Applying for a school place

Admission outside the normal age group

A child's chronological age group is the normal year group they should attend in a UK school, based solely on their date of birth.

What if my child is educated outside their normal age group?

For a child educated in primary school outside their normal age group, parents should first apply for a secondary school when the child is in year 5 (rather than year 6).

The DfE is clear that unless there are sound educational reasons to do otherwise, if a child has been educated outside their normal age group in primary school, the assumption should be that they remain outside their normal year group during secondary school. However, there are a number of potential risks a child could face if educated outside their normal year group in secondary school, including the fact that a child may later decide to leave school before they have the opportunity to take public examinations.

What do I need to do?

- Complete a secondary school application when your child is in year 5
- Write to the School Admissions Service requesting that your child continue being educated outside their chronological age group. Email your request with the words 'secondary delayed entry' in the subject line to schooladmissions@haringey.gov.uk
- You MUST include with your email a letter from your child's current headteacher explaining why your child is out of year group.

The admission authority for a secondary school will consider all requests for a child to be educated out of their chronological year group and will decide on the basis

of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child. They will consider a wide range of factors including parent's views and whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal age group in primary school. The views of the head teacher of the current and preferred schools will be an important part of this process.

Next steps

We will let you know whether your preferred schools agree to consider your application a year later than your child's chronological age group.

Remember this is not an agreement that your child will be offered a place at your preferred schools. Only that they agree to process your application a year late.

If schools agree:

- We will cancel your current secondary school application
- You should re-apply for a secondary school a year later, when your child is attending primary school in year 6
- You will need to apply at that time using a paper or PDF application form. Please contact us at School Admissions for the application form
- Include again the letter from your child's current headteacher

Remember if you later choose to apply for schools which were not consulted while your child was in year 5, these schools may refuse to process your child's application for year 7 outside their chronological age group.

If schools do not agree:

• Let us know whether you want to continue with your current application for year 7 places at your preferred schools, while your child is in year 5.

Applying for a school place

Haringey Residents Educated out of Age Group in Primary School

Right of appeal

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. However, this right does not apply if your child is offered a place at the school but it is not in your preferred age group.

