

**Warwickshire County Council**  
**School Admission Arrangements**  
**Coordinated Scheme**

**Starting school in Reception in September 2021, or**  
**transferring to Year 3 at a Junior school**

*An Equality Impact Assessment/ Analysis  
on this policy was undertaken on:  
1<sup>st</sup> December 2017*

*It will be reviewed in December 2020.*

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## Section 1 – Timetable for Primary, Infant and Junior Coordinated Admissions Scheme, for entry in September 2021

(Including children due to start school in Reception and those transferring to Year 3 in Junior school)

DATE	EVENT
August 2020	Warwickshire School Admissions Service (the 'Admissions Service') to obtain data from Census, Early Years and the NHS, relating to children eligible to start school, or transfer to Year 3 in a junior school, in September 2021.
From Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Information about application process sent to families of children eligible to start school, or transfer to Year 3 in a junior school, in September 2021.
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2020	<p>Application process opens (online and telephone application processes available).</p> <p>Applications will be received and processed for children due to start school in Reception, and those due to transfer from Year 2 in an infant or primary school to Year 3 at a junior school, in September 2021.</p> <p><i>Applications for children in Year 2 at an infant school, who wish to move to a primary school for Year 3 in September 2021, should follow the in-year admissions process, as outlined below, from June 2021. Such applications <b>will not</b> be processed as part of the coordinated admissions scheme.</i></p> <p><i>Applications for children in Year 2 at a primary school, who wish to change to a different primary school for Year 3 in September 2021, should follow the in-year admissions process, as outlined below, from June 2021. Such applications <b>will not</b> be processed as part of the coordinated admissions scheme.</i></p> <p>Application data will be available via SAM (the School Access Module) to all LA maintained schools, as well as Voluntary Aided, Trust, Foundation schools and Academies who have access to the service.</p>
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Reminder letter sent to parents who have not applied for a Reception place, and those currently attending Year 2 in an infant school who have not applied for a Junior school place, for entry in September 2021.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Deadline for own admission authority schools to request admitting over and above the determined PAN for the relevant entry year, for this to be considered in line with the coordinated admissions process and National Offer Day.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Deadline for requesting deferred entry, for those chronologically due to start school in September 2021, but who

	wish to start in September 2022 and request deferment from Year 1 to Reception at that point.
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (11.59pm)</b>	<p><b>National Closing date for on time applications.</b></p> <p>Applications received after this date will be considered as late and will not be processed until after National Offer Day (16<sup>th</sup> April 2021), in line with scheduled reallocation dates (unless the family is moving into the area – residency requirements must be adhered to – see below for more information).</p>
From Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	<p>Exchange of ADT files with other local authorities.</p> <p><i>(ADT = Electronic files relating to application details)</i></p>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021 (11:59pm)	<p>Extended deadline date for families moving into/within the county to have provided proof of their new residence and completed new/amended application for school places for application to be considered as on-time (see residency requirements below).</p> <p>The child <b>must</b> be residing in the new property by this date.</p>
From Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021	<p>SAM will open to all Warwickshire primary, infant and junior schools to begin sibling claim checks.</p> <p>Own admission authority schools who have also adopted staff checks, medical/social grounds, aptitude, or faith as part of their over-subscription criteria must also begin to assign relevant criteria to each application.</p>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	<p>Special Educational Needs, Disability, Assessment and Review team (SENDAR) to have notified Admissions Service of provisional school offer for children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).</p> <p>Checks to be carried out with secondary schools and surrounding LAs as to out of county children with an EHCP who may be offered a Warwickshire school.</p>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 (4:00pm)	<p>All Warwickshire mainstream infant, primary and junior schools to have completed sibling claim checks.</p> <p>Own admission authority schools who have also adopted staff checks, medical/social grounds, aptitude, or faith as part of their over-subscription criteria must also have complete assigning relevant criteria to each application.</p> <p>All above tasks must be completed on SAM, where the school has access. Where schools do not have access to this service, then the above must be completed via a ranked and completed Excel spreadsheet.</p> <p>The Reception 2021 and Junior 2021 rounds on SAM will then be closed to schools from 5pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021.</p>

Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	First exchange of ALT files with other local authorities.  <i>(ALT = Electronic files relating to offers of school places)</i>
By Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021	Final exchange of ALT files with other authorities.
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Provisional offers available to schools, via SAM where possible, and via Excel spreadsheet where the school does not have access to SAM. Schools must notify the Admissions Service of any issues by 4pm on Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021.  Offer data <b>must</b> remain confidential.
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Easter holidays)</b>	<b>National Offer Day.</b> Offers released to parents by Warwickshire's Admissions Service (Statutory).  Late applications will be available to schools after this date, either via SAM or via Excel spreadsheet.
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 (11.59pm)	Cut-off date for new applications – or amendments to previous applications - to be made in order to be considered in first reallocation round.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021 (4:00pm)	All Warwickshire mainstream infant, primary and junior schools to have completed sibling claim checks.  Own admission authority schools who have also adopted staff checks, medical/social grounds, aptitude, or faith as part of their over-subscription criteria must also have complete assigning relevant criteria to each application.  All above tasks must be completed on SAM, where the school has access. Where schools do not have access to this service, then the above must be completed via a ranked and completed Excel spreadsheet.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 (11.59pm)	Deadline to accept or decline offer made on 16 <sup>th</sup> April.
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Reminder letter sent to any Warwickshire parents that have not accepted or declined the offer made. If no response received by 11.59pm on Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 then offer may be withdrawn. Any vacancies created from such an action will be considered in the second reallocation round.
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 (11.59pm)	Cut-off date for new applications – or amendments to previous applications - to be made in order to be considered in second reallocation round.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 (4:00pm)	All Warwickshire mainstream infant, primary and junior schools to have completed sibling claim checks.

