Applying to start secondary school in September 2027

Information about applying for a secondary school place, including how to apply, deciding which schools to apply for, admissions criteria and more.

Lewisham

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Who is this document for?

This document is designed to help guide parents and carers in the Lewisham borough through the admissions process for transferring to secondary school in September 2027. This information is also available online at lewisham.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

If you have any questions about the admissions process, call the Admissions Team on 020 8314 8282 (Monday to Thursday, 10am-12pm and 2-4pm, Mondays only) or email secondaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk.

Information provided in this document is subject to change by the Government or the Schools Adjudicator. Any amendments will be published at lewisham.gov.uk/admissions.

Applying for a secondary school place

This information is for people who live in the Lewisham borough. If your child lives outside the borough, you are welcome to apply for schools in Lewisham but must do so through your local council via www.eadmissions.org.uk. This information relates to community schools only; there are separate application processes for fee-paying (independent) and special needs schools.

Secondary school starting age

Children born between **1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016** are due to start secondary school in September 2027 and can participate in the application process.

If your child has an Education Health Care Plan

Children with an education health care plan (EHCP) need to follow a different admissions process.

For more information, contact the Special Educational Needs Team on **0208 314 6303 & 020 8314 6369 active Monday-Friday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm**.

Supplementary information forms

If you are applying under the religious criteria for a place at a faith school or a school which is its own admission authority, please check if they require you to complete a supplementary information form, you must complete a supplementary information form and return it to the school directly by **Saturday, 31 October 2026**. You can download the form on the school's website. Please contact the schools directly to obtain further details.

How do I apply?

You need to apply for a secondary school place online at www.eadmissions.org.uk.

There is also an eAdmissions tutorial and FAQ on the eAdmissions website.

You can find a step-by-step guide to making an online application at lewisham.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions.

The benefits of applying online are:

- it only takes a few minutes
- you will get an email confirmation saying your application has been received
- the system helps you by checking for errors
- there is no risk that your application will get lost in the post or arrive late
- you can change your preferences of school up until the closing date
- your details are held securely

On the evening of the 1 March 2027, you will get an email saying where your child has been offered a place.
When you start your application, the system will identify your home local authority from your postcode and your application will be sent electronically to us when you submit.

Before you submit your application, make sure all the information is correct, including your home address and contact details. You should read the declaration carefully.

The deadline for applications is 11.59pm on 31 October 2026. We recommend you submit your application by Friday 23 October 2026.

Proof of address and parental responsibility

You must apply using your child's full and formal name as stated on their birth certificate. Do not shorten your child's name or use nicknames.

All applicants will be required to demonstrate that the address they are applying from is their permanent home address and that they have parental responsibility and therefore eligible to apply for a school place for the child.

If the child is starting reception or secondary school, and is not at a Lewisham primary school, hasn't had their documents checked before, or has moved address since joining a Lewisham school, you must send the following required documents with the application:

One document from Section A
One document from Section B to confirm their address when applying:

Section A (all documents must be current)

- Council Tax bill/statement or letter
- Tenancy agreement or solicitor's letter
- Letter from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) or UK Border Authority (UKBA)
- A letter from any other local or national housing organisation (on headed paper)
- Proof of house purchase - only a solicitors completion document will be accepted - we do not accept exchange documents.

Section B (all documents must be current)
Parents must provide **one** of the following documents to confirm the child's date of birth:

- A valid passport
- EU national identity card
- Any other legal document which has the child's name and date of birth on it.

If applicant is living with a family member or friend, they need to provide ALL of the following:

- a letter from the family member or friend stating that the parent and the child reside with them at the address listed on the application.
- A copy of their current council tax bill
- Driver's license or NHS registration letter/card or bank statement addressed to the parents at the address on the application.

Parents may state the reasons why they wish their child to attend a particular school, including whether there is a sibling already attending the school. All documents submitted will be considered.

Permanent home address: Proof of permanent home address will be required and will include the current Council Tax statement. In addition, Lewisham may require copies of utility bills.
Lewisham is aware that some parents rent a property close to a popular school to increase the likelihood of their child gaining admission. To establish an applicant's permanent rather than temporary home address the following will be required;

- Closing accounts for the last known address,
- official confirmation of the end of tenancy or house sale for the last known address,
- A tenancy agreement via a commercial letting agency, or
- Solicitor's confirmation of the completion of the purchase of the new property.

Where the tenancy or ownership of the last known address has not been surrendered, Lewisham will accept this last known address as the permanent home address.

In establishing permanent home address Lewisham may also check records held within the Council as well as other external agencies. If a false address has been given and an offer made on the basis of that information, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

Who needs to provide proof of address or parental responsibility

If your address hasn't changed since your child registered for primary school, you do not need to provide proof of address when you apply. However, in some cases, we will write to you when we receive your application to ask you to give us proof of your permanent address and/or proof of parental responsibility. If you don't provide these when we ask, we may not consider your application.

Shared care arrangements and parental responsibility

Lewisham will accept only one application for each child. Where parents live separately, the address used for admissions purposes will be the child's permanent home address. This will normally be the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week.

Where a child lives at two addresses and time is shared equally, parents are expected to agree which address should be used for the school application. If parents cannot agree, Lewisham will determine the address to be used for admissions purposes by considering the evidence available. Relevant evidence may include, but is not limited to:

any child arrangements order or other court order;
any written agreement between the parents;
the address registered with the child's current school, nursery or early years provider;
the address registered with the child's GP or other healthcare provider;
Child Benefit records, where applicable;
council tax, tenancy or ownership documents; and
any other evidence Lewisham considers relevant.

