

Parents' Guide to Secondary Education in Shropshire

2027/28

Closing Date:

SECONDARY applications ●●●● 31 October 2026



Appeals

In-Year Appeals: heard throughout the academic year

Transfer to Secondary Appeals: heard May – July 2027

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Introduction

Shropshire Council wants all children and young people to be happy, healthy and reach their full potential, supported by their families, friends and the wider community.

Shropshire Council provides and commissions a range of services to support children and young people's development at every stage from their early years through to preparing them for school, further and higher education, vocational training, or work.

We are committed to helping all children and young people to access good or better education provision and achieve their best. We want every child and young person to achieve their potential.

The Shropshire Plan includes the following priorities:

Under the Healthy People priorities: "We are committed to provide early support and interventions that reduce risk and enable children and young people and their families to achieve their full potential and enjoy life".

Under the Healthy Economy priorities: "We will provide access to lifelong learning, supporting people and our communities to prosper and through providing the right skills".

Shropshire Council promotes equal opportunities and positive race relations throughout all its schools.

This booklet provides parents with the basic information they need to access secondary education, both with and without sixth forms, and support for Special Needs. We advise that you read it carefully before making an application for a school. Applications can be made online. You may need to refer to this booklet even after you have made your application, as it contains other important information about admissions, transport and other matters.

Every state-funded secondary school in Shropshire Council's area is listed in this booklet, along with the address, telephone number, headteacher's name, age range, number of pupils on roll, the maximum number of pupils the school can take in September 2027, and whether the school had more applications than places available in previous years. This may help you to assess the possibility of receiving an offer at your preferred school. All Shropshire Secondary schools are co-educational.

For more information you can contact the School Admissions Team at Shropshire Council. They will be pleased to give you help or advice. Please see below for the contact details:

Children's Services - Learning & Skills

School Admissions Team

Shropshire Council, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ

Telephone: 01743 254331

Email:

school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

Website:

www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

●●●●Secondary Schools

What kind of secondary schools are there in Shropshire?

Most secondary schools in Shropshire are mixed comprehensive schools for 11 – 16-year-olds. Some have a Sixth Form (shown as 11–18 on the list of secondary schools on pages 6-31.

The school in St Martin's, near Oswestry, is an all-through primary and secondary school. Parents/carers apply for a school place in Reception and do not need to make a further application to transfer into the secondary department. However, parents/carers whose children have attended other local primary schools who want a place in the secondary department of the all-through school, will need to apply when their child is in Year 6.

Other provision for over 16's is offered by sixth form and general further education colleges (see the list on page 63) and independent training providers.

The Thomas Adams School in Wem has boarding facilities (see p22 for more details).

All secondary schools provide a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical development in line with the Government's requirements. Schools are also free to include subjects or topics of their own choice in planning and designing their education programme. They also offer many additional opportunities through a wide range of activities which happen outside normal lesson times, such as visits to places of interest and clubs for different activities including sports.

They also offer many additional opportunities through a wide range of activities which happen outside normal lesson times, such as visits to places of interest and clubs for different activities, including sports. Previously many secondary schools achieved specialist status for their work in particular aspects of the curriculum. Although specific funding for this work is no longer available you may still see reference to the specialism on school websites etc. The oversubscription criteria, however, remains unchanged. In other words, the allocation of

places does not make any allowance for pupils who wish to study a particular specialism, even though some parents give this as a reason for their preference or, in the event of an unsuccessful application, at a subsequent appeal.

Academies do not have to follow the National Curriculum but are expected to offer a broad and balanced curriculum.

Where can I get more information about the schools?

Ofsted (The Office for Standards in Education) assesses all our schools through a regular cycle of inspection. The most recent inspection report on a school can be found on the Internet at www.ofsted.gov.uk or obtained from the school.

You will find a list of Shropshire secondary schools on pages 6 - 33 of this booklet. The number of pupils at the school is shown against each one, along with the number of new pupils it can take next year (September 2027), the number of applicants who gave that school as their first preference for previous years, which schools had more applying for a place than there were places available, and how many appeals were successful for each school.

If you would like more information about individual schools, please contact the school direct and ask for their prospectus. Each school has an Open Evening for children and their parents. (Please see details on page 39.)



Who Can Apply?

Applications must be made by one parent (who has parental responsibility) from the child's **genuine home address**. Shropshire Council will only use a child's legal guardian's address, their child's only or main residence, for their child's application for a school place.

A relative or carer(s) can only make an application if those persons(s) have legal custody of the child. Evidence of legal custody or parental responsibility such as a court order is needed. For admissions purposes, we do not accept informal kinship arrangements.

What is considered the child's home address?

The child's home address is the residential property that is the child's only or main residence and which is either:

- owned by the child's parent, carer(s) or the person(s) with parental responsibility for the child*
- leased to, or rented by, the child's parent, carer(s) or the person(s) with parental responsibility for the child*

Important: If the parent or carer(s) have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with each parent for part of the week, then the main residence will be the address where the child lives for most of the school week.

We can only accept one application from one address per child. The parent or carer(s) must ensure they are both happy with the schools listed on the child's application.

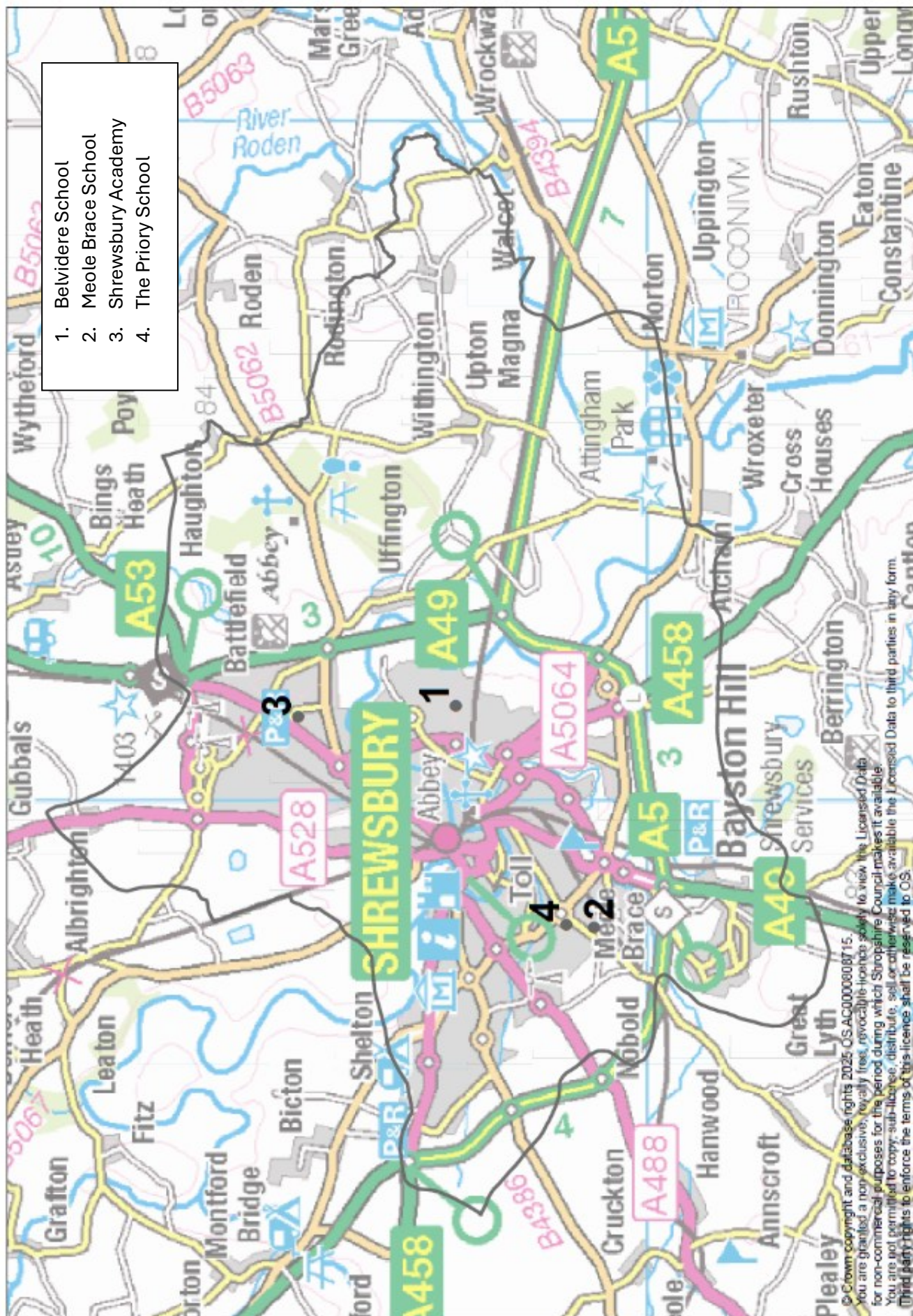
In deciding the 'normal home address' we would not usually accept an address if:

- You or your family have a second home elsewhere as a main residence. We expect that you have sold, or leased through an agency, your previous property or that a lease agreement on a property you previously rented has expired and that you have no other residence
- Only part of a family has moved out of the Normal Home Address unless this was part of a divorce or permanent separation arrangement. If this is the case, we will ask for evidence
- Two or more families claim to be living together in a property which is not suitable for the number of adults and children present and for which there is no formal record of this arrangement
- A child moves to a home other than with their parent, unless this is part of a formal fostering or care arrangement

Important: If it is discovered that a school place has been offered based on an address of convenience, that school place will be withdrawn (retracted) under the School Admissions Code (2021).

SHREWSBURY SCHOOLS

1. Belvidere School
2. Meole Brace School
3. Shrewsbury Academy
4. The Priory School



Belvidere School Belvidere Lane, Shrewsbury, SY2 5RJ	Headteacher: Mr Robin Rashid Tel: 01743 235073 www.belvidereschool.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 168
DfE Number: 893 4396	Pupils on roll January 2026: 830	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: TrustEd Schools	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	476	367	421
Total on-time 1 st preference applications received	168	151	171
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	168	168	168
Total 1 st preference places allocated	150	149	158
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	In Catchment – 1.336	Out of Catchment - 10.643	In Catchment - 1.299
Total Number of Appeals Heard	7	n/a	8
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	1	n/a	5

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Belvidere School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application.
5. After that, priority is given to children living within Shrewsbury catchment area for whom Belvidere School is their nearest Shrewsbury Secondary School, and this is checked through the “Nearest School” test. For the avoidance of doubt, we measure this as a straight line on a computerised mapping system between home and nearest appropriate official pedestrian entrance gate to the school site as compared with the same measurement from other applicants’ homes to their nearest appropriate school gate.
6. All other applicants living within the Shrewsbury catchment area determined on a proximity basis between home and the nearest appropriate pedestrian entrance gate of the school, the nearest being given priority
7. Any places that are left will be offered to children who live outside the catchment area. If there are not enough places for all of them, we will look at the following criteria:
 - 1) Priority will be given to children living outside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
 - 2) Finally, all other children who live outside the catchment area.

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Belvidere School, please visit the school’s website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- Late applications are only considered after all on-time applications have been processed.
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Meole Brace School Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 9DW	Co-Headteachers: Mrs Hannah Wright and Mrs Mary Pope Tel: 01743 235961 www.meolebrace.com	Published Admission Number: 270
DfE Number: 893 4403	Pupils on roll January 2026: 1316	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: TrustEd Schools	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	689	592	639
Total on-time 1 st preference applications received	198	156	173
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	273	247	270
Total 1 st preference places allocated	198	156	168
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of Catchment – 22.135	Out of Catchment - 123.4	In Catchment - 3.465
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	4
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	2

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Meole Brace School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application.
5. Catchment children for whom Meole Brace School is the nearest Shrewsbury secondary school, checked through the 'Nearest Schools Test'.
6. Children living within the Shrewsbury catchment area for whom The Priory School is their nearest Shrewsbury secondary school and Meole Brace School is the second nearest school.
7. All other applicants living within Shrewsbury catchment area by distance.
8. Any places that are left will be offered to children who live outside the catchment area. If there are not enough places for all of them, we will look at the following criteria:
 - 1) Priority will be given to children living outside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
 - 2) Finally, all other children who live outside the catchment area.

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Meole Brace School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- Late applications are only considered after all on-time applications have been processed.
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



The Priory School Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 9EE		Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Knight Tel: 01743 284000 www.priory.tpstrust.co.uk		Published Admission Number: 168	
DfE Number: 893 4368		Pupils on roll January 2026: 852		Age range: 11-16	
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust			
Year 7 Entry – September		2026	2025 +	2024	
Total applications received		737	613	668	
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received		231	264	287	
Total places allocated on National Offer Day		168	168	168	
Total 1 st preference places allocated		165	166	168	
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated		Nearest School 1.248	Nearest School 1.18	Nearest School 1.035	
Total Number of Appeals Heard		9	20	24	
Total Number of Appeals Upheld		1	3	3	
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at The Priory School a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made; and/or b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage 5. Children living in the school's catchment area for whom The Priory School is the nearest Shrewsbury secondary school in accordance with the straight-line distance measurement. 6. All other applicants living within Shrewsbury catchment area by distance. 7. Any places that are left will be offered to children who live outside the catchment area. If there are not enough places for all of them, we will look at the following criteria: 1) Priority will be given to children living outside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 2) Finally, all other children who live outside the catchment area. <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for The Priory School, please visit the school's website.					

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- Late applications are only considered after all on-time applications have been processed.
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Shrewsbury Academy Corndon Crescent, Shrewsbury, SY1 4LL	Headteacher: Mr Jim Taylor Tel: 01743 276700 www.shrewsburyacademy.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 237
DfE Number: 893 4004	Pupils on roll January 2026: 816	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: Marches Academy Trust	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	232	207	246
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	117	140	138
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	140	158	190
Total 1 st preference places allocated	117	140	138
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of Catchment – 4.53	Out of Catchment - 57.05	Out of Catchment - 10.261
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children who live within the Shrewsbury catchment area for whom the school is the nearest Shrewsbury secondary school. For this 'Nearest School Test', a straight-line computerised mapping system is used, to determine the distance between home and the nearest appropriate official entrance gate to the school site.
5. All other applicants living within Shrewsbury catchment area by distance.
6. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school.
7. Any places that are left will be offered to children who live outside the catchment area. If there are not enough places for all of them, we will look at the following criteria:
 - 1) Priority will be given to children living outside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
 - 2) Finally, all other children who live outside the catchment area.