	<p>Own admission authority schools who have also adopted staff checks, medical/social grounds, aptitude, or faith as part of their over-subscription criteria must also have complete assigning relevant criteria to each application.</p> <p>All above tasks must be completed on SAM, where the school has access. Where schools do not have access to this service, then the above must be completed via a ranked and completed Excel spreadsheet.</p>
From Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Second reallocation round commences. Expected completion date = 28 <sup>th</sup> May.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	<p>Deadline by which appeals must be lodged in order to be classed as on time. Appeals lodged by this date will be heard by Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p> <p>Appeals lodged after 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 will be heard within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged. Hearings are therefore likely to be scheduled after the start of the new academic year in September 2021.</p>
From Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	<p>In-Year applications for infant, primary and junior school places, to start in September 2021, can be <b>submitted</b> - Year groups 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 only, plus Year 3 applications for <u>primary</u> schools.</p> <p>Applications for Reception places at infant and primary schools, as well as Year 3 applications for junior schools, for entry in September 2021, will continue to be processed through the coordinated scheme until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.</p> <p><b>IN-YEAR APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL AFTER 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021. CONFIRMATION OF SCHOOL OFFERS WILL THEN BE SENT TO FAMILIES FROM 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021.</b></p>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2021	<p>In-Year admissions process commences.</p> <p>All applications made in accordance with the coordinated admissions rounds will be moved to In-Year status and will be held on any relevant waiting lists until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.</p>

## **Section 2 – Reception and Junior Coordinated Admissions process for entry in September 2021**

**(including children due to start school and those  
transferring from Year 2 in an infant or primary school  
to Year 3 in a junior school)**

### **Terms**

The term '**school**', in this document, refers to maintained schools, and academy and free schools. It does not relate to special schools or private (fee-paying) schools, as these schools have their own admission processes.

The term '**parent**', in this document, refers to biological parents, all those with Parental Responsibility, and other person with primary care for a child.

The term '**own admission authority**' school, in this document, refers to state schools for whom the local authority is not the admissions authority, including; Academies; Voluntary Aided; Trust; and Foundation schools. The admission authority for such schools is the governing body or the academy trust.

The term '**infant**' school, in this document, refers to any admission authority school which admits children at the beginning of the Reception year until the end of Year 2.

The term '**junior**' school, in this document, refers to any admission authority school which admits children at the beginning of Year 3 until the end of Year 6.

The term '**primary**' school, in this document, refers to any admission authority school which admits children at the beginning of the Reception year until the end of Year 6.

### **Coordinated Admissions**

All local authorities are required to have in place a scheme for coordinating admission arrangements for maintained schools and other mainstream state-funded schools (e.g.: academies) within their area. The term 'school' in this document refers to both maintained schools and own admissions authority schools.

Coordinated schemes are intended to simplify the admission process for parents whilst reducing the likelihood of any child being left without a school place. Coordination establishes a mechanism that ensures that, as far as is reasonably practicable, every parent of a child who has applied for a school place is sent a single offer of a school place by the local authority in which their home address falls (their 'home authority').

Under the system of coordinated admissions, parents apply directly to their home authority and make a single application for a school place. Local authorities and other



admission authorities - such as the academy trust, or the governing body of a Voluntary Aided school - then exchange application data. This is to determine which children can be offered a place at which school. Parents then receive a single offer of a school place from their home authority.

Independent (fee-paying) schools are not part of the coordinated scheme. These schools will have their own admission criteria, application process and scheme for offering places. Parents should contact the relevant school directly if they wish to apply for a place.

Only parents of children who are resident in the county of Warwickshire, or who are able to satisfy the relevant address requirements as laid out in this document, should make an application through the Warwickshire School Admissions Service.

Warwickshire residents must apply for school places through the Admissions Service. Where parents approach schools directly, the school must direct the parent to the Admissions Service. Any Warwickshire resident who does not make an application through the Admissions Service, even if they applied directly to a school, will have any subsequent application which they make through the Admissions Service considered as late, if this is then received after the relevant deadline, as laid out in this document.

The Admissions Service will manage the process of allocating schools places in line with the Coordinated Admissions Scheme. Application data relating to schools in other local authorities will be forwarded via S2S. This system is part of the DfE's Secure Access website and is designed to securely transfer data between local authorities and schools.

## Admission Arrangements

All admission authorities are required to have a set of admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted. These arrangements need to include the criteria that will be applied if there are more applications received than places available at the school for the relevant entry year ('oversubscription criteria'). Admission arrangements are determined by admission authorities, in line with the School Admissions Code (2014).

In Community and Voluntary Controlled schools the local authority is the admission authority and has responsibility for determining admission arrangements. In Voluntary Aided, Trust and Foundation schools, the Governing Body has responsibility for determining admission arrangements. In Academies and Multi-Academy-Trusts, the Trust has responsibility for determining admission arrangements.

A school's admission arrangements must contain:

- The school's **Published Admission Number (PAN)** for each 'relevant age group'. This is the number of places that will normally be offered to children joining the

school at the normal point of entry (for infant and primary schools this is Reception and for junior schools this is Year 3).

- The **school's oversubscription criteria**. These are used to decide which children are offered places when there are more applications than places available. Each child is assigned a criterion with places offered in criteria order to fill the school.
- **Definition of sibling**. Admission authorities must state in their arrangements what they mean by sibling (e.g.: does it include step-siblings). Where priority is given to siblings of former pupils, admission authorities must set out a clear and simple definition of such former pupils. Some schools give priority to siblings of pupils attending another state funded school. Where this is the case, this priority must be clearly set out in the arrangements.
- **Distance from school**. Admission authorities must clearly set out how distance from home to school will be measured, and make it clear how 'home address' will be determined and the point in the school from which all distances are measured. This should include provision for parents who have shared responsibility for a child.