Where more than one person has parental responsibility, parents are expected to consult each other and agree the school application before it is submitted. If Lewisham receives more than one application for the same child, or is notified of a dispute about the application or school preferences, the Council may ask the parents to agree which application should proceed.

Where agreement cannot be reached, parents may need to seek legal advice or apply to the family court for a Specific Issue Order. Lewisham may be unable to process conflicting applications until the issue is resolved by agreement or court order.

Any decision by Lewisham about the address to be used for admissions purposes is made only for the purpose of applying the admission arrangements. It does not determine any dispute between parents about parental responsibility, child arrangements or which school the child should attend.

Lewisham's School Admissions Service reserves the right to request further documents should parents/carers not be able to provide the documentation listed above or if we need further information in order to verify and process the application at any stage.

Applications from residents living in new developments

If your address is not recognised by the eAdmissions website, or you live in a new development, you should call us on 020 8314 8282 or email **secondaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk.**

Fraudulent applications

Applications must be made by someone with legal parental responsibility for the child and from the address where the child permanently lives.

If an application is found to be false or misleading, it will be treated as fraudulent. This means the application and any school place offered may be withdrawn.

Useful websites

Read everything you need to know about applying to start secondary school in the Lewisham borough at lewisham.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions.

Find detailed information about all secondary schools in the borough and discover which ones are closest to your home at lewisham.gov.uk/secondaryschools.

Important dates

What	When
Schools open for visits (please check with the schools)	September and October 2026
Applications open (apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk)	1 September 2026
Starting Secondary School Event Town Hall, Civic Suite*	14 September 2026
Closing date for applications	31 October 2026 (we recommend you submit your online application by 23 October 2026)
Closing date for supplementary information forms (if required) – return to the school directly	31 October 2026
Closing date for 'late for good reason' applications and those who changed address since 31 October 2026	8 December 2026
Offers (National Offer Day)	1 March 2027
If you applied online, outcome emails will be sent out during the evening of the 1 March	
Deadline for accepting your offer	15 March 2027
If you applied online, you must accept the offer online. If you filled in a paper application, you should return the acceptance slip to us.	
Appeals	
Closing date for lodging an appeal for a community school	15 March 2027
Admissions authorities of other schools may set the same or a later deadline.	
Appeal hearings	May-July 2027

- Eventbrite registration link and QR code for the Starting Secondary School event at the Town Hall, Civic Suite

Add new QR Code which is attached

Deciding which secondary schools to apply for

When you apply for a secondary school place for your child, you can list up to six schools on the application. These can be inside or outside the borough of Lewisham.

There are 14 secondary schools in the Lewisham borough. We recommend researching a range of schools, especially those closest to your home, as not every child will be offered their first preference.

Most secondary schools in Lewisham are likely to be oversubscribed, so it's important to consider all your local options - including both faith and non-faith schools. To give your child the best chance of getting a place, we strongly recommend that you use all six preferences when you apply.

Find detailed information about all secondary schools in the borough and discover which ones are closest to your home at lewisham.gov.uk/secondaryschools**.**

Visiting schools

Schools have set provisional dates for their open days and evenings, which will be shared on their websites. Before attending, please check directly with the school to confirm that the event is still going ahead, as dates may change.

Admissions criteria

Most secondary schools receive more applications than places available. If you apply to an oversubscribed school, places are offered based on the school's admissions criteria.

To help you make informed choices, it's important to read the admissions criteria for each school you're considering. This will help you understand whether your child is likely to qualify for a place.

Voluntary-aided schools, foundation schools, free schools, and academies have their own criteria for deciding which children to admit. Visit the school's website to read the full admissions policy and annual intake.

Admissions criteria for community schools

For the exact legal wording of the criteria, read our determined admissions policy.

When a community school in the borough is oversubscribed will use the following criteria and offer places to:

1. **Looked after children**

Children who are looked after or were previously looked after by a local authority, receive the highest priority for a school place. If a child meets one of the following

definitions, parents should indicate this on the application and include supporting evidence. A looked after or previously looked after child is:

A child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time an application for a school is made, for example, children who are fostered or living in a children's home.

b. A child who have previously been in the care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and who have left that care through adoption, a child arrangement order (in accordance with section 8 of the Children Act 1989 and as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014) or special guardianship order (in accordance with section 14A of the Children Act 1989).

c. A child who appears (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child will be regarded as having been in state care outside England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society. The parent/carer will need to provide evidence to demonstrate that the child was in state care outside England and left that care as a result of being adopted.

Parents applying under this criterion must provide appropriate evidence of the child's status. This may include written confirmation from the relevant local authority, an adoption order, child arrangements order, special guardianship order, or, in the case of a child who appears to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be in state care as a result of adoption, evidence that the child was in state care and subsequently adopted. The local authority may request further information where necessary to determine whether this criterion is met.

2. Medical or social

In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs, before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be considered in consultation with a panel of teaching and medical professionals. Medical professionals provide advice on applications made under medical conditions and teaching professionals advise on applications made for social or special reasons. Supporting evidence must be provided before the closing date for applications.

Crown servants and military personnel

Lewisham has a military covenant that enhances services offered by the Council to ex / serving military and their extended families, all applications for school places for the children of full-time service personnel are prioritised under the 'exceptional medical or social' criterion for Lewisham's community schools.