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Shrewsbury Academy, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

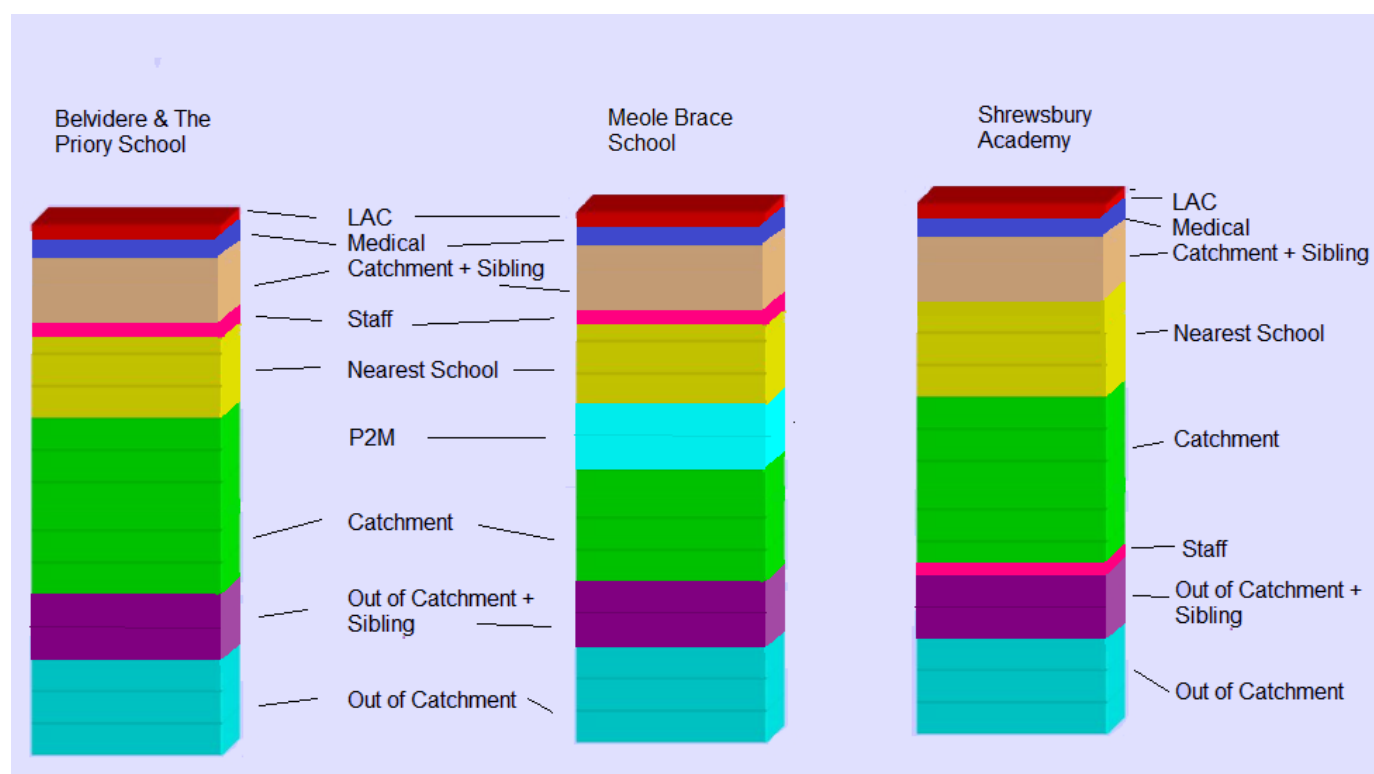
- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- Late applications are only considered after all on-time applications have been processed.
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

●●●●●Nearest School Test for Shrewsbury Secondary Schools

All the Shrewsbury secondary schools share one whole catchment area. There is no individual catchment area for these schools. There are no feeder schools for the four Shrewsbury Secondary Schools.

If you live in the Shrewsbury secondary school catchment area and apply for the Shrewsbury secondary school nearest to your home address (straight line measurement), your application will be ranked higher in the allocation list for that school than other applicants living in the catchment area for whom the other school is the nearest.

Meole Brace has an additional criterion highlighted as P2M on the graph below. This is for applicants for whom The Priory School is the nearest school and Meole Brace School is the second nearest school. These applicants will be ranked higher for Meole Brace School than other Shrewsbury residents whose nearest schools are neither Meole Brace School or The Priory School. (See page 7 for Meole Brace School.)



Case Studies

Case 1

A Shrewsbury resident lives closer to an entrance to Meole Brace School than the nearest Priory School pedestrian entrance (by straight line measurement). They name only one school in their application – the Priory School.

In Priory School's oversubscription criteria, this applicant would be considered an in-catchment area applicant, but Priory is not the nearest school and with no sibling connection, this comes under priority 6. (see page 8)

The applicant does not rank within 168 in the Priory's list of applicants and therefore the cut-off point comes before this applicant. Having named only one school, the application cannot be considered until all the other on-time applications have been allocated. By this time Meole Brace School is full of applicants who have named it in their application and there is only one school left in Shrewsbury with vacancies. That school is the default offer made to this applicant, even though the parent would have preferred Meole Brace School as an alternative preference and the default offer school is some distance from their home.

This may have been avoided by making use of all their preferences.

Case 2

A parent from outside the Shrewsbury catchment area names 3 Shrewsbury secondary schools. All 3 are oversubscribed.

The applicant is ranked lower in terms of priority than in-catchment area applicants. (Priority 7 for Priory, Belvidere and Shrewsbury Academy, and Priority 8 for Meole). This applicant does not rank sufficiently high on the list of applicants for a place at any of the 3 Shrewsbury secondary schools.

A place cannot be offered at any of the three schools named in the application and so a default offer has to be made once all the other on-time applications have been allocated. The designated catchment school is also full by this time with applicants who have named it in their application. The next nearest school with vacancies is offered which is a considerable distance from the home address and the parents will be responsible for transport to this school as they have not applied for their designated catchment school.

This could have been avoided by naming the catchment school as one of their preferences.

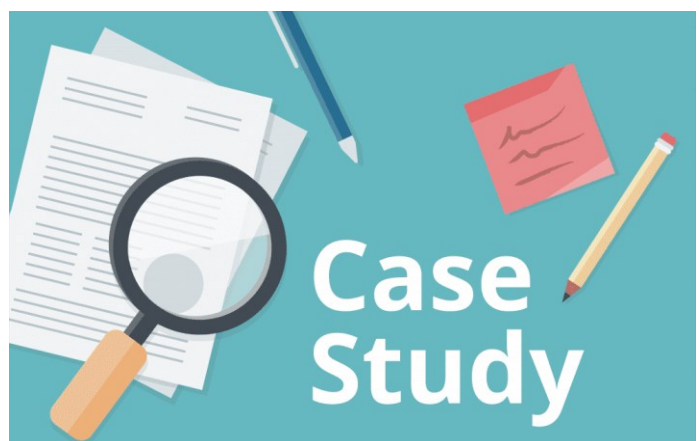
Case 3

A parent from Shrewsbury names only one Shrewsbury secondary school – Belvidere School.

This is their nearest Shrewsbury secondary school, (Priority 5). Due to the number of Belvidere applicants, they do not rank sufficiently high enough to qualify for a place, i.e. the distance from their home address to the nearest pedestrian school gate at the Belvidere School is further than the last place allocated.

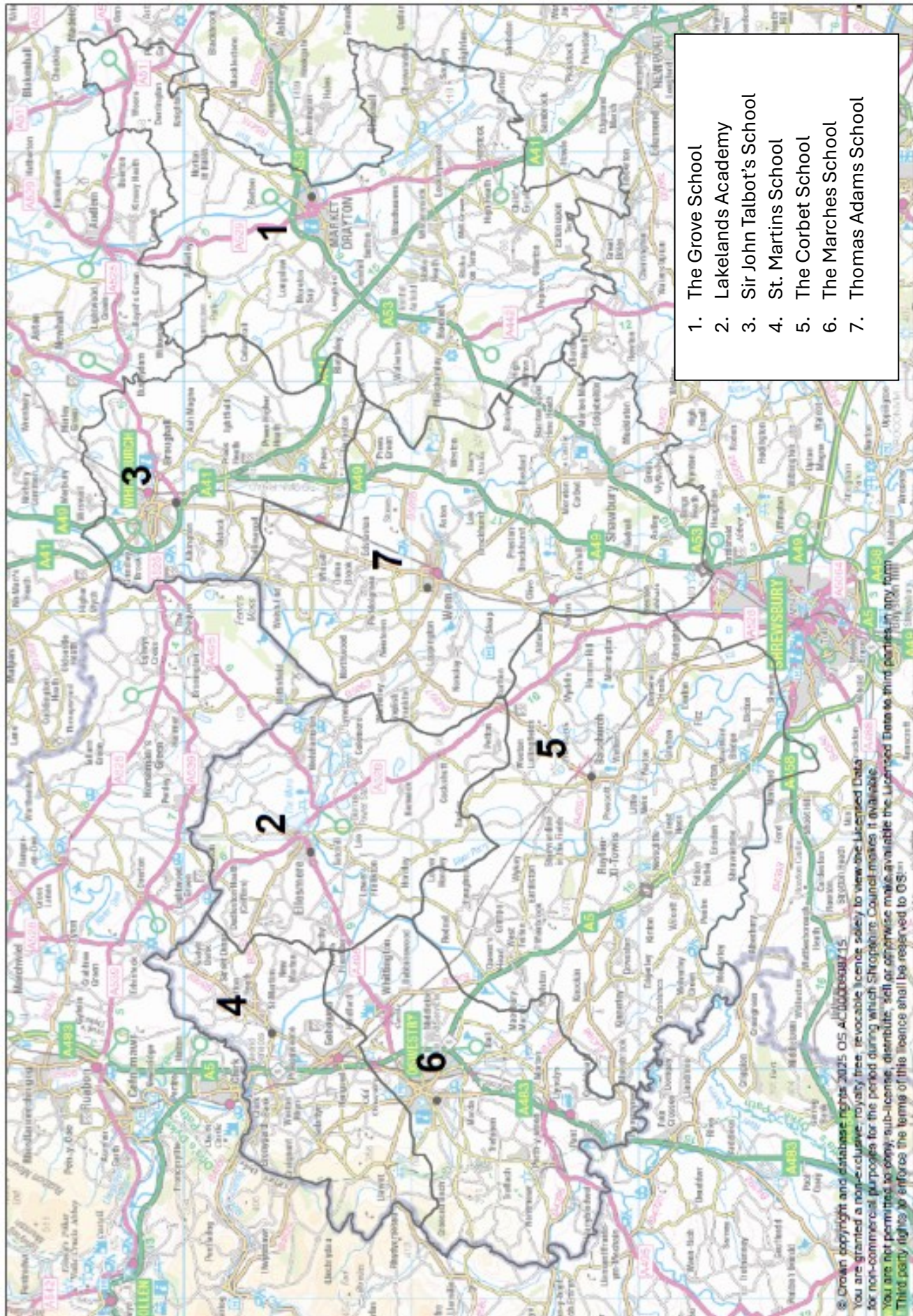
Having named only one school, a default offer is made as in Case 1. Other Shrewsbury secondary schools are closer to the home, but these were not named in application and are now full.

This may have been avoided by making use of all their preferences.



NORTH SHROPSHIRE SCHOOLS

1. The Grove School
2. Lakelands Academy
3. Sir John Talbot's School
4. St. Martins School
5. The Corbet School
6. The Marches School
7. Thomas Adams School



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Grove School Newcastle Road, Market Drayton, TF9 1HF	Headteacher: Mr Mitch Allsopp Tel: 01630 652121 www.groveschoolmarketdrayton.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 208
DfE Number: 893 4423	Pupils on roll January 2026: 856	Age range: 11-18
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The Marches Academy Trust	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	203	207	191
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	137	137	120
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	155	163	146
Total 1 st preference places allocated	137	137	120
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 130.016 miles	Out of catchment 9.719 miles	Out of catchment 3.557 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have another sibling at the school (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start there
4. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance.
5. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school.
6. Children outside the catchment area with another sibling at the school (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start
7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Grove School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Lakelands Academy Oswestry Road, Ellesmere, SY12 0EA		Headteacher: Mr Mark Hignett Tel: 01691 622543 www.lakelandsacademy.org.uk	Published Admission Number: 116
DfE Number: 893 4387	Pupils on roll January 2026: 590		Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust		
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	257	228	254
Total 1st preference on-time applications received	109	113	127
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	116	118	116
Total 1 st preference places allocated	109	113	114
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 14.334 miles	Out of catchment 11.264 miles	Out of catchment 6.501 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have an older sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 4. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance. 5. Children outside the catchment area with an older sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 6. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer 7. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Lakelands Academy, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Sir John Talbot's School Prees Road, Whitchurch, SY13 2BY	Headteacher: Mr Tim Stonall Tel: 01948 660600 www.sirjohntalbots.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 135
DfE Number: 893 4001	Pupils on roll January 2026: 861	Age range: 11-18
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The Marches Academy Trust	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	240	240	253
Total 1st preference on-time applications received	132	140	156
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	147	148	162
Total 1 st preference places allocated	132	140	156
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 12.553 miles	Out of catchment 18.180 miles	Out of catchment 16.178 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	1
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	1

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have another sibling (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start there
4. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance.
5. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school.
6. Children outside the catchment area with another sibling (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start there
7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Sir John Talbot's School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



