

Hints and tips for applying to a secondary school

For entry in September 2021



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Apply online:
[www.rbkc.gov.uk/
school-admissions](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/school-admissions)

The Pan-London eAdmissions
site opens on 1 September 2020.

If your child was born between
1 September 2009 and 31 August
2010, you will need to apply
for a secondary school place
by 31 October 2020.

The benefits of applying online

- It is quick and easy to do.
- You can apply from any location with internet access 24 hours a day, seven days a week up until the closing date, **31 October 2020**.
- You can log back on to change or delete preferences up until 11.59pm on the closing date.
- You can register your mobile phone number to receive reminder alerts.
- You will automatically receive a confirmation email with a reference number once you submit your application.
- You are able to attach additional documents.
- During the evening of **1 March 2021**, you will be sent an email informing you that your outcome is available.
- Once you have received this email, you can log onto the Pan-London eAdmissions website to accept or decline your offer.

If you would prefer to complete a paper application form, please contact the Admissions Team.



Where to obtain the information you need

Each September all local authorities provide information for parents that sets out the admissions process and procedures.

This leaflet has been produced to provide you with some basic hints and tips on the application process and as a first point of reference to obtain more detailed information.

The Council's brochure will be online from the beginning of September at: **www.rbkc.gov.uk/school-admissions**

The brochure explains the application process in detail and sets out the admission criteria for each school in Kensington and Chelsea.

Where possible, parents/carers are encouraged to access information online. You can also obtain more detailed information from each of the secondary schools by either attending open days/evenings, or visiting their websites.

All the contacts you will need can be found in the local authority brochure where the schools are located.



Research, research, research!

If you have not already done so, you must research the schools that you are interested in applying to.

You can do this by:

- Reading the admission criteria to find out if your child is likely to be offered a place, and look at how places were offered in the previous year.
- Attending open days/evenings held at the schools. The dates and times are included in this leaflet.
- Checking if the schools you want to apply to require your child to take a test.
- Checking if the school requires additional forms to be completed (this would normally apply to church schools).
- Speaking to your primary school head teacher. They will have experience based on previous transfers and the schools their pupils were offered.
- Contacting the Admissions Team for advice if you are unclear on how the system works. You will find contact details on the back cover of this leaflet.



Hints and tips for applying

Familiarise yourself with the admission criteria for schools

When you begin researching schools, you will need to read the admission criteria for the school/schools you want to apply to. The admission criteria is often very different for each school so you must read the criteria carefully in order to assess the likelihood of your child being offered a place.

To give you some examples of what to check for:

- Church schools will give priority to applicants that can demonstrate practice of the respective faith if they receive more applications than places available.
- There are schools that will require your child to sit a fair banding test.
- Not all schools give priority to siblings so you will need to check this first.

- If you feel there are exceptional medical and/or social reasons you want to be considered, you will need to check the school has this as a criteria.
- Distance from home to school is often used as a tie-breaker, but there are schools that use random allocation (lottery).
- Some schools have a priority area and/or feeder primary schools.

These are some factors that you need to be aware of when deciding which schools to apply for.

In all cases, if a school receives more applications than places available, the school's admission criteria must be applied. There is no guarantee that your child will be offered a place at your preferred school, even if it is the closest school to where you live.



You can apply for up to six schools

Please remember that you can apply for up to six schools. Even after you have researched the schools and you have decided where to apply, unless you are 100 per cent sure that your child will be offered a place (for example there will be a brother or sister on roll and the school lists this as a priority in the criteria), you should not assume that your child will be offered a place. You should also consider other schools where you know you will have a good chance of gaining a place.

Adding further schools to your list will not affect your chances of being offered a place at a higher preference school. Schools are not informed of other preferences you have made or the order you place them.

Take special care how you order your preferences

The school preferences you make are treated equally. This means that no matter where you place a school in your list of preferences, it will be treated in the same way as all other applicants who also chose that school – regardless of where they have placed the school in their list.

It is important that you list schools in the order of your preference. The reason for this is because if more than one offer of a school is returned to us, you will be offered the school that is listed the highest. For example if preference two, three and four are returned as 'Offer', only preference two will be offered. Preference three and four offers will be withdrawn and put back in the coordinated system for other applicants. Your child's name will be placed on a waiting list for preference one as this school could not make an offer.



Do I need to provide additional information?

There are some schools, usually church schools, which require you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). The SIFs for Kensington and Chelsea schools will be available from the individual schools and on the Council website.

The secondary school brochure states which schools require a SIF and/or any other documents. The online system will alert you when you enter a preference for any school that requires additional forms to be completed.

You must return the SIF and any other documents to the school. Be sure that you also name the school in your list of preferences.

You must submit your application on time

You must submit your application by **31 October 2020**. If you submit your application after this date without a valid reason, your application will be considered after all of those which were submitted on time. This will greatly affect your chances of being offered the school you want.

Will I definitely be offered one of my preferences?

You might not be offered one of your preferences, but to increase your chances of being offered one of your preferred schools, you must research the admission criteria for the schools you are interested in.