3. Siblings

11–16 community schools - Children whose older brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications as well as those whose sibling was a former pupil of the school and who transferred to a 16-18 education provision at the end of the previous academic year. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given first to:

(i) children of staff, then

(ii) those who are permanently living nearest to the school.

Or

11-18 community schools - Children whose brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications and will still be on the roll of the school at the intended date of admission. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given first to:

(i) to those children of staff, then

(ii) to those living nearest the school.

In all cases siblings include all blood and adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.

4. **Children of a member of staff**

Priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff is employed at the school and either:

a. has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application for admission is made; or

b. was recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

For the purposes of this criterion, "staff" means staff directly employed by the school. This criterion does not apply to contractors, agency staff, volunteers or other staff who are not directly employed to work at the school.

Parents applying under this criterion must provide confirmation from the headteacher that the member of staff meets one of the requirements set out above.

Where priority is claimed on the basis of recruitment to a post with a demonstrable skill shortage, the headteacher's confirmation must explain that the post was identified as having a demonstrable skill shortage at the time of recruitment.

Where there are more applicants under this criterion than places available, priority will be determined by applying the distance criterion

5. Distance to school

Remaining places will be allocated on the basis of home-to-school distance, with priority given to children who live nearest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line using the Local Authority's computerised distance measuring system. Measurements will be taken from the address point for the child's permanent home address to designated point within the school.

The Council uses geographical references, including eastings and northings, provided by the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG), to determine the address point for each property. The address point will usually fall within the footprint of the property.

Where two or more applicants have the same measured distance from the school and there are insufficient places for all of them, priority will be determined as follows:

a. where the applicants live in the same block of flats or other multi-occupancy building, priority will be given to the applicant whose home address has the lowest door number, ordered numerically and then alphabetically; and

b. where this does not resolve the tie, or where applicants live at different addresses but have the same measured distance, priority will be determined by drawing lots in accordance with the tie-break procedure set out in section 8.

Twins, triplets and other multiple births

Where twins, triplets or children from other multiple births qualify for the last school place to be allocated Lewisham will admit all the qualifying siblings more than the published admissions number and they will be considered as 'excepted pupils.

Tie break

On the rare occasion where two or more identical applications qualify for the last available place, lots will be drawn to decide which qualifying child is offered the place.

Where one or more applicants live exactly the same distance from the school applied for and all would qualify for the last available place, the allocation of the last place will be made by drawing lots.

This will be done in the presence of two from the following list: a Headteacher from a different school, Lewisham's independent Clerk, A Lewisham Cllr. The two present will sign the results to validate that the process has been used correctly; this will be kept for 2 years from the date of the lot drawing.

The first child drawn will be offered the place, the names of the children who were unsuccessful will be added to the waiting list in accordance with the published admission criteria, in the same way as for other children.

Crown servants

Families of UK service personnel, or crown servants, returning from overseas to live in the Lewisham borough, can apply for a school place for a child who does not live in Lewisham. If you apply under this criterion, you must also submit an official letter from the relevant government department that states the relocation date and/or unit postal address, quartering area address, or family home address. You must give us your relocation address so we can allocate places fairly and in accordance with the school's admissions criteria.

You should tell us about any changes to your planned address during the application process. If you can't give us confirmation of your relocation address, we may not be able to process your application. If you do not qualify, do not tick this box on the application form, as it may delay your application being processed.

Lewisham has a military covenant that enhances services offered by the Council to ex / serving military and their extended families, all applications for school places for the children of full-time service personnel are prioritised under the 'exceptional medical or social' criterion under for Lewisham's community schools.

Applicants from overseas

Usually, children arriving from overseas have the right to attend schools in England. Schools will not refuse to admit a child because of their nationality or immigration status, nor remove them from a roll. However, it is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their children have an immigration status that allows them to enter the UK to access a state-funded school. Parents are therefore advised to ensure that their children have the appropriate right to access a state-funded school before

applying for a school place for their children at any community and academy schools in the London Borough of Lewisham.

- see our guidance if you have recently moved to Lewisham from overseas

- for further information please read: School applications for foreign national children and children resident outside England - GOV.UK

If you are moving to the UK or have moved to the UK from overseas you must check that you have either:
right of abode (you're allowed to live or work in the UK without any immigration restrictions),
or
Certificate of Entitlement that the conditions of your immigration status otherwise allow you to access a state-funded school.

These admissions criteria are used by:

- Deptford Green School
- Forest Hill School
- Sydenham School

Own Admissions Authority Schools – some of these school may require a supplementary form, please check their website.

- Addey and Stanhope School
- Bonus Pastor Catholic College
- Conisborough College
- Haberdashers' Hatcham College
- Haberdashers' Knights Academy
- Prendergast Ladywell School
- Prendergast School
- Prendergast Vale
- St Matthew Academy
- Sedgehill Academy
- Trinity CE of Lewisham School

Waiting lists

In accordance with the pan London agreement, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to coordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the school admissions code section 2.15, waiting lists for Year 7 for secondary schools will be maintained in a clear, fair, and transparent way until 31 December of each school year of admission. When new applicants are added or withdrawn from the waiting list; it will be reranked in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

Priority will not be given to children based on the date their application was received, nor when their name was added to the list. Looked after children or previously looked after children or those allocated a place at the school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol must take precedence over those on a waiting list.