St Martins School Moor Bank, St Martins, Oswestry SY10 7BD	Headteacher: Mrs Alison Pope Tel: 01691 776500 www.stmartins3-16.org	Published Admission Number: 60	
DfE Number: 893 4002	Pupils on roll January 2026: 479	Age range: 11-16	
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust		
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	164	132	150
Total 1st preference on-time applications received	66	60	76
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	60	62	60
Total 1 st preference places allocated	60	60	60
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 2.395 miles	Out of catchment 5.581 miles	Out of catchment 2.273 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	1	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	0	n/a	n/a
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling at the school on the day they are due to start there. 4. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school. 5. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance. 6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer 8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for St Martins School, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



The Corbet School Eyton Lane, Baschurch, Shrewsbury SY4 2AR	Headteacher: Dr Jane Tinker Tel: 01939 260296 www.corbetschool.net	Published Admission Number: 135	
DfE Number: 893 5401	Pupils on roll January 2026: 691	Age range: 11-16	
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The Corbet School		
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 + PAN 135	2024 PAN 135
Total applications received	350	252	255
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	164	131	134
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	153	142	135
Total 1st preference places allocated	149	131	128
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Linked primary 10.894 miles	Out of catchment 7.013 miles	Out of catchment 6.500 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	2	n/a	1
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	1	n/a	1
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Children living inside the catchment area who will have an older sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 3. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance. 4. Children outside the catchment area with an older sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 5. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer 6. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school. 7. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for The Corbet School, please visit the school’s website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

The Marches School Morda Road, Oswestry SY11 1AR	Headteacher: Mrs Sally Wilmot Ms Sarah Finch (Executive head) Tel: 01691 664400 www.marchesschool.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 270
DfE Number: 893 4437	Pupils on roll January 2026: 1346	Age range: 11-18
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: The Marches Academy Trust	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	280	274	308
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	210	201	212
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	225	211	258
Total 1st preference places allocated	210	201	212
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 14.165 miles	Out of catchment 11.412 miles	Out of catchment 15.883 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have another sibling (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start there
4. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance.
5. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school.
6. Children outside the catchment area with another sibling (including sixth form if applicable) on the day they are due to start there
7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for The Marches School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



Thomas Adams School Lowe Hill Road, Wem SY4 5UB		Headteacher: Mr Mark Cooper Tel: 01939 237000 www.thomasadams.net	Published Admission Number: 208
DfE Number: 893 4503		Pupils on roll January 2026: 1214	Age range: 11-18
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	472	428	426
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	238	237	218
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	208	208	208
Total 1st preference places allocated	204	202	203
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 8.619 miles	Out of catchment 8.618 miles	Out of catchment 9.431 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	13	12	5
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	1	4	1
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children meeting the Adam's House boarding criteria 4. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 5. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school. 6. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance. 7. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 8. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer 9. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Thomas Adams School, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Admissions to Adams House Boarding Facility

Adams House offers boarding for students at Thomas Adams School and 6th form, Wem. The house is run under the control of the Governing Body of the school but application for year 7 places must be made to the home local authority in accordance with coordinated arrangements ([see page 22](#)). For other year groups please [see page 46](#).

Entry to Adams House is through interview and supplementary information form in order to assess suitability for boarding.

The Trustees of Adams House will use supplementary information forms and interviews in order to assess suitability for boarding. This process will be undertaken separately from and prior to the oversubscription criteria being applied. Parents may obtain a copy of the form from the Head of Boarding, from Shropshire Council Admissions Team or from their websites.

The ethos of the house is based on the family. The house can take up to 63 boarders (boys and girls). The sixth form rooms are doubles and singles and the majority are 'en suite'. The house staff include the Head of Boarding, Senior House Parent, three House Parents and other assistants.

Under regulations laid out in the School Admissions Code, Boarding schools must give the required priority to children in care and then next priority to children with a 'boarding need'.

Children with a boarding need include:

- a. Children at risk or with an unstable background and the children of service personnel who have died while serving, or who have been discharged as a result of attributable injury.
- b. Children or other key workers and Crown Servants working abroad (i.e. the children of charity workers, people working for voluntary service organisations, the diplomatic service or the European Union, teachers, law enforcement officers and medical staff working abroad) whose work dictates that they spend much of the year overseas

- c. Children that live outside of the catchment area whose parent's / guardian's work necessitates that their child would benefit from the stability of boarding school.
- d. Children that live abroad, but hold a British passport or Right to Residency, where educational facilities are not appropriate or available for their level of study.

When assessing suitability for boarding, admission authorities can only consider the following two conditions:

- a) Whether a child presents a serious health and safety hazard to other boarders
- b) Whether a child is developmentally suited to a boarding place.

For further information

The Head of Boarding

Adams House, 100 High Street
Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5DS

Tel: 01939 233311

Email:

adamshouse@tas.318education.co.uk

Or you can visit the website:

www.thomasadams.net/boarding

The school has an admission number of 208, which includes up to five Boarding places for day pupils in the Thomas Adams School. Up to 20 boarding places can be offered in Year 12 (continuing boarders from Year 11 would have automatic places amongst the available 20). Where places are not taken up for the start of Year 7, those places will be made available for day pupil applications.

In-Year Applications to Adams House:

Applications for a boarding place at a time other than the autumn term for Year 7 are classed as in-year admissions. If the number of tuition places at Thomas Adams School are full or oversubscribed, even though the Boarding House has places, the school will need to consider whether they can offer a place. Applications should be made no more than one half-term prior to admission, although exceptions to this may be considered. If there are no school places in the appropriate year group and parents are refused a place then they can appeal against the decision.



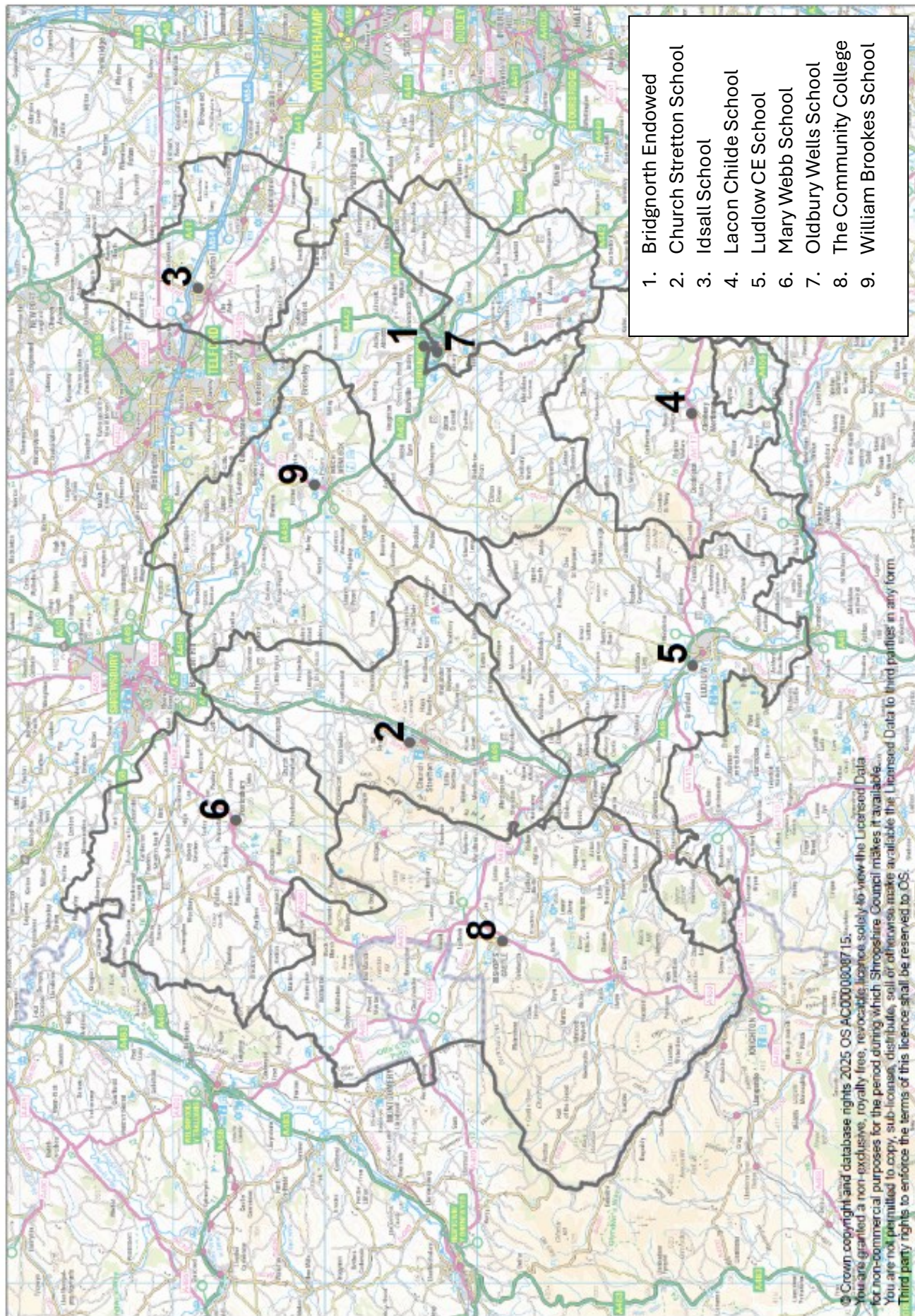
Admissions Criteria

Suitable * children with a Statement of SEN or EHCP which names Thomas Adams School will be offered places. After that, the admissions criteria will be:

1. Suitable* looked after children and formerly looked after children who were adopted.
2. Suitable * children of members of the UK Armed Forces who qualify for Ministry of Defence financial assistance with the cost of boarding school fees
3. Suitable *children with a boarding needs whose parents live outside Shropshire at the time of admission but with a sibling attending the school
4. Suitable * children with a boarding need who live outside Shropshire but with a connection to Shropshire – former residence/relatives (not parent) living in county
5. Suitable *children with a boarding need who live within the catchment area of the school in the order of shortest straight-line distance from home to school (not boarding house)
6. Suitable* children with a boarding need who live outside the school's catchment area but in Shropshire, in order of shortest straight-line distance from home to school (not boarding house)
7. Other suitable* children

*suitability to be assessed in line with the guidance in the Admissions Code of Practice.

SOUTH SHROPSHIRE SCHOOLS



Bridgnorth Endowed School Northgate, Bridgnorth, Wv16 4ER		Headteacher: Mr Michael Penn Tel: 01746 762103 www.bridgnorthendowed.co.uk	Published Admission Number: 120
DfE Number: 893 4500		Pupils on roll January 2026: 601	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	351	365	317
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	149	194	172
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	124 (of which 123 were 1 st preference)	120 (of which 119 were 1 st preference)	123 (of which 121 were 1 st preference)
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Feeder at 9.77 Miles	Feeder at 0.58 Miles	Feeder at 8.706 Miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	6	10	10
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	3	2	4

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school.
5. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance.
6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start
7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Bridgnorth Endowed School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Church Stretton School Shrewsbury Road, Church Stretton, SY6 6EX	Headteacher: Dr Andy Wood Tel: 01694 722209 www.churchstretton.shropshire.sch.uk	Published Admission Number: 96
DfE Number: 893 4385	Pupils on roll January 2026: 539	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: TrustEd Schools Alliance	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	218	178	124
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	107	97	113
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	118	105	123
Total 1st preference places allocated	107	97	113
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 13.3 miles	Out of catchment 9.766 miles	Out of catchment 11.972 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Church Stretton School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application.
5. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance.
6. Children living outside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there
7. Children living outside the catchment area, who have attended a state-funded primary school that lies within the secondary school's catchment area, for more than a whole academic year immediately prior to transfer.
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Church Stretton School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Idsall School Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal, TF11 8PD		Headteacher: Mrs Michelle King Tel: 01952 468400 www.idsallschool.org	Published Admission Number: 216
DfE Number: 893 4394		Pupils on roll January 2026: 1172	Age range: 11-18
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: Marches Academy Trust	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	287	273	315
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	167	175	175
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	201	202	215
Total 1st preference places allocated	167	175	175
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Late catchment 0.183 miles	Out of catchment 6.984 miles	Out of catchment 9.581 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 4. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance. 5. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Idsall School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application and/or has been recruited to fill a demonstrable skill shortage. 6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 7. Children outside the catchment area who have attended a state-funded primary school for more than a whole academic year prior to transfer 8. All other applicants living outside the catchment area by distance. <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Idsall School, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



Lacon Childe School Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8PE		Headteacher: Mr Stuart Weston Tel: 01299 270312 www.lacon-childe.org.uk	Published Admission Number: 108
DfE Number: 893 4412		Pupils on roll January 2026: 563	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: Four Stones Gateway Trust	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	154	164	184
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	96	108	111
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	103	116	108
Total 1st preference places allocated	96	108	105
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Out of catchment 9.409 miles	Out of catchment 15.331 miles	Out of catchment 4.672 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 3. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance. 4. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 5. Children who have attended a Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust registered primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer 6. Children who have attended a feeder primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer 7. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at The Lacon Childe School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application and/or has been recruited to fill a demonstrable skill shortage 8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Lacon Childe School, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



Ludlow School Broomfield Road, Ludlow, SY8 1GJ		Headteacher: Mr Michael Stoppard Tel: 01584 872691 www.ludlowschool.com	Published Admission Number: 140
DfE Number: 893 4501		Pupils on roll January 2026: 626	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: Diocese of Hereford Multi – Academy Trust	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	167	179	201
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	115	115	119
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	123	132	139
Total 1st preference places allocated	115	115	119
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Late unplaced default 1.35 miles	Out of catchment 11.539 miles	Out of catchment 8.999 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Children living inside the catchment area who will have an older sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 3. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance. 4. Children who have attended a feeder primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer 5. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 6. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Ludlow School, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- *2023 was an exceptionally large cohort, not just in Shropshire, but across the West Midlands
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



Mary Webb School Pontesbury, Shrewsbury, SY5 0TG	Acting Headteacher: Ms Emma Weston Tel: 01743 792100 marywebbschool.com/	Published Admission Number: 120
DfE Number: 893 4410	Pupils on roll January 2026: 632	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: TrustEd Schools Alliance	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	321	207	240
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	106	118	124
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	118	127	121
Total 1st preference places allocated	106	118	117
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Late out of catchment 8.825 miles	Out of catchment 171.991 miles	Feeder 12.546 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	7
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	1

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Mary Webb School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application.
5. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance.
6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start
7. Children who have attended a feeder primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Mary Webb School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

Oldbury Wells School Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 5JD	Headteacher: Mr Adam Walker Tel: 01746 765454 www.oldburywells.com	Published Admission Number: 168
DfE Number: 893 4427	Pupils on roll January 2026: 740	Age range: 11-16
Type: Academy	Academy Trust: TrustEd Schools Alliance	

Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	360	349	326
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	110	114	110
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	156	194	168
Total 1st preference on-time places allocated	110	114	110
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Distance at 13.935 Miles	Distance at 12.593 Miles	Distance at 12.276 Miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	N/A	N/A	N/A

Oversubscription Criteria Summary:

Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children

1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or Previously Looked after Children
2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school
3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there.
4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at Oldbury Wells School, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application.
5. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance.
6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start
7. Children who have attended a feeder primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer
8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance

All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.