The School Admissions Code also requires that:

- Where a child has an individual Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names a specific school, then that child must be admitted to that school.
- The highest priority in a school's oversubscription criteria must also be given, unless otherwise allowed in the Admissions Code, to Looked After Children and all Previously Looked After Children.

'Previously Looked After Children' are children who were looked after (i.e.: who were under local authority care – e.g.: placed in foster care) but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order).

- If a school is not oversubscribed, all applicants must be offered a place (except for designated grammar schools).

The admission arrangements of any school must be such as to enable relevant decisions to be made in line with the timetable of this scheme.

### Information for parents

In August of each year, the Admissions Service receives data relating to children who are due to start school in September of the following year. Data is also received from

Infant schools relating to children who are due to transfer to Year 3 in September of the following year. This data is then used to distribute information about the admissions process to the families concerned.

In September of each year, information explaining the school admissions process will be made available to the families of children who are resident in Warwickshire who either:

- Have a child due to start school in Reception in the following September, *or*;
- Have a child attending Year 2 in an infant or primary school.

Important information will be available on the County Council's website. It is expected that all families following the 2021 entry coordinated admissions process, as well as all schools within the county, will have read through the information relating to this process on the website. Schools (as well as nurseries and other childcare providers, in the case of children who are due to start school) are encouraged to inform parents of the need to apply for a school place and make parents aware of the necessary deadlines.

Also available on the Warwickshire County Council website will be the local authority's Composite Prospectus (from September 2020). This incorporates the information that is available online and will also contain the full admission arrangements of each state school in Warwickshire (not independent fee-paying schools or special schools, as applications for these schools are not considered under the coordinated admissions process).

### **Applying for a school place**

Parents apply for school places using a Common Application Form (CAF). Parents are encouraged to apply for a school place using Warwickshire's online application system. This allows parents to complete an electronic version of the CAF. The advantages of the online system are as follows:

- The process is relatively quick and easy.
- Applicants receive an acknowledgment email confirming that their application has been submitted.
- Parents applying online receive their offer of a school place from 08.30am on National Offer Day.

The online application process allows parents to:

- Apply for places at their preferred schools by naming these on the application. Warwickshire parents can name a maximum of six schools on their application.

- Rank their preferred schools in the order they would like their child to be offered a place (parents should name their most preferred school(s) as their first/highest preference on the application).
- Give reasons for each preference.
- Give details of any siblings who will also be attending one of the preferred schools at the point of admission of the child for whom a place is being applied. *Some own admission authority schools will also consider sibling links where the sibling attends the preferred school at the time of application, rather than time of admission of the child for whom the application is being made.*
- Give details of any parent who is a staff member at the school which has been named as a preference, in line with the oversubscription for some own admission authority schools.
- Provide details of social or medical issues, in line with the over-subscription for some own admission authority schools.
- Indicate if the child has an Education, Health and Care Plan.
- Indicate if the child is in receipt of Pupil Premium (including Early Pupil Premium and Service/Military Premium), in line with the over-subscription criteria for local authority maintained schools in Warwickshire.
- Indicate if the child is, or has ever been, classed as a Child in Need or has been subject to a Child Protection Plan through Children's Services, in line with the over-subscription criteria for local authority maintained schools in Warwickshire.
- Confirm details in relation to faith, in line with the oversubscription for some own admission authority schools (faith schools may require additional evidence as part of the application. This should be submitted directly to the school for which a place is being sought. Further information about this can be found in the admission arrangements for each school concerned).
- Confirm if the child falls within the classification of 'Looked After'\* or 'Previously Looked After'\*\*, in line with paragraph 1.7 of the School Admissions Code (2014).

\*A 'Looked After Child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

\*\*'Previously Looked After' refers to a child who was looked after (as outlined above) immediately prior to being adopted or becoming subject to a Child Arrangements Order or a Special Guardianship Order.

Alternatively, parents can contact the Admissions Service and make an application over the telephone. This allows parents to provide the same information as the online system, but in this case the offer of a school place will be sent via second class post, so may not be received as quickly as an online offer, which will be sent electronically.

Completed application forms, regardless of the method used to make the application, should be received by the home authority (Warwickshire School Admissions Service) by no later than 11:59pm on the national closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Completed application forms received after the closing date will be considered as late unless suitable evidence of a house move can be provided by the relevant deadline (see 'Changes of address' section below).

Amendments to the application (e.g.: an additional preference being named, or the order of the ranked preferences being changed) will be permitted prior to the closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Any changes made to an application after this date will be classed as late (unless they are made in line with the requirements detailed below).

### **Supplementary Information Forms**

Some schools require parents to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) in order to assign the oversubscription criteria. If a SIF is required by the admission authority of a school, this will be detailed in the admission arrangements for the school concerned.

Where SIFs are used by admission authorities in Warwickshire, every effort will be made to ensure that only the information that is required in relation to the published oversubscription criteria is requested. This is in accordance with paragraph 2.4 of the School Admissions Code.

SIFs must not ask for any of the information prohibited in paragraph 1.9 of the Admissions code, or:

- a) Any personal details about parents and families, such as maiden names, criminal convictions, marital, or financial status (including marriage certificates).
- b) The first language of parents or the child.
- c) Details about any disability, special educational needs or medical conditions which either the child or a parent has been diagnosed with.
- d) Require that parents agree to support the ethos of the school in a practical way.
- e) Require that both parents sign the form, or ask for the child to complete the form.

When a school receives a SIF, Warwickshire Admissions Service will not consider the parents to have applied for a place at that school unless the parent has also submitted the Common Application Form and named the school as a preference on that application. SIFs should be submitted directly to the school concerned for their consideration against the oversubscription criteria. Warwickshire Admissions Service

will not process any SIFs.