Educated out of cohort for transfer to secondary school

Continuing to be educated out of cohort

Parents may request admission outside the normal age group at the point of transfer to secondary school. This may include:

a request for a child who has been educated below their chronological age group in primary school to continue to be educated below their chronological age group at secondary school; or
a request for a child to be admitted to Year 7 earlier than their normal age group.

Where a child has been educated below their chronological age group in primary school, parents may instead choose for the child to apply for secondary transfer in their chronological age group. This may mean that the child moves from Year 5 to Year 7 and does not complete Year 6. This is not a request for admission outside the normal age group, but parents should consider the educational implications and may wish to discuss this with the child's current school.

Where parents are requesting admission outside the normal age group at secondary transfer, they should submit both:

an application for a secondary school place; and
a written request for admission outside the normal age group, at the same time and before the closing date for secondary transfer applications for the year group in which they are seeking admission.

Where the request is for a child who has been educated below their chronological age group to continue to be educated below their chronological age group at secondary school, this will usually mean making the request by 31 October when the child is in Year 5, rather than Year 6. This is so that the admission authority can decide the year group in which the application should be considered and parents can make an informed decision before Secondary National Offer Day.

Where the request is for early admission to Year 7, parents should make the request before the closing date for applications for the Year 7 cohort they wish their child to join.
The admission authority will determine the request and notify parents of the outcome in time for them to make an informed decision about their child's secondary transfer application.

Approval of a request does not guarantee a place at a particular school. Where a request is agreed, the child's application will be processed as part of the main admissions round for the agreed year group and will be considered in accordance with the published admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria. The application will not be given lower priority because the child is being admitted outside their normal age group.

Where a request for admission outside the normal age group at secondary transfer is refused, parents will need to decide how they wish to proceed. Depending on the circumstances, this may include:
applying for, or accepting, a place In Year 7 in the child's chronological age group;
where the child has been educated below their chronological age group, keeping the child with their existing cohort and making an in-year application for admission to the relevant secondary year group at a later date; or
where the request was for early admission to Year 7, applying for secondary transfer in the child's normal admissions round.

Where refusal of a request would mean that a child may miss a year of education, for example by moving from Year 5 to Year 7 or from Year 6 to Year 8, the admission authority will take this into account when considering whether admission outside the normal age group is in the child's best interests.

If you would like your child to continue being educated outside their usual age group, you'll need to make a formal request.

- submit your request for a delayed start to secondary school

Early admission

In very exceptional circumstances you can request early admission for your child outside of their normal age group. This applies to children born after 31 August 2016.

The child's primary headteacher and an educational psychologist can support your application. They can provide evidence that your child is:

- academically outstanding
- sufficiently physically and emotionally mature to cope with the demands of secondary school

The admissions authority for the school will use this information to decide if they agree to your request.

If they allow your child to apply early, you need to agree that your child will transfer to secondary school in September 2027. This is regardless of the outcome of your application, and you will not qualify to take part in the planned admissions scheme the following year.

The preference system

When you apply for secondary school places, you can list up to six schools on your application. You need to list the schools in order of preference.

Applying for fewer than six schools does not improve your chances of getting a place. It is very important to list the schools in the order you prefer your child to attend. We will use your preferences to allocate school places.

How preferences work

You will receive one school offer on National Offer Day.
If your child qualifies for a place at more than one school on your list, we will offer a place at the school that is highest on your list of preferences.

If we can't offer you a place at one of the schools you applied for, we will offer you a place at the school closest to your home where there is a vacancy.

Examples of the preference system

Child A has applied to six schools. While the child does not qualify for a place at the first or second preference school, they do qualify for a place at their third preference school. We offer the third preference school to the child on National Offer Day. The fourth, fifth and sixth preference schools are 'withdrawn' as they were ranked lower on the list. The child remains on the waiting list of their first and second preference schools, and they will get the right of appeal.

Child B has applied to six schools. The schools are oversubscribed, and the child does not qualify for a place at any of them. We tell the parent the outcome and their right to appeal. We offer a place at a school in Lewisham where there is a vacancy as an alternative.

Child C has applied for six schools and can be offered a place at their first preference school on National Offer Day. All of the other schools named on the list are 'withdrawn'. The child has an older brother at their third preference school, and after National Offer Day, the parent wants the child to go to that school instead. To reinstate a lower school preference, you'll need to complete a lower preference form.

Please note that this does not guarantee a place at the school where your child's sibling attends. Your child will be added back to the waiting list for that school, and their position will be based on the school's admissions criteria.

Child D has applied for six schools, all outside the borough, and does not qualify for a place at any of them.

We offer the parent a place at a school where there is a vacancy and tell them about their right to appeal. However, the parent wants their child to go to a school close to

their home, which they hadn't applied for. That school is oversubscribed and has not been able to offer all applicants a place. To add an additional school preference, you'll need to complete an additional preference form. Please note that this does not guarantee a place at the school. Your child will be added to the waiting list for that school, and their position will be based on the school's admissions criteria.

For September 2027 admission, these schools need a completed supplementary information form:

- Bonus Pastor Catholic College (faith)
- Haberdashers' Hatcham College (music applicants)
- Haberdashers' Knights Academy (sports applicants)
- Prendergast School (music applicants)
- St Matthew Academy (faith)
- Trinity Lewisham Church of England School (faith)

Last year's application and appeal rates

The table shows how places were offered at Lewisham's community secondary schools on 2 March 2026, based on the admissions criteria.