For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for Oldbury Wells School, please visit the school's website.

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



The Community College, Bishops Castle Brampton Road, Bishops Castle, SY9 5AY		Headteacher: Mr Reuben Thorley Tel: 01588 638257 ccbcshropshire.com	Published Admission Number: 108
DfE Number: 893 4376		Pupils on roll January 2026: 507	Age range: 11-16
Type: Foundation School		Academy Trust: N/A	
Year 7 Entry – September	2026	2025 +	2024
Total applications received	142	155	115
Total 1 st preference on-time applications received	85	93	108
Total places allocated on National Offer Day	92	98	108
Total 1st preference places allocated	85	93	106
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated	Late out of catchment 14.744 miles	Out of catchment 30.477 miles	Out of catchment 13.172 miles
Total Number of Appeals Heard	n/a	n/a	2
Total Number of Appeals Upheld	n/a	n/a	1
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 3. All other applicants living within catchment area by distance. 4. Children of staff members who have been continuously employed at the school, on a permanent contract, for at least two years at the time of application and/or has been recruited to fill a demonstrable skill shortage 5. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 6. Children who have attended a feeder primary school for more than an academic year prior to transfer 7. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangements and detailed oversubscription criteria for The Community College, please visit the school's website.			

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)



William Brookes School Farley Road, Much Wenlock, Tf13 6NB		Headteacher: Mrs Ruth Shaw Tel: 01952 728900 www.williambrookes.com		Published Admission Number: 162	
DfE Number: 893 4403		Pupils on roll January 2026: 748		Age range: 11-16	
Type: Academy		Academy Trust: The 3-18 Education Trust			
Year 7 Entry – September		2026	2025 +	2024	
Total applications received		230	195	275	
Total 1 st preference applications received		110	108	144	
Total places allocated on National Offer Day		123	130	162	
Total 1st preference on-time places allocated		110	108	139	
Criteria & distance of last on-time place allocated		Out of catchment 8.96 miles	Out of catchment 8.019 miles	Out of catchment 6.214 miles	
Total Number of Appeals Heard		n/a	n/a	n/a	
Total Number of Appeals Upheld		n/a	n/a	n/a	
Oversubscription Criteria Summary: Children who have an Education Health and Care Plan, which names the school which the child should attend because their needs can be met best by that particular school, will be offered places before other children 1. Priority will be given to Looked After Children or a Previously Looked after Children 2. Very exceptionally, priority may be given to a child who has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school 3. Children living inside the catchment area who will have a sibling of compulsory school age (11 –16) at the school on the day they are due to start there. 4. Children of staff members who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage by the school. 5. All other applicants living within the catchment area by distance. 6. Children outside the catchment area with a sibling on roll at the school when they are due to start 7. Children outside the catchment area but who attend a state funded primary school that lies within the catchment area for more than an academic year prior to transfer 8. All other children living outside the catchment area on distance <i>All distances are measured as a straight-line from the home address to the nearest school pedestrian gate.</i> For the full admission arrangement and detailed oversubscription criteria for William Brookes School, please visit the school's website.					

Key Information for Parents

- +2025 is a smaller than average year group
- To find your catchment or nearest school, please use our mapping software – [Shropshire Council Maps](#)
- For further details on how places were allocated, please visit our web page - [How school places are allocated | Shropshire Council](#)

APPLICATION TO TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL – September 2027

**The following pages contain all the information
you will need to make your child(ren's)
application for Secondary transfer for entry in
September 2027.**

●●●● Important Dates

Date	Secondary
12 September 2026	'Parents' Guide to Secondary Education' booklet available to parents online
September 2026	Secondary Online application process available until closing date
September – October 2026	Open Evenings (please see page 39 for details)
31 October 2026	Closing date for secondary applications - any late applications cannot be considered until all those received on time have been allocated.
25 January 2027	Deadline for changes to applications based on exceptional circumstances i.e. a house move and objections
1 March 2027	Online applicants able to view results online. Letters emailed informing secondary applicants of allocated school
Following national offer day	Any places released or reallocated from the waiting list and changes of preference requests processed.
May – July 2027	Appeals heard



●●●● Making an Application

Shropshire Council has an online application facility for all parents to use to ensure their child has a school place. This booklet outlines the process for those children due to transfer to Secondary School in the 2027/28 academic year.

[Synergy - Homepage \(shropshire.gov.uk\)](https://shropshire.gov.uk)

Shropshire Council has an online portal for making school applications. Please note that the portal does not allow you to change your application once it has been submitted and downloaded by the Team. Please make sure you are happy with the application before you submit.

- You will receive email confirmation that your application has been received and you can view it at any time.
- The system has a series of security procedures to prevent anyone seeing information they are not entitled to see.

The system is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from 1 September 2026

Deadlines for applications:	Results will be available to online applicants on National Offer Day:
Secondary: 31 October 2026	Secondary: 1 March 2027

Keep a note of your log-in details and password in order to view your allocation online in March.

Every parent **must** make an application to be considered for a place at a preferred school. Children are not automatically offered a place. Parents make one application, naming up to 4 schools of their preference. The online facility is available for Shropshire residents (**not Telford and Wrekin**) or for those applying from outside England for Shropshire schools. **Residents in England must apply through their own home local authority.**

Parents living in England:

To apply for a school place in England, parents in England must apply to their home Local Authority (LA) - to the LA to whom they pay council tax - even if applying for a school place in another part of England. The home LA will process the application, coordinate with relevant authorities and inform the applicant of the result.

Parents living in Shropshire seeking a place in Powys & Wrexham Secondary Schools

You must apply to Shropshire. *If a Shropshire school is offered, we will write to inform you. Otherwise, you will receive a letter from Powys or Wrexham.*

Powys & Wrexham Residents applying to Shropshire Secondary Schools

You must apply to your home authority; however, we will also accept applications made via the Shropshire website. If a Shropshire school is offered, we will write to inform you.

Welsh closing dates may vary; please check the relevant authority's website for details.

Parents living elsewhere:

Residents in other parts of Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland or from overseas should apply directly to Shropshire Council for Shropshire schools.



●●●● Application Process

The application process is the same even if a Shropshire school itself is an admission authority (e.g. foundation school or an academy) regardless of whether the application is the point of entry/transfer or an in-year transfer.

How will my application be considered?

Applications will be listed in order of priority according to the admissions policy appropriate for the school.

Governing Bodies are the admission authority for Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academy Trust for academies, which means that they can set their own admissions policy, and this may be different to the Council's policy. The co-ordination arrangements stated in this booklet apply to all state-funded schools in Shropshire and Local Authorities in England.

Own Admission Authority Schools:

You should check to see if the school for which you are applying is an admission authority school. Please note a school's status is subject to change. In the lists of Shropshire schools, the status as of July 2026 is indicated. A summary of the oversubscription criteria for each school can be found between pages 6-33.

It is the applicant's responsibility to check the policy and to ensure that additional information required i.e. medical is included in their application so it can be considered by the individual school. **Such information must be provided at the time of application, otherwise it will not be taken into account when the allocation of places is determined.**

The Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme:

Schools in other local authority areas will probably have a different policy to Shropshire

Council, and therefore parents, are advised to ensure they have read and understood the appropriate policy and information available from each relevant local authority before making an

application. The addresses and telephone numbers of neighbouring local authorities can be found on page 65 of this booklet.

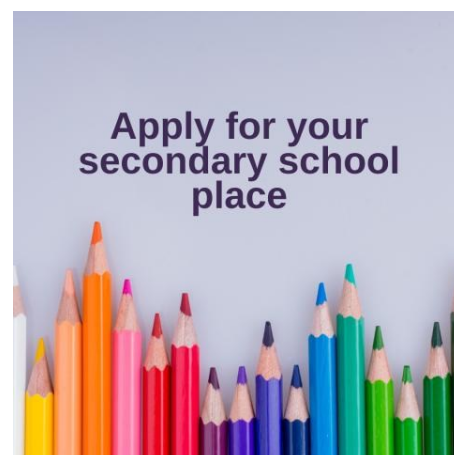
The Admissions Team will inform own admission authority schools or the relevant local authority, of requests for places made for their schools, so that applications may be considered by them in accordance with the appropriate published policy. Their decisions will be given to the Council's Admissions Team. The applicant's home local authority will write to them on the appropriate offer day with the offer of one school place, which will be the available school ranked highest by the parent. Please see page 36 for information for applying from outside of England.

Further information:

Any questions about the admissions process that cannot be answered from within this booklet may be found on the Shropshire Council website www.shropshire.gov.uk.

Alternatively, please contact The School Admissions Team via email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

Members of the Admissions Team may attend secondary school Open Evenings.



Equal Preference Scheme

How is the allocated School determined?

Every local authority must operate an Equal Preference Scheme; it is a requirement of the School Admissions Code 2021. With each school applied for, what matters is the priority in terms of oversubscription criteria, not whether it is the person's first, second, third or fourth preference.

This means that, regardless of whether it is their first, second, third or fourth preference school, every applicant is listed for the schools named in the application by the admission authority in the rank order of the oversubscription criteria (e.g. in/out of catchment area, with/without a sibling). The straight-line distance measurement from home to school determines the position of the applicant in the appropriate category of oversubscription criteria. (This may differ in criteria used by some own admission authority schools e.g., children of staff). Please see the relevant oversubscription criteria listed in this booklet or the school website, to determine the category applicable to you and how the policy is applied at each of the schools you wish to include in your application.

If an applicant names four schools, their child will appear on the list for each of those four schools. The published admission number (PAN) is the number of places each school can offer and the cut-off point for allocated places. If the applicant is ranked high enough in terms of the oversubscription criteria to qualify for one of the places at their first preference school, their name can be discounted from the list of the second, third and fourth preference schools. On the list of the second, third and fourth preference schools, the next applicant on the list can then move up to fill the gap and qualify for a place.

The local authority has a statutory duty to offer parents their highest possible preference. The percentage of first preferences met is reported to the Department for Education (DfE) every year and these statistics are published by the DfE, usually at the end of June. If the applicant ranks

before the cut-off point for their first preference school then their second, third or fourth preference do not need to be considered.

The importance of four preferences

It is extremely important for parents to make use of their four preference slots. Whilst the Admissions Team endeavour to meet your first preference request, if you name only one school, your child's name will appear on only one school's list. If you do not rank before the cut-off point, this means that a default offer must be made which will be the nearest school to the home address with vacancies available when all other on-time applications have been considered. By then a school that you might have considered as an acceptable second, third or fourth preference may have filled up with applicants who **have** named the school in their application, even if they live further from the school than you. If the school is not named in your application, it cannot be considered as an alternative if your first preference is unavailable, unless it still has places available when consideration of the on-time applications is complete.

In some areas of Shropshire, there may be only one secondary school designated to a wide rural area (e.g. Bishop's Castle) and it is difficult for parents to nominate a second, third or fourth preference. However, for most town residents, there are usually a number of schools in close proximity, and the opportunity is there for parents to name more than one school. It is strongly recommended that Shrewsbury residents name four secondary schools which may help to avoid disappointment. All four secondary schools in Shrewsbury share the same designated catchment area. Shrewsbury residents who apply for their nearest Shrewsbury secondary school are ranked slightly higher in oversubscription criteria for that school than other Shrewsbury residents for whom it is not the nearest school. (See page 11.)

Late applications are considered after all on-time applicants have been allocated. (See page 51.)

Can I Visit the Schools?

You and your child can attend open days and evenings at any of our secondary schools during September and October 2026.

NORTH Shropshire

Corbet	Thurs 1 October	18.00 – 20.00	Open mornings during week (contact the school)
Grove	Tues 22 September	16.30 – 19.30	Sixth Form – Thurs 15 October 18.00 – 20.00
Lakelands	Weds 16 September	16.30 – 19.30	Open Morning - 9.30 – 11.30 & 13.30 – 15.00 (contact the school)
Marches	Thurs 17 September	TBC	
St Martins	Mon 12 October	TBC	
Sir John Talbots	Thurs 17 September	16.30 – 19.30	Sixth Form – Thurs 8 October 16.30 – 19.30
Thomas Adams	Tues 15 September	TBC	

SOUTH Shropshire

Bishops Castle Community College	Weds 30 September	TBC	
Bridgnorth Endowed	Weds 30 Septe	TBC	
Church Stretton	Thurs 24 September	TBC	Open morning – Fri 25 September (contact the school)
Idsall	Thurs 17 September	16.00 – 19.00	Open morning Fri 18 September (contact the school)
Lacon Childe	Thurs 1 October	TBC	
Ludlow	Weds 23 September	18.00 – 20.00	
Mary Webb School	Thurs 17 September	TBC	
Oldbury Wells	Tues 29 September	18.00 – 20.00	
William Brookes	Weds 7 October	TBC	

SHREWSBURY

Belvidere	Mon 5 October	17.00 – 19.00	
Meole Brace	Weds 7 October	17.30 – 20.00	Open mornings during week (contact the school)
Priory	Weds 23 September	TBC	
Shrewsbury Academy	Thurs 24 September	16.00 – 19.00	

Please check the school website before visiting the school for availability of tours and the booking process if required.