When a school's admission arrangements require a SIF and one is not completed, but the parent has listed the school on the CAF and submitted this to their home local authority, the application must still be considered without the additional information. If a SIF is not received then the application can only be considered in accordance with the information available to the from the CAF, and this may result in the application being given lower priority for a place, in line with the admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria for that school.

Where a SIF is required it must be returned to the school that is requesting such additional information by the application deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The school concerned may not process any additional information received after this date. Please contact the school you are interested in directly for further information about the additional information they require.

### **Evidence of the Child's Home Address**

As part of the application process, documentation concerning the child's home address will be requested. If the application is made through the online portal, then such documentation will be requested at the point the application is started. Such documents can be uploaded to the parent's online account.

Acceptable documents to confirm a child's home address will include;

- 2020/2021 Council Tax Bill
- 2020/2021 Council Tax Benefit letter/notice
- Utility bill (gas, water or electric), dated within the last 6 months
- Copy of tenancy agreement or mortgage statement for the property, dated within the last 12 months
- Copy of most recent Child Tax Credits or Child Benefit letter

Addresses involved in child-minding arrangements, whether with professional child-minders, friends or relatives, cannot be considered as the child's home address, unless the child sleeps at that property for the majority of the school week (i.e. at least 3 out of 5 nights, Monday to Friday).

Where a school place is offered based on an address which is subsequently found to be different from the address where the child ordinarily resides, that place may be withdrawn. Cases will be assessed on an individual basis and in discussion with any schools named on the application that are their own admission authority.

There is an expectation that the child will be resident at the address used to allocate a place on a long-term basis, and until at least the start of the autumn term (September 2021) in relation to the coordinated admissions process.

Short-term house moves purely to secure a school place may be considered fraudulent or intentionally misleading and, in such circumstances, the place may be withdrawn.

The Local Authority (acting on behalf of the school, in some cases) may request further documents regarding the child's home address at any time. The Admissions Service operates a thorough and robust address checking process, which may include both announced and unannounced home visits.

## Changes of address

School places will be allocated using the home address that is named on the Common Application Form, unless any of the following three conditions are met:

1. **House move prior to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021:** Where the home address changes before the closing date for applications, parents must notify the Admissions Service of the change of address and will be permitted to amend their school preferences. Parents will need to contact the Admissions Service to update the application.

Some admission authorities may have additional residency requirements which parents must abide by in order for their application to be classed as on time. See each school's admission arrangements for clarification.

2. **House move after 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, but on, or before, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021:** Where the home address changes after the closing date for applications, but before the extended deadline for families who are moving (either within or into the county), parents should contact the School Admissions Service to make a new application, or amend an existing application. This includes notifying the service of the child's new address. Such changes will be permitted, as long as this is done before 11:59pm on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

**The child must be residing (living) in the new property by the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.**

3. **House move after 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021:** Where an application is made by the national closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, but a house move happens after this date and no evidence could be submitted by the extended deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021, then the application will be processed and considered in line with the address information and school preferences submitted as part of the application as it stood on 15<sup>th</sup> January. Such changes can be updated after 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021, when the family may contact the Admissions Service and ask them to amend the address details on the child's secondary school application and may also amend their preferences. A change of address in this case will result in the application being considered afresh for all the schools named on the application

at that point and the application will, therefore, be classed as late

### **Proof of Address**

Address details will not be updated on an application until suitable documentation has been received by the Admissions Service that shows that the family, including the child for whom the application is being made, is resident in the property.

Suitable proof of address in these circumstances can include either: a full copy of the signed tenancy agreement (which should terminate on, or after, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021), or a letter from the family's solicitor confirming that there has been an exchange of contracts on the new property.

It is the family's responsibility to ensure that such documents are received by the Admissions Service.

*All emails sent to the service will be automatically acknowledged. If you wish to send documents via post then we would strongly recommend that you use a recorded delivery method.*

If you have any difficulty in submitting any of the documents stated above then please contact the Admissions Service, who can advise you further.

Where a house move has occurred after the 1<sup>st</sup> February deadline, and no application has previously been made to Warwickshire, an application must be made and suitable documentation to confirm the new address must be submitted.

In this case, the application will be classed as late and will not be considered in the first round of offers, which will be released on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021. However, the application will be given consideration in one, or both, reallocation rounds (depending on when the application is received), if both the application for a school place **and** suitable proof of the new address are received by the relevant reallocation round deadlines.

Applications received after 11.59pm on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 will be processed on an ad hoc basis.

### **Applications for schools in other local authorities and applications for Warwickshire schools from families living in other local authorities**

Applications for schools in other local authorities, and any relevant additional / supplementary information, will be electronically forwarded to the relevant coordinating local authority, in line with the timetable found at the beginning of this document.

Warwickshire School Admissions Service will also receive applications from other local authorities in line with the timetable found at the beginning of this document. These will be recorded and passed to admission authorities, as appropriate. If the application is for



a Community or Voluntary Controlled school then the Admissions Service will give consideration for places alongside other applicants, in line with the relevant oversubscription criteria.

### **Multiple applications made by the same parent / household**

If more than one application is made prior to the closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, by the same parent / household, then only the newest application will be processed (i.e.: the last application made before the deadline). Any applications made previously will not be processed.

If the newest application is submitted after the closing date then it will be treated as a late application (unless there has been a change of address, in line with the requirements detailed above) and will not be processed until after 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Following National Offer Day, the School Admissions Service will accept new applications and, if required, further amendments to existing applications. If a child has an existing offer of a place, this will not be withdrawn until confirmation of an offer from the new/amended application can be made.

Where a school place has been offered, the applicant must choose either to accept the offer or not. Where an offer is not accepted within a reasonable time, it may be withdrawn by the Admissions Authority. If an applicant choose to make a further application after having received the offer of a place, this application can only be processed where the applicant has declined to accept the place that has been offered.