You should put at least one school in your list where you are reasonably certain your child meets the criteria.

You must submit
your application by
31 October 2020

As examples, this could be if there is a sibling already at the school and this is a high priority indicated in the school's criteria. Also, if your nearest school offers the majority of its places based on distance, then you are encouraged to add this school to your list of preferences.

As the majority of schools in the borough and neighbouring boroughs will be full, any application you submit at a later stage may mean you will not qualify for a place but will be added to a waiting list.

For further advice you can speak to the Admissions Team or the school who will be able to give guidance on the likelihood of your child being offered a place based on the information you provide. It is not possible to give any guarantee of the outcome of your application.

What happens to the preferences that I have not been offered?

Any preferences lower than the offered school will be withdrawn as these schools would have been placed back into the coordinated system and offered to other applicants.

You will automatically be placed on the waiting list for higher preference schools that were not able to offer your child a place. You also have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel against the decision not to offer your child a place at your preferred school/schools.

Visiting and test dates for Kensington and Chelsea schools



Important Covid-19 (Coronavirus) information

At the time of publishing this leaflet social distancing guidance issued by central Government is in place.

The dates and organisation of open days, evenings and test dates may therefore be subject to

change and will be dependent on Government advice that will apply at the time. You are strongly advised to check for updates on the council and schools' websites for possible changes to arrangements.

All Saints Catholic College

Mixed

☎ 020 8969 7111

🌐 www.allsaintscc.org.uk

Open mornings

Monday 5 October

Wednesday 7 October

Friday 9 October

at 9am

Open afternoons

Tuesday 6 October

Thursday 8 October

at 1pm

Open evening

Wednesday 30 September

at 6.30pm to 8.30pm

The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School

Boys

☎ 020 7603 8478

🌐 www.cvms.co.uk

Virtual open days

Open day visits will be held virtually this year with no visits to the school premises going ahead. Information will be available online from September at www.cvms.co.uk/admissions

Banding test date (all applicants)

Monday 2 November

Deadline for music aptitude application

Monday 28 September at 5pm

Music aptitude test

During the week commencing 5 October

Deadline for school's Year 7 supplementary information form

Friday 23 October by 5pm

Chelsea Academy

Mixed

☎ 020 7376 3019

🌐 www.chelsea-academy.org

Open evening

Thursday 8 October
at 6pm to 8.30pm

Academy tours

Monday 5 to Thursday 8 October
Monday 12 to Friday 16 October
daily from 9.10am
Please book via the school website.
These tours are for parents/carers only.

Deadline for music aptitude application

Monday 12 October
at 5pm

Music aptitude test

Saturday 17 October
appointments 9am to 1pm

Music aptitude results to parents

By Tuesday 27 October

Holland Park School

Mixed

☎ 020 7908 1000

🌐 www.hollandparkschool.co.uk

Open mornings

Thursday 17 September
Friday 18 September
promptly at 9.15am

Open evenings

Wednesday 16 September
Thursday 17 September
promptly at 6pm

Deadline for art aptitude applications

Monday 21 September
at 3pm

Art aptitude test

Saturday 3 October
at 8.30am
Full details obtained from the
school website.

Art aptitude results to parents

By Friday 16 October

Banding test

Saturday 21 November*
at 8.30am to 1pm
Full details obtained from the
school website.

*Applicants will receive written confirmation of the date and time. If you have listed a preference for Holland Park School but do not receive a letter, you will need to make sure your child still attends in the morning. If your child fails to attend the test it will affect their chances of being offered a place in the school.

Kensington Aldridge Academy

Mixed

☎ 020 7313 5800

🌐 www.kaa.org.uk

Open mornings

Tuesday 22 September

Wednesday 23 September

Thursday 24 September

at 9.15am to 10.15am

Tour starting every 15 minutes.

Open evening

Thursday 24 September

at 5pm to 8pm

Performing and creative arts aptitude test

Saturday 10 October

St Thomas More Language College

Mixed

☎ 020 7589 9734

🌐 www.stmlc.co.uk

Open evenings

Thursday 10 September

Wednesday 16 September

at 4.15pm

Banding test dates

Please check the school website for dates and arrangements for the test.



Schools in Kensington and Chelsea

Each school's location is pinpointed on the map on page 13.

Primary schools

- 1 Ark Brunel Academy
- 2 Ashburnham
- 3 Avondale Park Primary
- 4 Barlby
- 5 Bevington
- 6 Bousfield
- 7 Christ Church C of E
- 8 Colville
- 9 Fox
- 10 Holy Trinity C of E
- 11 Kensington Primary Academy
- 12 Marlborough
- 13 Oratory Catholic
- 14 Our Lady of Victories Catholic
- 15 Oxford Gardens
- 16 Park Walk
- 17 Servite Catholic
- 18 St Barnabas and St Philip's C of E
- 19 St Charles Catholic
- 20 St Clement and St James C of E
- 21 St Cuthbert with St Matthias C of E
- 22 St Francis of Assisi Catholic