●●●● Information about Transfer to Secondary Schools in Shropshire

Parents of children in their final year (Year 6) at state primary schools in Shropshire will receive details in September 2026 through the “pupil post” system, of the procedure for applying for a place at secondary school. Shropshire parents whose children attend a school outside Shropshire may receive information through the normal mail. Residents outside Shropshire should contact their own local authority.

Applications should be made online (see page 36). Shropshire residents have a maximum of four preferences they can name. You can name schools within Shropshire or out of county on your application.

As many places as possible will be allocated based on your first preference. Where that is not possible, we will try to offer your second, third or fourth preference, using the Equal Preference Scheme. (See page 38). For September 2026, 91.04% of Shropshire parents who applied on time for a secondary school place were offered their first preference. 98.74% of on-time applications were offered a place at one of their preferred schools.

Important Notice – (Please see page 38)
Please list up to four schools which are acceptable to you on your application. If you name only one school and we are unable to give you a place at that school, we will have to offer you a place at the nearest school which still has places available when we have dealt with everyone else’s preferences. Putting only one preference or the same school in all four preference boxes does not strengthen your case for a place at that school and wastes your preferences.

How are places allocated?

Please read the school information pages which explain how preferences are considered. Places are allocated for each school according to an agreed set of criteria in strict order of the priorities shown.

(All Shropshire secondary schools are an admission authority, and they are entitled to set their own Admissions Policy.)

Decisions regarding school admissions are made by the schools NOT by Shropshire Council.

Schools in the North and South of the county have their own individual catchment areas, but they also give consideration to out of catchment residents who attend a state primary school for at least a whole academic year prior to transfer, that lies within the secondary school’s catchment area.

Attendance at a particular primary school has no bearing upon the allocation of places to a particular secondary school in the Shrewsbury area.

The Shrewsbury secondary schools share an overall catchment area for the whole of Shrewsbury. The schools are:

Belvidere School (Academy)

Meole Brace School (Academy)

Shrewsbury Academy

The Priory School (Academy)

To check whether your address lies within a catchment area, please refer to the Maps area of our website or contact the Admissions Team.

[Catchment Map Search](#)

Please note that estate agents are not an authority on catchment areas. If you need any help to understand the oversubscription criteria, please contact the Admissions Team via email – school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

●●●● Feeder Schools

Secondary schools in north and south Shropshire use a criterion which refers to attending a state-funded primary school that lies within the secondary school's catchment area **for more than a whole academic year immediately prior to transfer (must be on roll before the end of Year 5).**

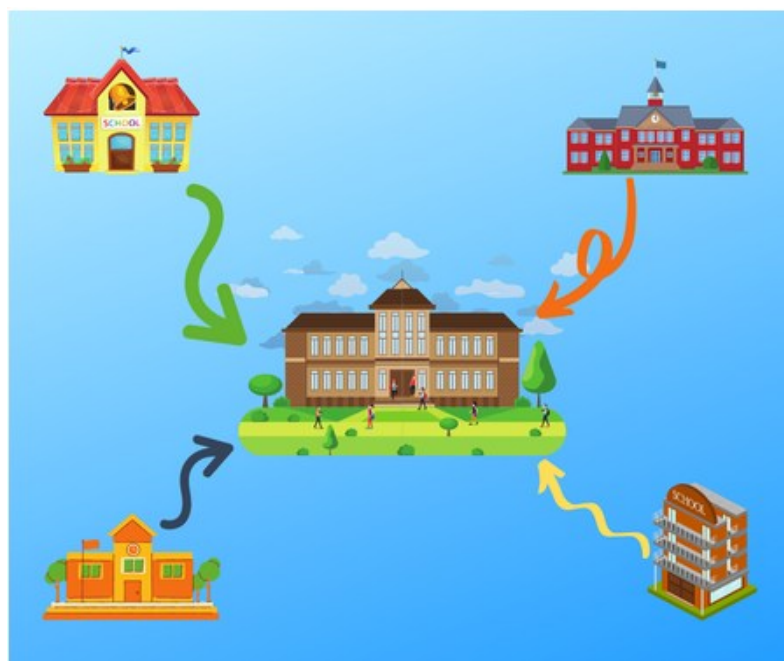
North Shropshire	The Corbet School (academy)	Baschurch CE Aided Primary Bicton C E Primary (academy) Bomere Heath CE Primary (academy) Kinnerley C E Primary (academy) Myddle C E (Controlled) Primary Nesscliffe, St. Andrew's C E Primary (academy) Ruyton-XI-Towns, St. John The Baptist C E Primary (academy) West Felton C E Primary (academy) Weston Lullingfields C E Primary (academy)
	The Grove School (academy)	Adderley C.E. (Controlled) Primary Buntingsdale (Community) Primary Cheswardine Primary (academy) Hinstock Primary (academy) Hodnet Primary (academy) Market Drayton Junior (academy) Market Drayton, Longlands Primary (academy) Moreton Say C E (Controlled) Primary Norton-In-Hales C E (Controlled) Primary Stoke On Tern (Community) Primary Woore Primary (academy)
	Lakelands Academy	Cockshutt CE Primary (academy) Criftings C E Primary (academy) Ellesmere Primary (academy) Welshampton C E (Controlled) Primary
	The Marches School (academy)	Bryn Offa C E (Controlled) Primary Morda C E (Controlled) Oswestry, Holy Trinity Primary (academy) Oswestry, Our Lady & St Oswald's Catholic Primary (academy) Oswestry, The Meadows (Community) Primary Oswestry, Woodside Primary (academy) Trefonen C E (Controlled) Primary Whittington C E (Aided) Primary
	St Martin's	Gobowen (Community) Primary Selattyn C E Primary (academy) Weston Rhyn (Community) Primary
	Sir John Talbot's (academy)	Lower Heath C E Primary (academy) Prees C E Primary (academy) Tilstock C E Primary (academy) Whitchurch C.E. Junior (academy)
	Thomas Adams (academy)	Clive C E Primary (academy) Hadnall C E (Controlled) Primary Newtown C E (Controlled) Primary Shawbury, St. Mary's C E Primary (academy) Wem, St Peters C E Primary (academy) Whixall C E Primary (academy)

Feeder Schools Continued

South Shropshire	Bridgnorth Endowed (academy)	Bridgnorth, St. John's Catholic (Aided) Primary (academy) Bridgnorth, St. Leonard's C.E. Primary (academy) Brown Clee C E (Controlled) Primary Morville C E Primary (academy) Worfield Endowed C.E. Primary (academy)
	Church Stretton (academy)	Church Stretton, St. Lawrence C.E. (Controlled) Primary (academy) Condover CE Primary (academy) Dorrington, St Edward's C E Primary (academy) Longnor C E (Controlled) Primary Rushbury C E (Controlled) Primary Wistanstow C E (Controlled) Primary
	Community College, Bishops Castle (foundation)	Bishop's Castle Primary (academy) (foundation) Chirbury C E (Controlled) Primary Clun, St George's C E Primary (academy) Clunbury C E (Aided) Primary Lydbury North C E Primary (academy) Newcastle (Controlled) Primary Norbury Primary (Foundation)
	Idsall School (academy)	Albrighton (Community) Primary (academy) Albrighton, St Mary's CE (Controlled) Primary Beckbury CE Primary (academy) Sheriffhales (Community) Primary Shifnal (Community) Primary Shifnal, St. Andrew's C E (Controlled) Primary
	Lacon Childe School (academy)	Bayton Primary School (Worcestershire) (academy) Burford CE Primary (academy) Clee Hill Community Primary (academy) Cleobury Mortimer Primary (academy) Farlow C E (Controlled) Primary Kinlet C E (Controlled) Primary Stottesdon C E Primary (academy)
	Ludlow CE School (academy)	Bishop Hooper CE (Aided) Primary (academy) Bitterley CE Primary (academy) Bucknell, St Mary's CE (Aided) Primary Corvedale C E (Aided) Primary Ludlow Primary (academy) Ludlow, St. Laurence C E (Controlled) Primary Onny C E Primary (academy) Stokesay Primary (academy)
	Mary Webb School (academy)	Hanwood, St Thomas & St Anne CE (Controlled) Primary (academy) Longden CE (Aided) Primary Minsterley (Community) Primary Pontesbury CE (Controlled) Primary Stiperstones CE (Controlled) Primary Trinity CE (Controlled) Primary Worthen, Long Mountain CE (Controlled) Primary

Feeder Schools Continued

	Oldbury Wells School (academy)	Alveley Primary (academy) Bridgnorth, Castlefields Primary (academy) Bridgnorth, St. Mary's Bluecoat C E Primary (academy) Claverley C E (Aided) Primary Highley (Community) Primary
	William Brookes School (academy)	Barrow 1618 CE (Free) Primary (academy) Brockton CE (Controlled) Primary Broseley C E (Controlled) Primary Broseley, John Wilkinson Primary (academy) Buildwas Primary (academy) Church Preen (Community) Primary Cressage, Christ Church C E Primary (academy) Much Wenlock Primary (academy)
Shrewsbury	The Priory School (academy) Belvidere School (academy) Meole Brace School (academy) Shrewsbury Academy (academy)	Secondary schools in Shrewsbury give no higher priority to primary school attendance.



●●●●● Admissions Flow Chart – SECONDARY

1st preference school offered	I am happy with the school offered	Nothing further to do if a Shropshire school is offered. If a school in another local authority is offered, please contact the relevant local authority admission team to accept the place
	My circumstances have changed and/or I wish to change the school preferences	Please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth, address and new order of school preferences and we will review your application
	I no longer require the school offered	Please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth, address and the alternative arrangements i.e. moving to the independent sector, home educating your child, moving out of county etc. The place offered will be released and reallocated to another child
2nd, 3rd or 4th preference or a default school offered You are automatically added to the waiting list of any higher preference Shropshire school not offered. If a place becomes available, the School Admissions Team will contact you.	I am happy with the school offered and do not wish to remain on the waiting list for other school(s)	Please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth and address stating the school(s) which you no longer wish to remain on the waiting list for.
	I applied for a school in another county	If you are happy with the school offered, please contact the relevant local authority admissions team to accept the place. If you wish to be on the waiting list for an out of county school or appeal the decision, please contact the relevant local authority admissions team.
	My circumstances have changed and/or I wish to change the school preferences	Please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth, address and new order of school preferences and we will review your application.
	I no longer require the school offered	Please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth, address and the alternative arrangements i.e. moving to the independent sector, home educating your child, moving out of county etc. The place offered will be released and reallocated to another child
	I wish to appeal the decision to not offer my child a place at the preferred school(s)	Please complete the online appeal form by following this link Appeal against the allocation of a school place Shropshire Council . Your independent appeal will be scheduled by Legal and Democratic Services. Appeals for Secondary schools are heard between May – June 2027.

●●●● Applying out of Area

Parents sometimes wish to apply for a school in their area as well as for schools in another area. This is perfectly acceptable; you can name any four schools in your application. However, please note that the admission criteria can vary from school to school and many academies have set their own oversubscription criteria. It is important that you understand how the criteria will be applied to your application and that you understand your chances of securing a school place. If we cannot offer a place at any of your preferred schools, we will offer the next nearest school to your home address that has vacancies. Please ensure that you have read all the relevant information on pages 6-33.



Parents resident in Shropshire sometimes wish to make an application for selective schools such as Newport Girls' High School or Adams' Grammar School which come under Telford & Wrekin Council, or Wolverhampton Girls' High School which is in Wolverhampton local authority's area. When applying for schools out of area, Shropshire residents should name all those schools in the Shropshire application. Entrance to all selective schools is based on a selection examination. **Please contact the school directly for further information regarding the examination process.**

If you are considering a selective school, we would recommend that you contact the school directly for more information, as a matter of urgency.

The Shropshire Admissions Team will pass on to other English local authorities any requests for a place at their schools.

Parents applying for schools in a different area should also ensure that they have read the information about admissions which is published by and available from the appropriate local authority. Different authorities operate different admissions policies. When Shropshire residents state a preference for schools in England outside the Shropshire local authority area, we will co-ordinate the application details with the relevant authority (see page 34). Please bear in mind that you may be responsible for all travel arrangements and costs.

A Summary of the Secondary Transfer Application Process:

- Read all the information in this booklet about the admissions process before making your application.
- Read Frequently Asked Questions on pages 51-56 and read the appropriate admissions criteria.
- Research schools in which you might be interested before making your application.
- Contact the Admissions Team if you would still like further information or help. Please do not rely on information from headteachers, school staff, parents, neighbours, or estate agents.
- Apply through your home local authority.
- Give the maximum number of preferences (four for Shropshire applicants).
- Apply by 31 October 2026 at the latest.
- **1 March 2027** when online applicants can view their results.
- Contact the **Admissions Team** if the emailed allocation letter has not been received by **5 March 2027**.

In-Year applications September 2026 – July 2027

The following pages contain all the information you will need to make an in-year transfer for your child(ren).

●●●● Transfers and In-Year (for Shropshire schools)

When thinking of moving your child in-year or part way through secondary school stage, we would advise parents to discuss this with the child's current headteacher and give careful consideration as to whether such a move would be of benefit to your child and their educational progress.

I wish to change my child's school. What should I do?



If you would like to change your child's school to a Shropshire school, you will need to complete the online in-year application available from Shropshire Council's website [Synergy - Homepage \(shropshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/synergy)

If you wish to apply to a school outside Shropshire, please contact the relevant local authority. (Details on page 65.)

The application form enables parents to apply for up to four schools of their preference. Any documentary evidence in support of the application should also be included. Places can be applied for up to 6 school weeks in advance of the start date, but your child must start within 6 school weeks of the place being offered.

After being offered a place, should you no longer require it, please email inyearadmissions@shropshire.gov.uk as soon as possible, as this place could then be offered to another child.

Unsuccessful Applicants



Where applicants cannot be offered their preferred school, they will automatically be added to the school(s) waiting list(s) and they will be informed of the independent appeals process. In certain circumstances, unsuccessful in-year applications could be referred to the Fair Access Panel (see page 50 for further information) for school placement.