Any further application will be classified as a late application, and will be processed after all of the first round offers have been made to applicants who applied on time. If it is possible to offer the applicant's child a place at the school which is the subject of the further application, a place will be offered.

Parents who have received the offer of a place but who decline the offer in favour of making a further application risk not being offered a place a place at the school which they have applied to subsequently. In these cases, the local authority may offer a place at any maintained school which has vacancies.

### **Multiple applications made by Separated Parents**

The Admissions Service will not become involved in disputes between parents, or parties, regarding applications for school places.

Where parents cannot agree on either the home address or the school preferences to name on an application (or both), the Admissions Service will contact both parents to inform them of the situation and to request that they confirm between themselves, and to the local authority, which application and school preferences to take forward. This may require the involvement of the courts, if necessary.

If this fails to resolve the matter then the Admissions Service reserves the right to consider only the application made by the parent with whom the child resides for the majority of nights during the school week.

Where the child spends 50% of their time with each parent, and a decision cannot be reached by the relevant closing date for the submission of applications, the local authority will intervene and act on their behalf. The local authority uses a computer 'random generator' to select either parent A or parent B's application. This process is carried out by two Admissions officers in the presence of a local authority solicitor. Parent A and B are advised which application will be processed.

### **How offers are determined**

Subject to the above, admission authorities must consider all applications. If there are more applications received for a school than there are places available, then the relevant oversubscription criteria for the school will be assigned to each application.

If a school is oversubscribed then the admission authority must produce an intake list, in ranked order, which must include all those who have expressed a preference for the school. The ranked list must be returned to Warwickshire Admissions Service. Where it has been agreed that the Admissions Service will carry out this function for an own admission authority school, it is the admission authority's responsibility to ensure that they agree with the intake list. Any issues must be raised with the Admissions Service by the date set out in the timetable at the beginning of this document.

In the case of Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, the Admissions Service will apply the oversubscription criteria.

In most cases, and where possible, the aim will be to offer a place at the school named as the highest preference. Where it is possible to offer a place at more than one of the preferred schools named on the application, a place will be offered at the school listed as the highest preference out of the schools where an offer can be made. Any applications for schools which are listed as lower preferences than the school offered will then be automatically withdrawn.

Where the Admissions Service is unable to allocate a place at any preferred school, a place will be allocated at the next nearest school which has availability. This includes schools who are classed as their own admission authority, who are not maintained by Warwickshire County Council, and may include academies, free schools, and faith schools. The next nearest school with availability will be identified based on distance, calculated as set out below.

A single school place should be identified for each child by the end of the coordinated admissions process.

## **Distance**

Distance will be calculated by a straight-line measurement from the address point location coordinate of the applicant's home address to the centre point ('centroid') of the school in question. The centroid is a pre-determined point set by Warwickshire County Council and all distances are subject to changes which may occur with updates of mapping data. \*

*\* Mapping data is subject to change at any time, utilising information from sources such as (but not limited to); Map X, the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG), Royal Mail, Ordnance Survey, and the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG).*

## **Published Admission Number (PAN)**

Where schools have more applications to consider than there are places available, offers will be made in accordance with the school's Published Admission Number (PAN), as part of the coordinated admissions process. Where an admission authority wishes to admit over its PAN, as part of the coordinated process, the process outlined in the following paragraph – 'Offers over PAN' - should be followed.

### **Offers over PAN**

Where an admission authority wishes to admit children over and above their PAN, as part of the coordinated admissions scheme, they must make this request in writing to the Admissions Service by no later than the end of the Autumn term prior to the relevant entry year (i.e.: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 for September 2021 entry). The Local Authority will agree to such requests, where the request is received in good time (i.e.: by the above deadline), where the admission authority can show that the school has capacity and finances to support admitting over PAN, and where admitting over PAN would not adversely affect offers made for other schools in the local area.

Where such a request is received after the date outlined above then the determined PAN will be honoured, in relation to the coordinated admissions scheme, and offers made up to PAN (where possible) in line with National Offer Day – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The request will then be taken into account in line with the specified reallocation dates, where possible to do so, and only where the admission authority can show that the school has capacity and finances to support admitting over PAN, and where admitting over PAN would not adversely affect offers made for other schools in the local area.

Where further capacity is required to provide every child in Warwickshire with an appropriate school place, a discussion will be held with relevant schools by members of the Admissions team and officers in School Place Planning to reach an agreement on offering additional places above PAN. This will include the local authority approaching own admission authority schools to take additional pupils, over and above

their PAN.

### Notification of offers

National Offer Day is 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Warwickshire Admissions Service will communicate to all parents who are resident within the county, who have made an **on-time** application (i.e.: by the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 or the extended deadline for a house move), regarding the school place that has been offered. This applies to schools offered within either Warwickshire or another local authority and will give the reason as to why schools that were named as higher preferences have not been offered, if applicable.

All applicants who made an on-time application online will receive notification of the school place offered, **after** 8.30am on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021. These offers will be available to view via the online parent portal system.

Offer letters will only be sent to applicants who completed an application over the telephone or via paper copy. Letters will be sent second class, with the intention of them being received by the recipient **after** 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

When an applicant is not offered their first preference school, they will be provided with (or directed to) the following information. This may be via an electronic link to such documents, where the offer is sent by email:

- a) Information about their right of appeal against any refusal of a place,
- b) A breakdown of the offers made for each school,
- c) Information about the waiting list process.

### Appeals

Where applicable, parents will be informed of their statutory right of appeal when they receive the outcome of their application. Parents can appeal for any preference where they have received a refusal. However, applicants cannot appeal for a place at a school listed as a lower preference than the school place offered. This is because the application will not have been considered for the school listed as a lower preference than the school offered and will have been automatically withdrawn.