Please note that the number of applications for September 2027 may be different.

If you're interested in how places were allocated at academies, voluntary-aided, or foundation schools, you'll need to contact those schools directly, as they manage their own admissions.

If you are applying for a school outside the Lewisham borough, please contact that borough's council directly for details on how they measure distances.

All distances were measured in metres using a straight line from a point in the applicant's home to a point in the school premises using the Ordnance Survey.

Name of school	Published admissions number	Total number of applications	Looked after children	Exceptional medical or social reasons	Sibling on roll	Distance of last place offered under home to school distance	Children with Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP)	Number of appeals heard in the summer of 2026	Successful appeals in the summer of 2026
Deptford Green School	180	550	1	1	40	3129.53	12	1	0
Forest Hill School	180	528	0	1	23	1726.82	12	3	0

Sydenham School	240	681	1	0	52	2142.15	5	2	0

All distances were measured in metres using a straight line from a point in the applicant's home to a point in the school premises using the Ordnance Survey.

Late applications

You should call us if you miss the closing date for applying (31 October 2026). You can tell us your reasons, and we will discuss how we might be able to help with your application.

If you move before 8 December 2026

If you submitted your application on time and you move home before 8 December 2026, you should contact us. If you move outside the borough, you need to apply to your new council.

If you move between 8 December 2026 and 1 March 2027

If you move home after 8 December 2026, your application will still be based on your original home address. We will honour any school place we offer you. If you accept the place you need to make sure your child attends school regularly and on time.

If you change your address between 1 March 2027 and the start of term in September 2027

If you move home after accepting an offer, your child's school place will still be honoured. However, you must ensure the journey to school is reasonable and that your child arrives and is picked up on time each day. If you've moved to a new address, please email us with your updated details. You'll also need to send proof of your new address, such as a recent council tax bill or a tenancy agreement.

If you don't need a school place in Lewisham anymore, you should let us know in writing. You need to explain why you don't need the place, including the full name and address of the school your child will attend, so we can close the application and offer the place to another child.

Offers of places

When you will get your offer

If you applied on time using the online admissions system for entry in 2027, you will receive an email on the evening of 1 March 2026.This email will tell you which secondary school your child has been offered a place at.

How to accept your place

If you applied on time, **visit the eAdmissions website** to accept the place you have been offered. You will need to log into your eAdmissions account using the same username and password you used to make your original application. If you applied via another method, you will need to follow the instructions in your letter to accept the place.

You must respond to the offer by **Monday 15 March 2027**.

If parents have received their first preference offer, we will assume they are accepting the place, the place is automatically accepted—no further action is needed.

If your child is offered their 2nd to 6th preference, you'll need to log back into the online system to accept the place.

If you submitted a paper application, please return your completed reply slip by email to secondaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk.

Declining a school place

In the unlikely event that you do not wish to accept the offer, you will need to let us know. If you applied online you can respond via the eAdmissions website **www.eadmissions.org.uk** to decline the place offered. If you made a paper application, please send an email to **secondaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk.**

If you do not accept the offer, you will need to confirm what alternative arrangements you are making for your child's education.

If you have been offered a place at a school, you did NOT apply for

If you live in the borough and we can't offer you a place at any of the schools on your list, we will offer you a place at your nearest Lewisham school that has a vacancy. This could be a faith or non-faith school.

Visit the school

Before making a decision to decline your child's school offer, we strongly recommend that you take time to learn more about the school. Speak with the

headteacher and explore what the school has to offer in terms of education, support, and opportunities for your child.

Headteachers are usually very happy to speak with parents and may offer a tour of the school - either in person or virtually. They can help you understand how your child can thrive, aspire, and succeed there.

If you have been offered a place but still want to be considered for a higher preference school

We recommend that you accept the school place you have been offered. Your child's name will automatically be placed on the waiting list for all higher preference schools than the school offered.

Between 2 March 2027 and the start of the school term in September 2027, waiting lists are subject to change as applicants leave or join, so there is still an opportunity for your child to be offered a higher preference school.

Waiting lists

In accordance with the pan London agreement, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to coordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the school admissions code section 2.15, waiting lists for year 7 for secondary schools will be maintained in a clear, fair, and transparent way until 31 December of each school year of admission. When new applicants are added or withdrawn from the waiting list; it will be reranked in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

Priority will not be given to children based on the date their application was received, nor when their name was added to the list. Looked after children or previously looked after children or those allocated a place at the school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol must take precedence over those on a waiting list.

You will automatically be added to the waiting list for any schools that are higher on your preference list than the school we offered you. This includes schools outside of the Lewisham borough.

If you are on a waiting list for a school and you decide you are happy with the school you have already been offered, please tell us so we can offer the place to another child.

More information

You can get advice and information on a wide range of school-related issues from the Department for Education, including the school admissions code and school admissions appeals code at **www.gov.uk/contact-dfe.**

Appeals

How to appeal a school place

To get advice on the appeals process for community schools in the borough, call the independent appeals clerk, on 020 8314 8577 or email schooladmissionappeals@lewisham.gov.uk.

You can appeal against the decision to not offer your child a place at a school you applied for.

How to appeal

For community schools only

- Deptford Green School
- Forest Hill School
- Sydenham School

You can appeal online at www.lewisham.gov.uk/appealssecondary. You will need to log into appeals website first.