PLEASE NOTE

Although places can be applied for at any stage of the academic year, for parents thinking of moving their Year 10 or Year 11 aged child(ren), we strongly advise contacting the prospective school(s) prior to application to check whether current GCSE options and exam boards match or can be accommodated as this is not always the case.

●●●● Transfers and In-Year (for Shropshire schools)

In-Year or Mid-Term applications from Service Families

When service personnel are given a confirmed posting order to the Shropshire area, Shropshire Council works with service families to remove potential disadvantage for service children. This is in accordance with Paragraphs 2.21 of the School Admissions Code.

If service personnel cannot provide a Shropshire address, but are in possession of a posting order to Shropshire or an official letter with a relocation date, a unit postal address or quartering area address will be used when considering an application against oversubscription criteria.

Shropshire Council works with all schools in the local authority area to facilitate the admission of service children to their designated catchment school. Children of service personnel posted to Shropshire may be admitted to the designated catchment school as an exception if the school is oversubscribed. Application should be made to Shropshire Council along with the appropriate posting order or letter. Please contact the Admissions Team for any advice.

School places at the catchment school will be offered to children of service personnel without delay. However, where application is made for an oversubscribed school that is not the designated catchment school for the service address, it is likely that the application would be declined and parents would be informed of their right to appeal along with the offer of a place at their catchment school. All schools in Shropshire are expected to follow this protocol (including those schools for which Shropshire Council is not the admission authority e.g., academies).

Can I keep my child at the same school even when I move address?

Once your child has started attending a particular school and then you move house,

your child may remain at the same school as long as you can continue to get them to there.

Will my child qualify for free school transport?

You will not necessarily qualify for transport if the school your child has moved to is not the catchment area school or the nearest school with places available. If you are already in receipt of free school transport, that privilege may be withdrawn and you may have to pay for a seat under the temporary seats' payment scheme. Parents need to be aware that the Temporary Seats Payment Scheme only exists when there are vacant seats on the transport currently provided and can be withdrawn at short notice.

If my child cannot go to the nearest school will they receive free school transport?

In instances where you are unable to gain a place at your catchment area or nearest school because the year group is full, you may be eligible for free school transport to the next nearest alternative school if it is more than 3 miles by the shortest walking route. Integrated Passenger Transport Services will be able to advise you on entitlement. See pages 59 for contact details.

I wish to move my child from their present school at the start of the next academic year, when should I apply for a place?

School places should not be reserved for more than half a term in advance, except for the normal admissions rounds (i.e. for year 7 in secondary schools). Where parents wish their child to move at other times, they should apply no more than six school weeks in advance. If the school has places available at the time of application, then a place can be offered. If the school is full, then an appeal can be arranged. If the place is not taken up by the start of the new half term or within six school weeks (whichever is the earliest) the offer may be withdrawn. The only exception to this is for applications for a boarding place for existing pupils at Thomas Adams School,

where applications may be considered earlier in the year.

Transfers and In-Year (for Shropshire schools)

What should I do if the school is full?

You need to be aware that moving into a school's catchment area gives no guarantee whatsoever that a place will be made available at that school and neither the school nor Shropshire Council are legally obliged to provide a place for your child at the catchment area school. However, if you live in Shropshire we will ensure that a school place is made available at the nearest school with vacancies.

If you are refused a place at your catchment school because your child's year group is full, you will be advised of your right to appeal. Appeals will normally take 3 or 4 weeks to arrange and are held during term time only which may mean you have to wait several weeks until the appeal is scheduled. In the meantime, ensure that your child attends either their current school or the school already offered if possible. Please contact the Admissions Team for advice.

Will my child be added to a waiting list for my preferred school(s).

Yes, should your child not be offered a place at any of your preferred school(s) they will automatically be added to the waiting list which is ranked in order of each school's published oversubscription criteria. Should a place become available for which your child is next eligible, you will be contacted. Please note, any child's position on the waiting list is subject to change as new applications are received.

Your child will remain on a school waiting list for the academic year you have applied. If at the end of the academic year a place is still not available and you still wish for your child to change schools, you will need to make a fresh application for the next academic year via the parent portal.



Fair Access Protocol (FAP)

The School Admissions Code places a statutory responsibility on all Local Authorities (LA) to have a Fair Access Protocol (FAP) which all schools in their area must comply with, to ensure that all unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a suitable school place without unnecessary delay.

This Protocol has been consulted on with head teachers and has been agreed with the schools in Shropshire Council's area. It exists to ensure that access to education is secured for children without a school place, for whom a place at a mainstream school/alternative provision is appropriate, and to ensure that all schools in an area admit their fair share of children with challenging behaviour or who have been excluded from other schools.

To assist in the smooth operation of the Protocol, panels that include Head Teachers should meet on a regular basis to discuss individual pupils and partnerships.

Aims of the Fair Access Protocol

The protocol is designed to:

- Acknowledge the need for vulnerable young people who are seeking a school place to be dealt with quickly and sympathetically
- Reduce the time that these pupils spend out of school
- Ensure that schools admit pupils including those with challenging educational needs on a fair and equitable basis
- Be fair and transparent
- Ensure that all schools accept a fair and equitable share of pupils

The Fair Access Protocol does not apply to:

- Looked After Children, as these children **must** be admitted.
- Children with Education, Health and Care Plans **must not** be referred to Fair Access Panels, as their admission will be in accordance with the appropriate legislation managed by the SEND Team

In most instances parents are able to secure a mainstream school place, however there are occasions where parents are unsuccessful.

The latest revision of the School Admissions Code came into force in September 2021 and restates the principles and scope of the revised Protocol in August 2021. All admission authorities must participate in their local authority's Fair Access Protocol.

For further information or to access the full protocol, please visit Shropshire Council's website.

●●●● Frequently Asked Questions

Application

How do I apply for a school place?

If you are applying for a place through Shropshire Council, you should apply online at www.shropshire.gov.uk. Internet access is also available in local libraries.

Once you have considered the information included in this booklet and possibly visited schools, you should then indicate up to four preferences in priority order in your application.

How do I apply online?

Register to use the online facility using your email address at www.shropshire.gov.uk. You will also be able to access this booklet for more information about how places are allocated.

How are places allocated?

All schools have a Published Admission Number (PAN) which applies to the point of entry (Year R/Year 3/Year 7) within a school. This means that there is a maximum number of children which can be admitted to a school in each year group. The PAN is agreed with the admission authority of the school and is based on the available teaching spaces within a school.

Does the law say I can choose the school my child attends?

The law does not give you the right to choose a school for your child. However, it does allow you to express a preference as to which school you would like your child to attend. The Council will try to meet that preference.

How many applications were successful last year?

For those who made a secondary transfer application on time in 2026, 91.04% of secondary applicants were successful in application for their first preference school. 98.74% of on-time applicants were offered a place at one of their preferred schools. Those who are unsuccessful often live outside the school's catchment area or have applied late.

How do I know how many places are available?

In this booklet there is a section that gives you information on schools in Shropshire. Under each

school you will see the Published Admission Number (PAN); this is the number of places available at the point of entry and places will be allocated according to the oversubscription criteria detailed on pages 6-33. If there are more requests for places than the PAN, the school is said to be oversubscribed.

Do I still need to apply for a school if my other children attend there?

Yes. Every application is dealt with separately, but you will have a greater priority for a place if your older child will still be of statutory school age and on roll when your younger child is due to start there. However, if you are applying to an out of catchment area school there will be no guarantee of a place even if you have an older child attending, although you will have a greater priority than other people living out of the catchment area without older children currently in attendance.

I live outside Shropshire. Can I still apply for a Shropshire school?

Yes. Wherever you live you can apply for schools in other local authority areas, although you may be responsible for all travel arrangements and costs. If you are unsuccessful at a Shropshire school you are advised to contact your home local authority.

How do I know if I am in the catchment area for a particular school?

Catchment area maps are available on our website www.shropshire.gov.uk on the General Map Viewer. Alternatively, you may wish to contact the Customer Service Centre or the Admissions Team. In most cases, there will be one primary school and one secondary school designated as the catchment school, but there are a few exceptions.

Please note that the Admissions team will coordinate with the Academy Trusts and Governing Bodies which determines any uncertainties about catchment areas or distances from home to school.

●●●● Frequently Asked Questions

My ex-partner and I share care of our child in equal measure. Which address will be considered the home address?

The Admissions Team will need to know which school nights are spent with each parent. If this does not result in a majority of school nights with either parent, the Admissions Team will be unable to determine the home address this way. In such cases, the parent who receives the Child Benefit for the child will be considered the main carer and their address will be determined to be the child's home address for school admission purposes.

My child is looked after by a childminder/ friend/grandparent/another family member during the week. Can I put their address on the application form?

No. The application must come from the genuine home address of the child at which he/she is expected to reside which, in most cases, would also be the address of the person who has parental care of the child. Unless your child is formally or legally cared for by someone other than his/her parent(s), then the address of the parent is the one we expect you to give. A place may be lawfully withdrawn if the information given in your application is considered by Shropshire Council or the admission authority, to be fraudulent or misleading. For example, if arrangements are made for the child to reside temporarily with extended family members or friends within a school catchment area this will not be regarded as the genuine home address.

False addresses and misleading applications...

Shropshire Council takes all necessary steps to verify that addresses are genuine through whatever sources of information are available to us, and this may include home visits by a Shropshire Council officer. If the Admissions Team do not consider that sufficient proof is provided, we will allocate a place based on what we believe to be the substantive address.

Parents must not use a business address, grandparent's, friends or other family member's address. Shropshire Council may disregard short-term tenancy agreements where the substantive

property remains unsold or is rented out. A false claim of relationship breakdown where reconciliation follows immediately after allocation may lead to the withdrawal of the offer of a place offered in error. In this case, the offer of a school place will be withdrawn. A local authority can withdraw the offer of a place even after a pupil has started at a school.

My former partner and I are now separated, and we cannot agree on our preferred schools. Which application will you accept?

Shropshire Council is unable to arbitrate when parents cannot agree. Where conflicting applications are submitted or an objection is raised (by the deadline dates for secondary transfer on page 54), the application will be suspended until either agreement is reached or the matter has been settled by the court. **This should be given urgent attention to avoid your child being disadvantaged or left without a school place.** If you cannot agree you should seek independent legal advice and, if necessary, an appropriate court order, before submitting the application. The address given should be that of the parent/carers named in the court order.

Preference

What if you cannot offer any of my preferred schools?

For transfer to secondary applications, if we are unable to offer a place at any of the schools named in your application, we will offer a place at the nearest school to your address with places available once all on-time applicants have been considered. This may not be the nearest school to your home or your catchment area school and you may then be responsible for your child's transport arrangements to that school. The Council does not automatically consider a place at your 'catchment' school unless you named it as one of your preferences. After all applicants have been considered, your nearest school may be full.

For in-year applications if you do not currently have a Shropshire school, your letter will include details of the next nearest school with a vacancy, and should you wish to apply, you need to follow the instructions in the letter.

Frequently Asked Questions

I do not wish to give more than one preference on my application form. Will this disadvantage me in any way? (See page 38.)

It may well do, so we strongly recommend that you put more than one preference, particularly if you do not intend naming your nearest or catchment area school. If you only put one preference on your application for secondary transfer, and you are unsuccessful in obtaining a place at that school, we shall offer the nearest school with vacancies (see above). Writing the same school four times on your application does not strengthen your case for that school and wastes the opportunity to use your preferences.

What will happen if I do not want to send my child to my local or nearest school?

Most schools have their own separately designated catchment area, but you can express a preference for any school in or out of your area. However, if you live outside the designated area and the school has more applications than there are places available, your application will probably have a lower priority than those who live in the catchment area. If your preferred school is not full you will be allocated a place no matter where you live, but you may be responsible for transporting your child to that school if it is not your nearest or catchment school, (see page 59).

Can I change my preferences?

For secondary transfer, after the closing date for applications but before allocation date, you cannot change your preferences unless it is because of a change of circumstances (e.g. house move by the deadline on page 54). If you wish to change your preferences after the allocations have been made, then you can request that your application be reviewed. Remember the school you ask for may be full at that stage. It is important that you carefully consider all the options before completing the application.

For in-year applications, please email inyearadmissions@shropshire.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth and revised order of preference.

If I name a school as my first preference, will I have a better chance than someone who names it as their second preference? (See page 38.)

No. The Government requires all local authorities to use an 'Equal Preference Scheme'. First of all we consider your first preference. If we can offer it, we will. If we cannot offer that because the school is oversubscribed and you were ranked a lower priority, then we will consider your second, third and fourth preference alongside all the preferences from other parents for those schools using the admissions criteria. Your application will be ranked in terms of oversubscription criteria, not in terms of your preference for the school.

If I do not make an application for a school, will you 'direct' me to a school which I do not wish my child to attend?

No. Shropshire Council cannot 'direct' you to send your child to a particular school. If we are unable to offer any of your application preferences, we can make an alternative offer. If you have not applied to any schools, we can inform you which schools have places available. As a parent/carer you are responsible for ensuring that your child accesses appropriate education. The Admissions Team can provide help and guidance, but the Council cannot be held responsible for not meeting your preferences or for your omission to submit an application.

There are children living further away from my preferred school who have been offered places, but we have not been successful. Why not?

There could be a number of reasons which relate to the individual circumstances at the time of the applications. One is that we have given a higher priority to children with special needs, children in Public Care, adopted children or those who have a specific medical reason. It may be that some have older siblings at the school. If you think that there has been any form of injustice, such as a distance not having been measured correctly, please raise this with the Admissions Team.

●●●● Frequently Asked Questions

Moving House

I shall be moving house before the date my child is due to start school. Which address should I give on my application form?

Shropshire Council require a copy of written confirmation from your solicitor that you have exchanged contracts on a property, or a signed copy of a tenancy agreement, to consider a new address, plus confirmation that you have sold or left your previous property. If you have reached this stage at the time you make your application then the new address is the one that should be given, with a note of explanation plus the required written evidence as stated above. However, if the arrangements have not been completed, please give your current address and inform the Admissions Team of any change of circumstances **without delay** once you have proof of the house move. See the note on page 54 for cut off dates for house moves.