Appeals for places at Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools can be lodged on the Warwickshire County Council website. For other schools which do not have Warwickshire County Council as its admission authority, such as academies and voluntary aided schools, parents should contact the school directly for details of the appeals process. A list of these schools is available on the Warwickshire County Council website.

## Late applications

Every effort will be made to remind parents to submit their application by the closing date of 11.59pm on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. However, if an application is received after this deadline then it will be classed as late (unless the rules on a change of address prior to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 apply). Late applications will not be processed until **after** National Offer Day on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Late applications will be considered as part of the relevant reallocation round, depending on when the application is received. Late applications will be considered on the reallocation dates listed in the timetable at the beginning of this document.

If the applicant requests that new preferences are added to the application, and the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 deadline has passed, such amendments will be classed as **late**. Any schools named on the application prior to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 deadline will not be affected and will remain as on time.

Each application will be limited to a maximum of six active preferences at any one time during the coordination admissions process. Where adding a further school preference, at the request of the applicant, would cause the application to contain more than six preferences, then a preference of the applicant's choosing must first be withdrawn from the process, otherwise the new preference school will not be added to the application.

In respect of own admission authority schools, information about late applications will be made available through SAM (School Access Module) after National Offer Day, for consideration as part of the reallocation rounds. The admission authorities will be required to assign relevant oversubscription criteria, as well as carrying out any relevant checks, and they will also be made aware of any offers made through the reallocation process.

In the case of a late application, where it is possible to offer a place at more than one of the preferred schools through one of the reallocation rounds, a place will be offered at the school listed as the highest preference on the application.

## 'Unplaced' offers

Where the local authority is unable to allocate a place at any of the preferred schools named on the child's application, either on National Offer Day or through any of the reallocation rounds, a place will be allocated at the next nearest school which still has availability at that time. The next nearest school with availability will be identified based on distance calculated by straight line measurement. This school offer will be referred to as 'unplaced' as it will be an offer for a school which the family did not name – 'place' - on their application.

## Waiting lists

Where a school is offered on National Offer Day, and this was named as a lower preference school on the application than a re-offer that can be made as part of one of the reallocation rounds (or any point afterwards), the parent who made the application will be notified that a higher preference school can offer a place and a set period of time will be given to consider whether they wish to accept the new offer. This will usually be 5 working days.

If the parent does not confirm their decision as to whether they accept the re-offered school within the time period set by the Admissions Service, then that re-offer will be released and re-offered to the next child on the waiting list. The school place offered previously, and accepted by the parent, will not be affected.

Where the re-offered, higher preference, school is then accepted by the parent, the previous school offered will be automatically withdrawn. Only one school place can be offered and accepted as part of the coordinated admissions process.

Children will automatically be added to the waiting lists of any non-selective schools listed as a higher preference than the school at which a place is initially offered.

The waiting lists for Warwickshire schools will not order children based on the date the application was received, so there will be no distinction between on time applications and those which have been classed as late. Waiting lists will be held in the order of the admission authority's oversubscription criteria.

Waiting lists will be re-ranked prior to each reallocation round, and when a new application is received thereafter. Admission authorities will be required to assist the local authority in assigning oversubscription criteria and carrying out relevant checks, where new applications are received, or when a previous application is amended (e.g.: a change of address).

The local authority will continue to operate the coordinated admission scheme, in relation to processing new applications and allocating places, where this is appropriate, up to and including 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

For every over-subscribed infant, primary and junior school, Warwickshire Admissions Service will retain a waiting list until the end of the Autumn term (31<sup>st</sup> December 2021).

At that point, all waiting lists for community or voluntary controlled schools (where the local authority is the admission authority) will be cleared and all applicants will be removed from the lists. If a parent wishes for their child to be added back on to the waiting list after this period then they will need to complete and submit a Change of School application, which can be done on the online parent portal, through the County Council's website.

Where an infant, primary or junior school is an own admission authority school, it will be the decision of the school to determine if they wish to keep a waiting list for the remainder of that academic year, and if they wish for a waiting list to be held either with school directly or with the local authority, on the school's behalf.

### **Applying for a place in a junior school**

The normal point of entry to a Junior school is Year 3. The local authority coordinates the process of allocating places to these schools.

Parents who have a child in Year 2 at an Infant school, who will need to transfer to Year 3 in a Junior school from September 2020, will be eligible to apply for a place through this coordinated admissions scheme using the Common Application Form (CAF).

Applications will also be received and processed in line with the coordinated admissions scheme, for children in Year 2 at a primary school who wish to transfer to Year 3 at a junior school.

As Year 3 is not the 'normal point of entry' in a primary school, applications for children in Year 2 at an infant school, who wish to move to a primary school for Year 3 in September 2021, should follow the in-year admissions process, from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Such applications will not be processed as part of the coordinated admissions scheme.\*

Applications for children in Year 2 at a primary school, who wish to change to a different primary school for Year 3 in September 2021, should also follow the in-year admissions process, from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Such applications will not be processed as part of the coordinated admissions scheme.

*\*Please note that the Local Authority may request that a small number of primary schools within the county make 'unplaced' offers to children, as part of the coordinated admissions process, where it is concluded that there is not enough capacity within junior schools in the local area to satisfy need. This will be an agreement made between the Local Authority and the schools concerned only.*

### **Accepting the school place offered**

Warwickshire parents will be asked to respond to the offer of a school place by the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Acceptance of the place can be done through the online application portal, or via email, or over the telephone through the Admissions Service.

Failure to respond to the offer by the deadline stated above will result in a letter being sent to the family on, or around, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021, giving a further deadline to respond and confirm acceptance or a decline of the school place offered.