If you don't have an account, you need to register. The form usually takes about 20 minutes to complete, depending on the nature of your appeal. If you can't use the online form, you can request a hard copy by calling **020 8314 8577**.

For own admissions authority schools

You should contact the school directly to appeal for a place if your child has been refused admission to:

- Addey and Stanhope School
- Bonus Pastor Catholic College
- Conisborough College
- Haberdashers' Hatcham College
- Haberdashers' Knights Academy
- Prendergast Ladywell School
- Prendergast School
- Prendergast Vale
- St Matthew Academy
- Sedgehill Academy
- Trinity CE of Lewisham School

Before you appeal

Headteachers will be happy to show you their school and assure you that your child can excel there. If you accept the offer, you can still appeal, and your child will still stay on the waiting list for your preferred school(s).

For independent advice, parents can contact Coram Children's Legal Centre. For further information, visit www.coram.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work-and-impact/coram-childrens-legal-centre.

Timetable of appeals	
Date	**Event**
1 March 2027	You get an offer for secondary transfer for September 2027
15 April 2027	Deadline for making an appeal for community schools in the borough
May-July 2027*	Appeal hearings for community schools in the borough

*These dates may be subject to change

Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

If your child has an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan, the secondary transfer process is different from the standard admissions process. For more information about the admissions process for children with SEND, visit lewisham.gov.uk/senadmissions, call the Special Educational Needs Team on 0208 314 6303 & 020 8314 6369 active Monday-Friday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pmor email sen@lewisham.gov.uk.

Mainstream schools

There are four mainstream secondary schools in the borough that offer specialist resource provision. Each resource has its own admissions criteria based on the primary need. The schools with a specialist resource are:

Secondary school	Primary need
Addey & Stanhope School Lexis Resource Base	Specialist resource provision for young people with speech, language and communication difficulties
Conisborough College	Specialist resource provision for autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)
Deptford Green School	Specialist resource provision for severe dyslexia with either speech, language and communication difficulties, and/or autism

Sedgehill Academy	Specialist resource provision for the deaf

Education Pathways in Key Stage 4

(Year 10 and 11) Children in Year 9 will begin to consider their options in Key Stage 4 including alternative provisions that admit children at the beginning of Year 10. This does not mean that you have to move your child to another school. Providers that admit pupils in Year 10 are called University Technical Colleges (UTCs), Studio Schools or FE Colleges with 'Direct Recruit' provision.

UTCs are set up by universities and business and specialise in one or two technical subjects. In years 10 and 11 they will offer a similar GCSE curriculum to your child's current school, including English and Maths, as well as their specialist subject. You can find out more at www.bakerdearing.org.

Studio schools have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience. They too will offer a similar curriculum to your child's current school. You can find out more at www.studioschoolstrust.org.

Local FE Colleges that admit for Direct Recruit include Bromley College and Tower Hamlets College. Contact details for them and others within the London area can be found at lewisham.gov.uk/alternativeprovision.

There are no UTCs or Studio Schools in Lewisham, but you can view a list of those in the Greater London area which admit pupils into Year 10 at lewisham.gov.uk/14to16.

The application process is set out on the website for each provider.

Before deciding to apply for a place at these providers, please discuss the options carefully with your child's headteacher or a member of the school's senior leadership team. Alternatively, you and your child can seek advice and support from Baseline, a drop-in service located at:

Baseline
The Leemore Centre, Clarendon Rise

(Entrance in Bonfield Road)