If you move after you have applied or after a school place has been allocated, you should inform the local authority immediately. If you have a second home, you must give proof of the address at which you reside for the majority of the time. We can withdraw a place offered in error, even after a child has started at a school, if a change of address should have been notified to the Admissions Team but has not.

Please note that short term tenancy arrangements or temporary moves to live with friends or relatives may not be accepted. If you own a property and take out a rental agreement on another property, we may not accept the rented property's address until the other property is sold.

See page 5 for further details on who can apply for a school place.

How will distances be measured from the home address to the school?

A computerised mapping system is used for measuring distances. The measurement is taken as a straight line from where the home address is pinpointed by the computerised system to the nearest appropriate entrance gate of the school.

Where the address is a block of flats, the lowest number or flat nearest to the floor will be deemed to be the nearest distance.

What if my application form is late?

Applications for secondary transfer must be submitted by the closing dates. **After these dates applications will be processed as late applications.** Shropshire Council cannot be held responsible for an application form which goes astray, especially if posted without proof of posting.

Closing Date - 31 October 2026

After the closing dates we will only handle late secondary transfer applications where there has been a serious illness or bereavement in the family in the period shortly before the closing date, or where a family has moved house after the closing date or a change which affects how an application would be considered. Documentation to verify these circumstances must be submitted with the late application. Latest dates for these exceptional circumstances are:

**Deadline for New Applications/
Objections/Changes of Preference/due
to Change of Address:**

Deadline Date: 25 January 2027

If we are able to process your late secondary transfer application in time for Offer Day, we shall do so, although your preferred school may then be full. Otherwise, your late application will be considered after offer day. If your application is submitted after Offer Day it will be considered within 15 school days of receipt.

●●●● Frequently Asked Questions

Is there any financial charge associated with making an application to a school?

There is no cost associated with the admissions process to any Shropshire state funded school.

My child has some medical problems which can best be managed through attendance at a particular school. Will this be considered?

Parents should submit written evidence from the GP or medical specialist with the application. Shropshire Council/The Admission Authority may investigate such cases. For a place to be offered due to medical reasons, Shropshire Council or the admission authority would need to be satisfied that the medical circumstances* make it essential for the child to attend a particular school and no other. Most schools can accommodate a wide range of medical issues, such as asthma, ADHD, allergies and diabetes, so there must be a strong case for this to be agreed.

* Documentation to verify this is required with application.

When will I be informed about the allocation of a school place?

Allocation Day is when the results will be published and emailed to parents. Shropshire Council will inform parents of their allocated school for secondary transfer on the following date:

National Offer Day

Secondary Allocations 1 March 2027

If notification has not been received within a week of these dates, applicants should contact the Admissions Team.

For in-year applications, parents will be advised of the outcome of their application within 15 school days of it being submitted.

What can I do if my application is not successful?

[For Shropshire schools](#), please note that your child will automatically be added to the waiting list for your preferred schools and you can request an appeal. Your allocation notification will explain how to do this. Sometimes places which have been

allocated are no longer required and these vacancies can then be re-allocated in accordance with the admissions criteria. For secondary transfer, it will be at this stage that we can also consider any late applications or changes of preference which could not be considered earlier.

[For schools outside Shropshire, please contact the home local authority without delay.](#)

Shropshire Council operates a Fair Access Policy (see page 50) with regard to vulnerable and hard-to-place pupils, a copy of which can be obtained from our website or the Admissions Team. Children placed in schools through this policy will take precedence over children on a waiting list.

You can appeal against a decision for an unsuccessful in-year application, but this must be lodged within 30 school days from the date of your refusal letter.

Other

I have been told by the headteacher (or a member of the teaching staff) that my child will be offered a place at the school.

Neither the headteacher/staff members nor individual governors can give any indication of whether applications to their particular school will be successful.

The School Admissions Code states: "Admission authorities **must not** provide any guarantees to applicants of the outcome of their application prior to the formal notification of any offers of a place in a suitable school by the home local authority." and

"The offer to parents must be made by the home Local Authority".

I have twins/triplets. Will my children be able to go to the same school?

Shropshire Council will endeavour to offer places for all twins/triplets for the same school.

●●●● Frequently Asked Questions

My child has attended some “Taster Sessions” at my preferred school. Does this mean that he/she will have a better chance of getting a place at that school for secondary transfer?

No. There are several initiatives to help primary school aged children get used to the idea of what secondary schools are like, and secondary schools share some of their expertise and facilities with local primary schools. However, this makes no difference at all to the allocation process which is primarily based on your home address and not the primary or junior schools your child attends. Please help your child to understand that there is no guarantee of a place in these circumstances, and please do not raise their expectations unnecessarily if they have attended a ‘taster session’.

There is a bus service which runs from the end of my road to the school I prefer for my child. Does this mean my child is entitled to go there?

No. There are a number of schools which arrange transport from villages outside their catchment areas because of demand from children who have been successful in the past or because of sibling connections. Such arrangements however, do not change the catchment area or give any entitlement to a place at the school, even if you have neighbours whose children access such buses. Please see page 59 for full details about transport entitlement. The existence of a bus service is not a valid reason for the allocation of a school place.

What are the secondary transition days for my child?

Transition days for Year 6 pupils have been determined for the next three years’ intake. For September 2027, children will be invited to their new school on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th July 2027.

Future Dates:

Sept 2028: Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th July

Sept 2029: Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd July

My child has an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP), who will process my application and who do I apply to?

If your child has a current EHCP issued by the Local Authority, you will be written to by the EHCP Team regarding your child’s transfer to secondary school. You can make an application for mainstream provision via the parent portal and this will then be transferred to the EHCP Team for processing. Online portal access may not be available on national offer day, but you should be written to via the EHCP team with your child’s offer.



Appeals

For schools outside Shropshire, contact the relevant local authority without delay.

What happens at an Appeal?

Appeals are heard by an Independent Panel. Parents/carers can put their case forward **in writing and also in person** to the Appeals Panel. Personal circumstances that the Admissions Team are unable to consider at the initial allocation stage, may be considered alongside distance and other considerations by the Panel. The Panel's decision is final and binding on all parties – the admission authority (which in most cases is Shropshire Council), the school and the parents.

Where the Panel receives a number of appeals for the same school, they will hear them all on the same or successive days. There will usually be a 'plenary' session to which all parents/carers are invited and where a presentation is made by the Council's representative, usually supported by the headteacher or governor of the school, explaining why there would be difficulties in accepting any more pupils at the school. Appellants then have individual appointments for presentation of their own personal circumstances and reasons for wanting the particular school.

Can I get support for my appeal from my child's headteacher/teacher?

The Local Authority has advised headteachers that letters of general support should not be written if they can be deemed to be prejudicial to the outcome of an appeal, so please do not approach the headteacher or teacher at your primary school for such letters, nor indeed anyone on the Governing Body.

What can I do if my appeal is not successful

Sometimes parents will write to their local M.P. or Councillor hoping that this will change the decision of the panel, but the decision of the Appeals Panel can only be challenged in the High Court. However, if you feel that the process was flawed (in other words, maladministration occurred in the way the appeal was handled) you have the right to put your case to the Local Government Ombudsman or the Education & Skills Funding Agency in the case of academies. They are unlikely to overturn a decision made by an Independent Appeal Panel, however if the way in which the hearing was held is found to be flawed, they may order a fresh appeal.

I wish to move my child from their current school but have been told my preferred school is full. Do I have the right of appeal?

Whether your child is moving to start a new stage at school (i.e. Reception, Year 3 in junior school or Year 7 in secondary school), or because you are moving house or are unhappy with the school your child currently attends, you have the right of appeal if refused a place at the preferred school.

The appeal process will operate as already explained in this section, although in-year applications are unlikely to involve a group plenary session.

Special Needs

What provision is made for children with Special Educational Needs? (SEN)

Shropshire Council provides a range of services for children and young people who have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or disabilities (SEND). The majority of children with SEN can have their needs met at SEN Support and most children's special educational needs can be met in their local mainstream school or early years setting, sometimes with help from outside specialists. Wherever possible children with SEND will be taught in a mainstream setting. However, occasionally, it may be appropriate for children to attend a resource hub or specialist school setting.

Details of all Shropshire schools and education settings are published in the Shropshire Local Offer. The Local Offer is able to help you to make a decision about which school you would like your child to attend. All mainstream schools provide support for children with an EHC Plan. You can find out more information about the support that is available by looking at the School Information Report which is published

<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/education/nurseries-schools-colleges-and-specialist-provision/>

or you could look at the school website or talk to the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) or Headteacher.

Shropshire Council can provide you with information about which schools are accessible for children with physical difficulties. You can also contact the Headteacher of a school to find out more about the school's accessibility plan and single equalities policy.

If you are considering a school placement that is outside of your local area – further information regarding transport is available www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/travel-and-transport/

The EHCP Team

EHCP Team
The Guildhall
Frankwell Quay
SY3 8HQ
Email: EHCPTeam@shropshire.gov.uk

Senior Community Paediatrician

Shropshire Community Health
Coral House
11 Longbow Close, Harlescott Lane
Shrewsbury
SY1 3GZ
Tel: 01743 450800

Shropshire Parent & Carer Council

www.paccshropshire.org.uk



●●●● School Travel and Transport

When deciding on which school you prefer, remember to consider the implications of your child's journey to school. For example, there are personal health and environmental benefits of travelling actively by walking, cycling or wheeling to a local school.

Most schools have improved their facilities to support active travellers by providing safer footpaths, separate pedestrian entrances, scooter and cycle parking and waiting shelters.

Many schools have also benefited from safer routes to school projects which have introduced pedestrian crossings, school zones, safety warning signs and traffic calming schemes.

A 'School Streets' trial is currently taking place at some schools across Shropshire where traffic is prevented from accessing the roads near to a school to make it safer for people to travel actively.

Some schools also support parents/carers walking by operating 'Walking Buses', 'Park and Stride' schemes and take part in schemes such as 'WOW' (Walk Once a Week). Schools are supported by Shropshire Council's Sustainable Travel Team to provide road safety education and cycle with the help of Sustainable Travel Officers and Bikeability cycle training instructors. Ask your school about their 'Modeshift STARS School Travel Plan', which sets out initiatives to encourage walking, cycling, bus travel and car sharing.

View Shropshire Council's Sustainable Travel Strategy at www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport

If you would like more information about sustainable travel to schools in Shropshire contact the team at sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk

Where schools are beyond walking distance, we would encourage you to consider if your child would be entitled to free school transport. Free transport is generally only available for travel to the nearest or catchment area school (please see page 60 for details and exemptions). If this is not the case, you may be able to pay for a seat under the Temporary Seats Payment Scheme if there are spare seats on a school bus. The charge for seats in this scheme may vary and charges are currently under review.

For more details of the cost of the Temporary Seats Payment Scheme, please contact **Passenger Transport**

Group on **0345 678 9008**

or email: schooltransport@shropshire.gov.uk.

However, we must point out the temporary nature of this provision, and that it can and will be withdrawn at short notice should an eligible pupil need to take up that seat. You should therefore always ensure that you have alternative transport provision in place because the local authority will not be able to fund any replacement transport.

Equally, if you are eligible for free school transport and you move home and you do not want to move your child from your preferred school, you may be liable for all transport costs if that school is no longer your catchment or nearest school. Lack of your own transport is not a reason for the local authority to provide it and you will have full responsibility for getting your child to school in these circumstances. Your preference of school does not confer any accompanying right to free school transport.

The School Transport Team (within Passenger Transport Group) will check on eligibility. An application form must be completed and returned to them before the start of your child's commencement at school. This can be done by contacting **Customer Service Centre** on **0345 678 9008** or **online** at <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport/>. The onus is on you to make an application on the correct form. Parents should note that eligibility for free school transport will play no part in the allocation of school places by the Admissions Team. It is only after a place has been allocated that eligibility will be checked by the School Transport Team and not before.

(NOTE that normal admissions arrangements apply - a child must have obtained a place before applying for support with travel).

Existing transport networks already provide buses or cars from near to most homes.

Normally a bus pass would be issued before alternative arrangements were considered, as the cost of a taxi could be prohibitive.

●●●● School Travel and Transport

School Transport

The following pupils are entitled to free transport to their nearest or catchment area school:

- Pupils living beyond a 2-mile walking distance for primary age pupils.
- Pupils living beyond a 3-mile walking distance for secondary age pupils.
- In relation to the shared Shrewsbury secondary catchment area the local authority's designated catchment is determined using the "nearest school test".

From May 2026, the Department for Education also requires local authorities to provide travel arrangements, as they consider necessary, for eligible children to the relevant educational establishment in the following circumstances:

Secondary age children who are entitled to free school meals where households are receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings of £7,400 or less. Entitlement is for travel to one of the 3 nearest qualifying schools. This applies where students live more than 2 miles, but no more than 6 miles from the school. Alternatively, entitlement is for travel to the nearest school preferred by reason of a parent's religion or belief, up to a maximum of 15 miles from the child's home.

Transport may also be provided for:

1. Applicants with SEN needs may be entitled to travel assistance and will need to complete an application form. Please visit <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/travel-and-transport/>
2. Children unable to walk in safety due to exceptional hazards along the route. This requires a formal assessment and will only be granted if all the criteria can be met. Applications would have to be made to the School Transport Team regarding a particular route.
3. Disabled parents prevented from accompanying their child along a walking route.