Failure to respond to this further correspondence may then result in the school offer being withdrawn from the child. Parents will continue to receive correspondence from Warwickshire County Council regarding the child's school destination for September

2021 and may also be referred to Warwickshire's Attendance Service (WAS), who may take legal action against a parent, where deemed necessary.

Where an offer is made through one of the specified reallocation rounds, or thereafter, the family will be notified, in writing, of the deadline to accept or decline the offer. Failure to comply may result in the offer being withdrawn and the child will retain their previous offer of a school place.

### **Declining the school place offered**

Where a family wish to decline the place offered, this cannot be done via the online portal and must be done either over the telephone or via email through the Admissions Service.

The Admissions Service will not process a decline for a school place unless suitable alternative provision can be confirmed by the parent, for example, a school place has been secured for the child at a private school. Evidence of such may also be requested.

### **Coordination after National Offer Day**

The School Admissions Code makes it clear that parents must continue to apply through their home authority for school places as part of the coordinated admissions scheme (i.e.: between 16 April and 31 August for Reception, Infant and Junior transfers). This will ensure that, as places become available, they are re-allocated effectively and duplicate offers are avoided. All admission authorities must continue to follow the coordinated scheme until 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and not begin allocating school places themselves during this period.

Cooperation between admission authorities will ensure that each child is offered only one school place and that it is the highest preference possible that can be offered from the child's application.

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 the coordinated scheme will cease, and the In-Year Admissions process will begin.

### **Applications from overseas residents**

#### ***UK Military families/Crown Servants***

For families of UK Service Personnel with a confirmed posting within the county, or crown servants returning from overseas to live in the county, admission authorities:

- **Must** allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area, provided



the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address when considering the application against their oversubscription criteria. This must include accepting a Unit postal address or quartering area address for a service child.

- **Must** ensure that arrangements in their area support the Government's commitment to removing disadvantage for service children. Arrangements must be appropriate for the area and be described in the local authority's composite prospectus.
- **Must not** refuse a service child a place because the family does not currently live in the area, or cannot provide documentary evidence of residence at a particular property
- **Must not** reserve blocks of places for these children.

The application will follow the coordinated admissions process in all other respects, as outlined in this document.

#### ***Families moving to, or back to, the UK (Non-Military)***

There is no legal requirement to process applications from other families coming from overseas who are not yet resident within Warwickshire, except as set out above.

Applications from overseas families in all other cases will therefore only be processed in line with the coordinated scheme once the family, including the child for whom the application is being made, can show evidence that they will be residing in Warwickshire imminently. Proof of residence may be requested at any time during the application process and the application will only be processed once enough documentation, that confirms a Warwickshire address, has been provided to the Admissions Service.

Where both an application for school places AND documentation relating to the family's new address is provided by the extended deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 for families moving into the county, then the application will be treated as on time and processed alongside all other applications. Applications and/or enough residency documentation received after this deadline will be treated as late and will not be processed until after 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Where schools are their own admission authority, they may operate additional residency requirements, but this will be stated in the admission arrangements for those schools concerned.

As part of the local authority's coordinated admissions scheme, for entry in to Reception (or Year 3, if transferring to a junior school), in September 2021, there is an expectation that the child and applicant will still be in residence at the address used on the application from the start of term in September 2021, at least. Short-term house

moves purely to secure a school place may be considered fraudulent or intentionally misleading and, in such circumstances, the place may be withdrawn, even if the child has started at the school concerned.

### **Deferred entry into Reception and Starting school on a part-time basis**

As required by the School Admissions Code, Warwickshire County Council operates a process for the admission of all children to start school in Reception in the September following their 4<sup>th</sup> (fourth) birthday. However, legally, a child does not have to start attending school until they reach what is known as ‘Compulsory School Age’ (CSA). Children can also start school but attend on a part-time basis until they reach CSA.

Compulsory School Age is defined as the start of the term after the child’s 5<sup>th</sup> (fifth) birthday, as indicated in the table below. Once a child has reached CSA, they must be attending school on a full-time basis, or be receiving full-time schooling through Elective Home Education.

<b>Children born between:</b>	<b>...will reach Compulsory School Age (CSA) by the beginning of the:</b>	<b>...and must be attending school on a full-time basis by:</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016	Spring Term 2022	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022**
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017 and 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Summer Term 2022	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022**
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2017 and 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2017*	Autumn Term 2022	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022** (or the next school day, if the 1 <sup>st</sup> has been designated as a Teacher Training Day)
<p>*Where a child who is born between April and August is offered a Reception place as part of the 2021 entry coordinated admissions process, the child must have taken up that place and started at the school by the beginning of the Summer term. If they do not, then the parent will have to make a new application for the child to start school in Year 1 in September 2022. There is no guarantee that the same school, or any other preferred school, will be able to offer the child a place at that stage.</p> <p>**Term dates to be confirmed in due course.</p>		

Therefore, parents can decide to defer their child’s start in Reception until later in the academic year, but not beyond the point at which the child reaches Compulsory School Age. Parents will retain their free entitlement to early years’ provision throughout the period that the child has not started to attend school.

Parents can also decide that their child will attend school on a part-time basis until they reach Compulsory School Age. However, if parents decide to send their child to school on a part-time basis and then send that child to an alternative childcare provider – for

example, a nursery – for any other portion of the school week, then the child’s free entitlement will end, as that funding will be automatically allocated to the school that the child is attending. It will be the responsibility of the parents to cover any costs incurred through their child attending the alternative childcare provider.

In either case, an application for a school place must be made in line with the 2021 entry coordinated admissions process, and all relevant deadlines adhered to, so that a school place can be offered for the child to start either in September 2021 or later on during the 2021/2022 academic year. Once the offer has been accepted, the parent should speak to the head teacher of the school concerned about their decision to defer their child’s admission to school until later in the school year, or for them to initially attend on a part-time basis. The relevant admission authority of the school will also be informed of the parent’s decision in such cases so that suitable arrangements can be put in place, where required.