Lewisham

SE13 5EU

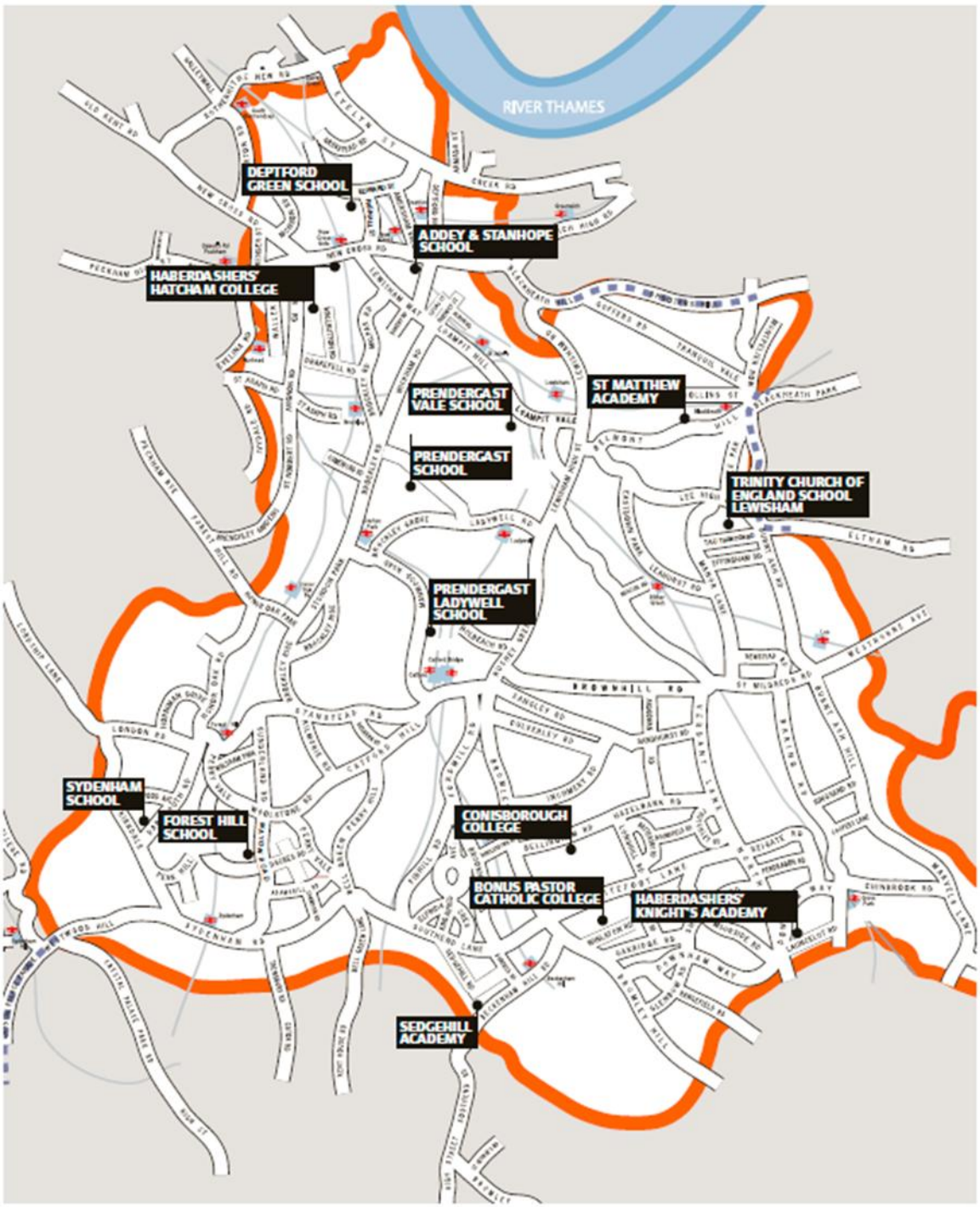
Telephone: 020 8852 9790

Opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 10am to 5pm

Thursday: 10am to 4pm

Map of secondary schools in Lewisham



Secondary Schools in Lewisham

Location Key: ♦ = Northwest ● = Central and northeast ■ = Southwest ▲ = Southeast

DFE	School	Published admissions number	Age
209 4600 ♦	**Addey and Stanhope School (Boys & Girls)** 472 New Cross Road, SE14 6TJ **(T):** 020 8305 6100 **(E):** info@addeystanhope.co.uk **(W):** addeystanhope.co.uk **Headteacher:** David Murrells (acting headteacher) **Nearest stations:** New Cross, New Cross Gate and Deptford Bridge, **Bus routes:** 21, 36, 47, 53, 75, 77,136, 171, 172, 225, 321, 436, 453	120	11-16
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4802 ●	**Bonus Pastor Catholic College (Boys & Girls)** Winlaton Road Bromley, BR1 5PZ **(T):** 020 8695 2100 **(E):** office@bp.lewisham.sch.uk **(W):** www.bonuspastor.co.uk **Headteacher:** Mr Conor Mahon **Places available Sept 2025:** 180 **Admissions:** Voluntary aided school **Nearest stations:** Beckenham Hill **Bus routes:** 54, 136, 181, 208, 320	180	11-16
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4047 ♦	**Deptford Green School (Boys & Girls)** Edward Street, SE14 6AN **(T):** 020 8691 3236 **(E):** info@deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk **(W):** www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk **Headteacher:** Emma Thurston **Admissions:** Community school **Nearest stations:** Deptford, Deptford Bridge, New Cross Gate and New Cross **Bus routes:** 21, 53, 453, 136, 436, 171, 172, 177, 225	180	11-16
DFE	**School**	Published admissions number	Age

209 4249 ●	**Conisborough College (Boys & Girls)** Conisborough Crescent, Catford, SE6 2SE **(T):** 020 8461 9600 **(E):** info@cc.lewisham.sch.uk **(W):** www.conisboroughcollege.co.uk **Principal:** Miss Lucy Oragano **Admissions:** Academy school **Nearest station:** Bellingham Bus routes: 47, 54, 124, 136, 199, 208, 320	180	11-16
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4289 ■	**Forest Hill School (Boys)** Dacres Road SE23 2XN **(T):** 020 8699 9343 **(E):** info@foresthillschool.co.uk **(W):** www.foresthillschool.co.uk **Headteacher:** Michael Sullivan **Admissions:** Community school **Nearest stations:** Forest Hill and Sydenham **Bus routes:** 75, 122, 176, 194,202, 312, 351, 352, 450	180	11-18 SFH6 mixed sixth form
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 6905 ♦	**Haberdashers' Hatcham College (Boys & Girls)** **Pepys Road, SE14 5SF** **(T):** 020 7652 9510 **(E**): hreception@haaf.org.uk **(W):** www.haaf.org.uk **Executive Principal:** Ms Katie Scott **Admissions:** Academy school **Nearest stations:** Brockley, New Cross and New Cross Gate **Bus routes:** 36, 53, 171, 225, 321**,** 343, 453, 484 * Supplementary information form will be required if applying for a music place	224	11-18
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 6906 ▲	**Haberdashers' Knights Academy (Boys & Girls)** Launcelot Road, BR1 5EB **(T):** 020 8461 9240 **(E):** kreception@habstrustsouth.org.uk **(W):** www.habsknights.org.uk **Academy Principal:** Ms Jemma Clark **Admissions:** Academy **Nearest station:** Grove Park **Bus routes:** 124, 126, 136, 261, 284, 361	180	3–18