Some Frequently Asked Questions

My nearest or catchment school is full. Will I qualify for free school transport to a more distant school?
Free school transport is normally provided to the nearest or catchment school where the distance criteria is met. However, free school transport to the next nearest school to the home address can be considered where the nearest or catchment school is full and confirmation of this is provided by the Admissions Teams.
If I am ill and have been transporting my child to school but can no longer do this, will the local authority then pick up the cost?
Unfortunately not. It remains your responsibility to ensure that your child attends school and, unless you intend providing Home Education, you need to take all the necessary steps to ensure full attendance. Family, friends, neighbours and nearby parents of pupils at the school should be approached. Alternatively, contact the Admissions Team about moving your child to the catchment or nearest school.
What if my child does not attend the nearest or catchment area school?
You do not have to send your child to the nearest or catchment area school. However, if you exercise your preference and are offered a place for your child at another school, you will normally have to make your own travel arrangements.
Are there safety codes on the buses and what happens if my child does not adhere to the guidance issued?
Safety on buses is of prime importance, and parents will be issued with guidance once eligibility is confirmed. Parents should note that non-compliance with this guidance (such as not adhering to the code of conduct) can result in transport being withdrawn at short notice. In these circumstances it will be the parents' responsibility to ensure school attendance and not the Council. The cost of any damage will be sought from the parents. CCTV is used on some of the contract services to provide documentary evidence of misbehaviour and may be passed to the police authority if prosecution for criminal damage is required by the bus operator.

●●●●School Travel and Transport

What happens if my circumstances change, and I am no longer eligible to claim Working Tax Credit?

Eligibility to the extended rights to free school transport to schools between 2 and 6 miles will be assessed every 12 months from the date of the application whilst you are in receipt of the qualifying benefits.

Some schools organise transport for pupils from out of their catchment area. Will my child be able to access this transport?

If your child is allocated a place at that particular school you should enquire there for details of that transport and whether there are places available. Parents need to be aware that there is no guarantee of the permanence of such arrangements. The availability of such transport will not be used in any way in the school allocation procedure, nor as an acceptable argument in any subsequent appeal.

I take my child to school as I live out of the catchment. I no longer have access to a car. Will Shropshire now transport my child to school?

No. You will have to make alternative arrangements or endeavour to place your child into the catchment or nearest school where you may then be eligible.

My child qualifies for free school transport. What level of provision can I expect?

Existing transport networks already provide buses or cars from near most homes. The pick-up point will be within a reasonable distance of the home. Door to door transport is not normally provided.

Where can I get further information from?

For any further information about transport please contact:

Customer Service Centre

Shropshire Council, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury SY3 8HQ

Tel: **0345 6789008**

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport



General

Free School Meals

Free school meals (FSM) are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents/carers are in receipt of, one or more of the qualifying benefits.

From the start of the 2026/27 academic year, the government is expanding benefits-based free school meals eligibility to all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit, regardless of household earnings. For more details, please visit the website, [Free school meals | Shropshire Council](#)

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming for them helps your school and your child. If you register for free school meals and meet the qualifying criteria for Targeted FSM, your child's school will be entitled to a pupil premium of £1,550 for primary and £1,100 for secondary. The Pupil Premium provides additional funding on top of the main funding a school receives. It is targeted at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to ensure they benefit from the same opportunities as pupils from less deprived families.

To apply for Free School Meals please visit the website, [Apply for free school meals | Shropshire Council](#)

Universal Infant Free School Meals, for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children

Since September 2014, infant aged children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are automatically entitled to have a free school meal through what is called Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM). You don't have to apply for universal infant free school meals, however in order for your child's school to recognise who is eligible for universal meals and who qualifies for government free school meals for funding purposes, we encourage all parents/carers

who meet the eligibility criteria for government free school meals to apply.

For every pupil registered with the school as eligible under the Targeted FSM criteria, the school will receive Pupil Premium to help raise achievement levels. Each school will decide how to spend the funding and are required to publish details of what they have spent it on and the impact it has had. So that schools (and pupils) can continue to benefit from this extra funding it is important that parents/carers who do receive the qualifying benefits continue to apply for free school meals.

Contact details

If you would like details of the Local Authority's policy on charging, please contact us on

0345 678 9008.

Independent Schools

The Local Authority does not pay towards the cost of education at independent schools except for a handful of independent special schools where severe special needs cannot be catered for in a mainstream or maintained special school. We consider that the facilities available in our schools meet the needs of all children. Shropshire Council receives no funding for pupils who are not in our maintained schools that can be transferred to the independent sector or handed over to parents to help them pay the fees or any transport costs they incur.



●●●● Admissions to schools with a Sixth Form

The schools listed below offer post-16 education in their sixth form. Students wishing to enter the sixth form of a school that they are already attending have an automatic right to do so as long as they meet the minimum entry criteria. However, there are published admission numbers (PANs) or admission limits on external pupils entering the school for the first time in Year 12. The PAN for pupils who are new to the school in Year 12 are as follows:

Academies/Foundation Schools		Contact Number
Grove School, Market Drayton	20	01630 652121
Idsall School, Shifnal	25	01952 468400
The Marches School, Oswestry	30	01691 664400
Sir John Talbot's School, Whitchurch	30	01948 660600
Thomas Adams School, Wem	50	01939 237000

Academies and foundation schools are admission authorities in their own right, and they determine their own admissions policy. Further details of sixth form admissions and how to make application, can be found in the local authority's booklet "Parent's Guide to Post-16 Education in Shropshire" available on Shropshire Council's website:

www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Details of each school's requirements on academic attainment to gain entry to sixth form, or to access a particular course, can be found on the school's website, in the school's prospectus and/or by contacting the school direct. (Please see the Post-16 Education Guide for contact details). Academic criteria

for entry to sixth form are the same for both external and internal places.

Schools may offer a meeting to discuss options and academic requirements for courses, but this will not form part of the decision process on whether to offer a place.

Where applicants are not offered a place at a school sixth form, this will be because either:

- There are more children eligible for places than places available and the oversubscription criteria has been applied to determine which new applicants are eligible for the places; or
- An applicant has not reached the specified entry requirement.

Any applicant refused a place in year 12 at a school sixth form is entitled to make an appeal to an independent appeal panel whether the child is already attending the school or is an external candidate. Both the individual student and the parent have separate and joint rights of appeal. Where the offer of a place was dependent upon exam results, the appeal must be heard within 30 school days of confirmation of those results. Where the offer is not conditional upon exam results, the appeal must be heard within 40 school days of the deadline for lodging appeals.

The criteria for assistance with transport for post-16 students are different from those aged 11-16 in years 7-11. Please visit the provider (college or school sixth form) for details on transport routes and fees. For further details, please see the "Parents' Guide to Post-16 Education in Shropshire" booklet or visit Shropshire Council's website www.shropshire.gov.uk.

Colleges for Post 16 Students

All colleges of further education and post 16 colleges are self-governing institutions. Each college is responsible for its own admissions and parents are advised to contact these institutions direct.

There are a number of colleges locally:

Hereford, Ludlow & North Shropshire College (HLNSC)

Principal Mr D Williams

<https://hlnc.ac.uk>

North Shropshire College

Shrewsbury Road,
Oswestry SY11 4QB
Tel: 01691 688000

Walford Campus

Baschurch,
Shrewsbury, SY4 2HL
Tel: 01939 262100

Ludlow Sixth Form College

Castle Square,
Ludlow, SY8 1GD
Tel: 01584 872846

County Training

Chester Street
Shrewsbury, SY1 1NB
Tel: 0345 6789023

Shrewsbury Colleges Group

Principal & Chief Executive: Mr J Staniforth

<https://www.scg.ac.uk/>

Tel: 01743 653000

Admissions: 01743 653111

Shrewsbury College

London Road Campus,
Shrewsbury, SY2 6PR

Shrewsbury Sixth Form College

English Bridge Campus,
Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury, SY2 6AA

Welsh Bridge Campus,
Priory Road,
Shrewsbury, SY1 1RX

Telford College

Principle & Chief Executive: Mr L Wood

<https://www.telfordcollege.ac.uk/>

Tel: 01952 642200

Haybridge Campus
Haybridge Road
Wellington
Telford, TF1 2NP

Station Quarter Campus
The Quad

Ironmasters Way
Telford Town Centre, TF3 4NT

16-19 Bursary Fund

If you're aged between 16 and 19 years and think you might struggle with the costs for full-time education or training, you may receive a bursary. Students most in need will be eligible to receive a bursary of £1,200 a year. This group includes young people that are:

- in care
- care leavers
- claiming income support or universal credit
- disabled who receive Employment Support Allowance who are also in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments.

Other students facing genuine financial difficulties may be awarded a bursary at the discretion of their school, college or training provider. With the exception of the £1,200 bursaries for students most in need, they decide on the amount. They will also decide when bursaries are paid and will set conditions that students should meet to receive a bursary, for example, linked to behaviour or attendance.

Further details can be found from the website:

<https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund>

Raising the participation age (RPA)

The Government increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training. This does not mean young people must stay in school; they will be able to choose one of the following options post-16:

- full-time education, such as school, college, or home education
- an apprenticeship
- part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering full-time (which is defined as 20 hours or more per week).

From September 2015 all young people have had to continue in education or training until their 18th birthday. For further information visit:

http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/f/raising_the_participation_age_2015.pdf

●●●● Out-of-County Schools

If you wish to make a preference for a school maintained by a local authority school outside Shropshire, you should contact the relevant Local Authority. However, if you live within Shropshire, you should include your applications to out-of-county schools on a Shropshire application form, and we will pass them on. Addresses and telephone numbers of neighbouring authorities are:

Chester and Cheshire West School Admissions Team Ground Floor Wyvern House Winsford Cheshire CW7 1AH Telephone: 0300 123 7039 Email: AdmissionsCWAC@cheshirewest.gov.uk mailto:admissions@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	Staffordshire School Admissions & Transport Service, Staffordshire County Council, 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford ST16 2LP Telephone: 0300 111 8007 Email: admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk
Cheshire East School Admissions Service Floor 1, c/o Delamere House, Delamere Street Crewe CW1 2LL Telephone: 0300 123 5012 Email: admissions@cheshireeast.gov.uk	Telford & Wrekin School Admissions Team, Education & Skills, 6th Floor Darby House, Wing A Lawn Central, Telford TF3 4JA Telephone: 01952 381072 Email: admissions@telford.gov.uk
Dudley School Admissions Service Cable Plaza, Waterfront West, Brierley Hill DY5 1LW Telephone: 0300 555 2345 Email: admissions.cs@dudley.gov.uk	Wolverhampton School Admissions & Appeals Team City of Wolverhampton Council, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1RL Telephone: 01902 551122 Email: school.admissions@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Herefordshire School Admissions Team Plough Lane Offices, Plough Lane, Hereford HR4 0LE Telephone: 01432 260926 / 261574 / 260925 Email: schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk	Worcestershire School Admissions Worcestershire County Council Wildwood, Worcester, WR5 2NP Telephone: 01905 822700 Email: schooladmissions@worcestershire.gov.uk
Powys School Admissions Team Education Service County Hall, Spa Road East, Powys, Llandrindod Wells LD1 5LG Telephone: 01597 826477 Email: admissions@powys.gov.uk	Wrexham Admissions Team, Lambpit Street, Wrexham, LL11 1AR Telephone: 01978 298991 Email: admissions@wrexham.gov.uk

●●●●Leave of Absence

In England, the rules regarding taking children out of school during term time for family holidays are as follows:

Parents cannot authorise absences; only schools can do this. Headteachers have discretion to grant leave during school term time, but this is not an automatic entitlement.

The law governing such leave of absences was tightened up from September 2013. Under current regulations, headteachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. An application for leave of absence should be made in advance by a parent the pupil normally lives with, and the school must be satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances justifying the leave. A family holiday is not deemed such a circumstance.

From **August 2024**, the fine for school absences across the country issued to each parent, per child will be **£80 if paid within 21 days** or **£160 if paid within 28 days**. Due to changes set by the DFE each parent will only receive up to two fines for the same child in a 3-year period.

If you get a second fine in three years it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school. If your child is off school three or more times within the three years you will not be fined, but may be taken to court.

Leave of absence during term time is not an automatic right and parents should not expect their child's school to authorise such leave. Taking your child out of school during term time means that both education and other school activities may be affected.

The law states that: **"The parent of every child of statutory school age is compelled by law to ensure such a child attends school unless there is a reasonable excuse for non-attendance. Failure to do so may result in legal action being taken against you"**. (You are further reminded that family holidays during term time are not deemed as a reasonable excuse).

The **notice** which outlines what will happen if your child is taken out of school without permission being granted by the headteacher in advance is detailed:

If this requested period of absence has not been authorised, details will be passed to Shropshire Council's Education Access Service.

The Council may, in the following circumstances, issue a Fixed Penalty Notice, or take court action in respect of non-school attendance for this and any future unauthorised absence:

Parents have not sought permission from the headteacher before taking their child out of school for a holiday in term time.

The headteacher has refused the request but the absence occurs anyway; or

A pupil has not returned to school by the agreed date with no satisfactory explanation.

Whilst applying for a school place you are also agreeing to the acceptance of the rules regards leave of absence in term and the receipt of this warning which will be placed on your child's record with the Education Access Service.

●●●● School Term and Holidays 2026/27

Please be aware that academies may set their own term dates and there can be variations between schools. We would recommend that you contact your child's school directly to confirm the school's term and holiday dates.

Autumn Term 2026

Main Term	Wednesday 2 September	-	Friday 18 December (inclusive)
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Half Term	Monday 26 October	-	Friday 30 October (inclusive)
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Professional Development Days: 1 September 2026 (PD)

Spring Term 2027

Main Term	Monday 4 January	-	Thursday 25 March (inclusive)
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Half Term	Monday 15 February	-	Friday 19 February (inclusive)
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Professional Development Days and Bank Holidays 4 January 2027 (PD)

Summer Term 2027

Main Term	Monday 12 April	-	Wednesday 21 July
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Half Term	Monday 31 May	-	Friday 4 June (inclusive)
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Professional Development Days and Bank Holidays 3 May 2027 (BH) 31 May 2027 (BH)

Summer Holiday Commences Thursday 22 July

Admissions Team

C/O Learning and Skills
The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay,
Shrewsbury SY3 8HQ

Details in this booklet are correct at the time of publication, but may be changed subsequently as a result of new legislation, by direction from the Schools Adjudicator or as a result of School Re-organisation.

**“Working in Partnership to Support Learning for All
Throughout Life”**



If you can read this but know someone who can't, please contact us on
0345 678 9008 so we can provide this information in a more suitable format