 4. Students of staff 5. Other students who currently attend any of the following schools in Kempston: Balliol Primary, Bedford Road Primary, Camestone Primary or Kempston Rural Primary 6. Other students 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 180	Requests received: 112	Places offered: 112	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.	

Lincroft Academy Station Road, Oakley, Bedford MK43 7RE		Category Age Range	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mr A Hencken Tel: (01234) 822147 e-mail: admin@lincroft.beds.sch.uk website: www.lincroft.beds.sch.uk		Academy 11 to 16 Secondary	694	Year 7 – 210
Designated measuring point: School flagpole				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear to Sharnbrook Academy Federation to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Pupils with siblings at the Academy 4. Children attending Oakley Primary Academy or Great Ouse Primary Academy 5. Children attending Bromham Primary, Ursula Taylor Primary or St James' Primary 6. Pupils living in the catchment area 7. Children of staff who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made 8. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 210	Requests received: 212	Places offered: 210	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'any other children' at a distance of 10,013.54m.	

Mark Rutherford School Wentworth Drive, Bedford MK41 8PX		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mrs J Bloor Tel: (01234) 290200 Fax: (01234) 290236 e-mail: mark.rutherford@mrus.co.uk website: www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk		Academy 11 to 18 Secondary	1296	Year 7 - 200 Year 12 - 50
Designated measuring point: Main School Gate				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Children with siblings at the school 4. Children living in the catchment area 5. Children who currently attend Brickhill Primary, Goldington Green Academy, Great Barford Primary, Putnoe Primary, Ravensden Primary, Renhold Primary, Roxton Primary, Scott Primary, Sheerhatch Primary, The Hills Academy or Wilden Primary. 6. Children of staff 7. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 200	Requests received: 279	Places offered: 264	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'staff' at a distance of 4,007.16m.	

Marston Vale Middle School The Crescent, Stewartby, Bedford MK43 9NH		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mrs E Jennings Tel: (01234) 768224 e-mail: school@marstonvalemiddle.co.uk website: www.marstonvalemiddle.co.uk		Academy 9 to 13 Middle	464	Year 5 - 150
Designated measuring point: Central entrance to year 5 block				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Children of staff 4. Children living in the catchment area with siblings at the school 5. Children living in the catchment area of the school 6. Other siblings 7. Pupils who have attended the feeder lower schools i.e. Broadmead, Church End, Houghton Conquest, Thomas Johnson and Shelton, for at least two academic years 8. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 150	Requests received: 112	Places offered: 112	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.	

Sharnbrook Academy Odell Road, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1JL		Category Age Range	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mrs C Raku Tel: (01234) 782211 e-mail: information@sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk website: www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk		Academy 11 to 18 Secondary	1983	Year 7 - 270 Year 12 - 30
Designated measuring point: Main School reception of main school site				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children who appear to Sharnbrook Academy Federation to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted 3. Children with siblings at the Academy 4. Children attending Harrold Primary Academy or Great Ouse Primary Academy 5. Children attending Carlton Primary, Christopher Reeves Primary, Eileen Wade Primary, Kymbrook Primary, Milton Ernest Primary, Pinchmill Primary, Riseley C of E Primary, Sharnbrook Primary, St Lawrence Primary, Thurleigh Primary, or Turvey Primary. 6. Children living in the catchment area 7. Children of staff who have been employed by Sharnbrook Academy Federation for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made 8. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 270	Requests received: 337	Places offered: 270	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'any other children' at a distance of 7,582.10m.	

St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School Tyne Crescent, Bedford MK41 7UL	Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Head: Mr M Bonner Tel: (01234) 400222 e-mail: email@stm.beds.sch.uk website: www.st-thomasmore.org.uk	Academy (Catholic) 11 to 18 Secondary	1034	Year 7 - 150 Year 12 - 20

Designated measuring point: Front door (opposite Reception)

Admission Criteria 2020

1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after'
2. Children from St John Rigby Primary School or St Joseph's and St Gregory's Primary
3. Catholic siblings of children attending the school whose application is supported by their Parish Priest or a priest known to them
4. Catholic children from practising families from the parishes of Bedfordshire, whose application is supported by their Parish Priest or a priest known to them
5. Catholic children from practising families from other parishes whose application is supported by a priest
6. Other Catholic children, with proof of catholicity eg. a baptismal certificate or evidence of enrolment on a catechumenate programme
7. Children of staff
8. Siblings other than Catholic attending the school
9. Children from other Christian denominations whose parents wish them to receive a Christian education, whose application is supported by a Christian minister
10. Children from other faith backgrounds, whose application is supported by their faith minister or leader
11. Children attending Scott Primary School
12. Children attending St James' VA Primary School
13. Any other children

Admissions in September 2019

Admission number: 150	Requests received: 164	Places offered: 164	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.
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Wixams Academy Green Lane, Wixams, Bedford, MK42 6BA		Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mr P Spyropoulos Tel: (01234) 608950 e-mail: info@wixamsacademy.co.uk website: www.wixamsacademy.co.uk		Academy 11 to 18 Secondary	226	Year 7 - 120
Designated measuring point: The front gate of the Academy				
Admission Criteria 2020				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' 2. Children with siblings in the Academy 3. Children of staff 4. Any other children 				
Admissions in September 2019				
Admission number: 120	Requests received: 271	Places offered: 120	At the time of the initial allocation the last place offered was under 'any other children' at a distance of 3,012.64m.	

Wootton Upper School Hall End, Wootton, Bedford MK43 9HT	Category Age Range Phase	NOR 2019	Admission Number 2020
Principal: Mr M Gleeson Tel: (01234) 767123 e-mail: wootton@wootton.beds.sch.uk website: www.woottonupper.co.uk	Academy 13 to 19 Upper	885	Year 9 - 297 Year 12 - 50

Designated measuring point: Gate to Front Car Park

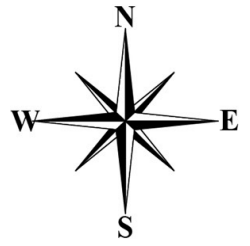
Admission Criteria 2020

1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after'
2. Children who appear (to the admission authority of the school) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted
3. Children whose home address is in the catchment area with siblings at the school
4. Children whose home address is in the catchment area
5. Children with siblings at the school and who are likely to remain in the school the following academic year
6. Children who currently attend, and have attended for at least two academic years, either Holywell School or Marston Vale Middle School
7. Children who currently attend either Holywell School or Marston Vale Middle School
8. Children with siblings who currently attend Kimberley 16-19 STEM College
9. Children of staff employed by Wootton Upper School for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made
10. Any other children

Admissions in September 2019

Admission number: 297	Requests received: 266	Places offered: 266	At the time of the initial allocation all applicants were offered a place.
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Map of Bedford Borough



Notes

Notes

Finding out more

If you would like further copies, a large-print copy or information about us and our services, please telephone or write to us at our address below.

This booklet can be produced, on request, in an alternative format (e.g., audio tape, Braille or large print). If you require one of these formats please use text phone number: **(01234) 221827**.

Për Informacion

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برای اطلاع

Per Informazione

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Informacja

Za Informacije

তথ্যের জন্য



01234 718120



School Admissions Service

Bedford Borough Council

Borough Hall

Cauldwell Street

Bedford

MK42 9AP



admissions@bedford.gov.uk