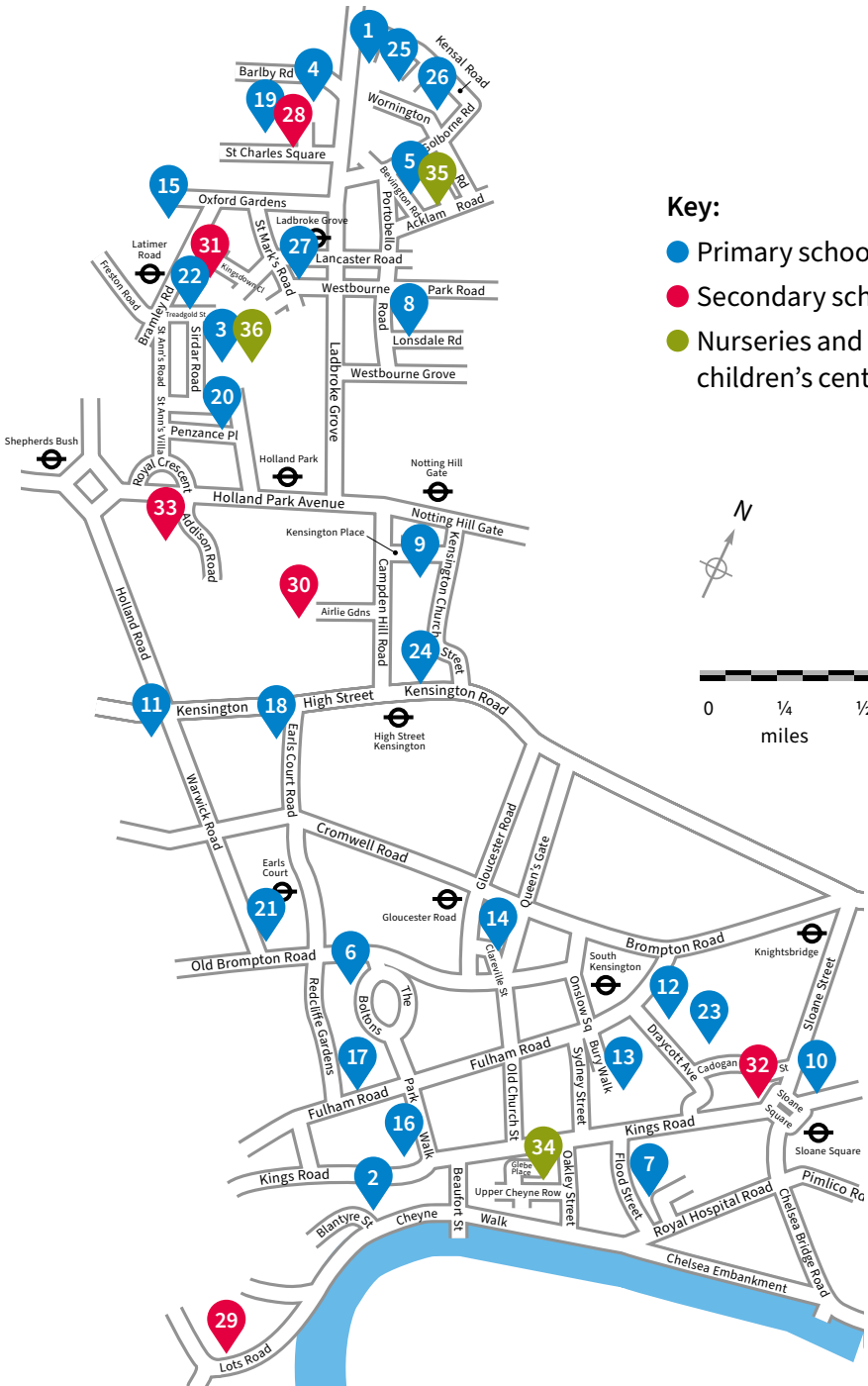
- 23 St Joseph's Catholic
- 24 St Mary Abbots C of E
- 25 St Mary's Catholic
- 26 St Thomas' C of E
- 27 Thomas Jones

Secondary schools

- 28 All Saints Catholic College (mixed)
- 29 Chelsea Academy (mixed)
- 30 Holland Park School (mixed)
- 31 Kensington Aldridge Academy (mixed)
- 32 St Thomas More Language College (Catholic, mixed)
- 33 The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School (Catholic, boys)

Community nurseries and children's centres

- 34 Chelsea Open Air Nursery School and Children's Centre
- 35 Golborne and Maxilla Federated Children's Centres
- 36 St Anne's Nursery



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2010, you will need to apply
for a secondary school place
by 31 October 2020.

Information from this document
can be made available in alternative
formats and in different languages.
If you require further assistance or
more information, please use the
contact details opposite.

Admissions Team

Green Zone, 2nd Floor
Town Hall, Hornton Street W8 7NX

- ☎ 020 7745 6432
- ✉ school.admissions@rbkc.gov.uk
- 🌐 [www.rbkc.gov.uk/
school-admissions](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/school-admissions)

 **Admissions**
LONDON