	* Supplementary information form will be required if applying for a sports place		
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4646 ♦	**Prendergast School (Girls)** Adelaide Avenue, SE4 1LE **(T):** 020 8690 3710 **(E):** admin@prendergast-school.com **(W):** www.prendergast-school.com **Executive Headteacher:** Paula Ledger **Headteacher:** Kelly Lovegrove **Admissions:** Academy school **Nearest stations:** Ladywell, Crofton Park and Brockley **Bus routes:** 122, 284, 484, P4 * Supplementary information form will be required if applying for a music place	120	11-18
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4323 ♦	**Prendergast Ladywell School (Boys & Girls)** Manwood Road, SE4 1SA **(T):** 020 8690 1114 **(E):** reception.pl@lsfed.com **(W):** www.prendergast-ladywell.com **School Executive Headteacher:** Paula Ledger **Headteacher:** Niall Hand **Admissions:** Academy school **Nearest stations:** Crofton Park, Catford and Catford Bridge **Bus routes:** 185, 284, 54, 122, 75, 136, 181	180	11-18
DFE	**School**	Published admissions number	Age
209 5201 ♦	**Prendergast Vale School (Boys & Girls)** Elmira Street, SE13 7BN **(T):** 020 8297 3540 **(E):** admin@prendergast-vale.com **(W):** www.prendergastvale.com **Executive Headteacher:** Paula Ledger **Headteacher:** Edmund Coogan **Admissions:** Academy **Nearest station:** Lewisham **Bus routes:** 21,47,136,225,321,436,	120	3-16
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**

209 4267 ▲	**Sedgehill Academy (Boys & Girls)** Sedgehill Road, SE6 3QW **(T):** 020 8698 8911 **(E):** info@sedgehillacademy.org.uk **(W):** www.sedgehillacademy.org.uk **Head of School:** Clare Cassidy **Admissions:** Academy **Nearest station:** Beckenham Hill **Bus routes:** 54, 136, 138, 181, 208, 320	180	11-18
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 6907 ●	**St Matthew Academy (Boys & Girls)** St Joseph's Vale, SE3 0XX **(T):** 020 8853 6250 **(E):** info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk **(W):** www.stmatthewacademy.co.uk **Executive Headteacher:** Mr James Potter **Admissions:** Catholic all-through academy **Nearest stations:** Blackheath **Bus routes:** 54, 89, 108, 202, 261, 321 * Supplementary information form will be required if applying for a faith place	180	3-16
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4204 ■	**Sydenham School (Girls)** Dartmouth Road, SE26 4RD **(T):** 020 8699 6731 **(E):** info@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk **(W):** www.sydenham.lewisham.uk **Headteacher:** Emma Wijnberg **Admissions:** Community school **Nearest stations:** Forest Hill or Sydenham **Bus routes:** 122, 171, 176, 185, 312	240	11-18 Mixed Sixth Form
DFE	**School**	**Published admissions number**	**Age**
209 4636 ●	**Trinity Church of England School Lewisham (Boys & Girls)** Taunton Road, SE12 8PD **(T):** 020 8852 3191 **(E):** admin@trinity.lewisham.sch.uk	120	3-16

	(W): www.trinitylewisham.org.uk **Executive Headmaster:** David Lucas **Admissions:** Voluntary aided all through school **Nearest stations:** Hither Green and Lee **Bus routes:** 122, 178, 202, 261, 273, 321 * supplementary information form will be required if applying for a faith place		

Useful contacts

Lewisham School Admissions Team
Tel: 020 8314 8282
Monday to Thursday 10am-12 noon
and 2-4pm Mondays only

School Benefits Team (free school meals)
Tel: 020 8314 6221
Monday and Tuesday only, 10am-2pm

Attendance and Welfare Service
Tel: 020 8314 6272
Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm

Lewisham Special Educational Needs Team
Kaleidoscope, 32 Rushey
Green, Catford SE6 4JF
Tel: 020 8314 6303 & 020 8314 6369
Monday-Friday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm

Coram Children's Legal Centre
www.coram.org.uk

Department for Education
www.gov.uk/education

Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (Church of England)
Tel: 020 7234 9200
www.southwark.anglican.org

Education Commission, Catholic Diocese of Southwark
Tel: 01689 829331
www.educationcommission.org.uk

Local Government Ombudsman
Tel: 0300 061 0614
www.lgo.org.uk

Office of the Schools Adjudicator
Bishopsgate House, Feethams, Darlington, DA1 5QE
Tel: 01325 340525
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-of-the-schools-adjudicator

Schools in other boroughs

If you live in the Lewisham borough and you want to apply for schools in other areas, you must apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk. As your local council, we will coordinate your application. For information about schools in other boroughs, contact the school directly or the local council.

Bexley School Admissions
Tel: 020 8303 7777
www.bexley.gov.uk

Bromley School Admissions
Tel: 020 8313 4044
www.bromley.gov.uk

Croydon School Admissions
Tel: 020 8726 6400
www.croydon.gov.uk

Greenwich School Admissions
Tel: 020 8921 8043
www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Lambeth School Admissions
Tel: 020 7926 9503
www.lambeth.gov.uk

Southwark School Admissions
Tel: 020 7525 5337
www.southwark.gov.uk