In the case of children born between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> August, who wish to defer their entry to school, the school place offered as part of the 2021 entry coordinated admissions process can only be held up to the beginning of the Summer term in April 2022. If the child has not taken up that place by the first day of the summer term, then the parent will have to make a new application for the child to start school in Year 1 in September 2022. There is no guarantee that the same school, or any other preferred school, will be able to offer the child a place at that stage. An application for a Year 1 place, to start in September 2021, should be made through the local authority’s ‘In-Year Admissions’ process, as outlined on our website. The application can also be completed online at: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions)

### **Summer-born children**

Additionally, in the case of a child defined as ‘summer-born’ (ie: those with dates of birth from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> August), Compulsory School Age would fall in September 2022, when they would be due to start Year 1. This is a whole year later than when peers in their normal age year group would have started school in Reception, in September 2021.

The parents of a summer-born child can choose not to send that child to school until September 2022; the beginning of the term after the child’s 5<sup>th</sup> (fifth) birthday and may request that the child is admitted into Reception at that point rather than Year 1.

Whilst parents have a legal right to decide not to send their child to school until they reach Compulsory School Age, they cannot insist their child is admitted to a particular year group. Therefore, the local authority (who coordinate the admissions process for entry into Reception for all Warwickshire state schools) operates a specific process in relation to summer-born children. Where parents have decided that their child will not start school until they reach Compulsory School Age in September 2022, this process offers parents the opportunity to make a request for their child to start school in

Reception at that time rather than Year 1. If the request is agreed to, then the child will be classed as being 'educated out of year group' when they start school.

### **How to make a request for a summer-born child to start in Reception at Compulsory School Age rather than Year 1**

Requests for a summer-born child to be educated out of year group must be made in line with the relevant deadline for making a school application: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Requests received after this date may not be given consideration until after National Offer Day for the normal year of entry: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Parents should also submit a 2021 entry Reception application for their child, as this will ensure that the child does not miss out on a school place in the normal age group if the request is not agreed by the relevant admission authority (or authorities, where the request concerns more than one school).

As part of this process requires the view of the head teacher to be considered, for each of the schools concerned in each individual case, parents should take all reasonable steps to ensure that they have discussed their request with the head teacher of each of their preferred schools. A specific section within the formal request form is available to then be completed by each head teacher and given back to the parent, who should then send the full, completed form to the Admissions Service by the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 to be processed. It is unlikely that an incomplete request form will result in a request for a child to be educated out of year group being agreed.

An agreement for a child to be educated out of year group is **not** a guarantee of an offer at a school. Rather, where such a request is agreed, parents will be eligible to apply for a Reception place for their child as part of the 2021 entry coordinated admissions process. Further information about this process will be sent to families in September 2020.

Parents do not need to seek additional evidence other than that which they may already have, however, if they choose to do so, then it is important that parents, head teachers, medical professionals, educational professionals - and any other parties or persons who will be involved in the request for the child to be educated out of year group - read the local authority's guidance related to such before completing the request. This is available on our website: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions)

The form for parents to complete in order to request that their summer-born child be considered for entry into Reception in September 2022, rather than Year 1 (due to the parents taking the decision that the child will not start school until they reach Compulsory School Age) can also be found on our website.

Such requests will be considered on an individual basis by a panel of colleagues from within Warwickshire County Council, from services including (but not limited to): School Admissions, Statutory Assessment, the Integrated Disability Service and Early Years.

Whilst all final decisions will be at the discretion of the admission authority of each of the schools consulted with as part of the parents' request, the factors below will also be considered as part of the local authority's process in order to assess the child's individual needs and abilities and to consider whether these can best be met in reception or year one. It will also involve taking account of the potential impact on the child of being admitted to year one without first having completed the reception year. The views of the head teacher will be an important part of this consideration.

- If the child shows a delay and/or slow progress in their personal and emotional development;
- If the child has social skills that are not appropriate to their chronological age group;
- If the child shows delay and/or slow progress in intellectual development/educational skills across the subject area, to an extent that it is not reasonable to expect curriculum differentiation within their chronological year group to be successful;
- Whether the child is a summer-born child (in particular, but not exclusively, whether the child was also born prematurely and would otherwise have been placed in the subsequent chronological year group);
- If there is agreement from parents, and any professionals involved - including the head teacher of any preferred schools - that it would substantially increase the probability of successful inclusion, in the short, medium and long term, if the child was educated outside of their normal year group, and there is clear evidence of this;
- In accordance with the DfE's advice on the admission of summer born children (December 2014), that regardless of which year group the child is educated in, that they will have the opportunity to take full advantage of the Early Years Foundation Stage, whether delivered in a school or an early years setting, with an emphasis on learning through play.

In relation to all of the above, the Admission Authority will seek views of the child's parents and also request to see any evidence that may exist concerning these factors. In all cases 'best interests' decisions will be based on the factors highlighted above and whether it appears on the balance of probabilities that the child will be better able to progress if placed out of their chronological year group.

However, the process will not be limited to just the factors outlined above, and any additional information and/or evidence provided to support such requests will also be considered as part of this process.

Parents will be notified once a decision has been reached, along with the reasons for the decision. Where such requests are submitted by the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, parents will be notified, in writing, of the decision made in their case by the end of February 2021.

The decision letter will also provide further information that parents should be aware of if their request is agreed. This may include:

- Information relating to early year's provision;
- The process that will need to be followed in relation to applying for school places;
- What to do if a parent changes their mind about their child starting school at CSA;
- What will happen when the child moves schools, including the fact that the admission authority of any new school will be responsible for deciding which year group the child will be placed in.

### **Home-to-School Transport Assistance**

An offer of a school place does not necessarily mean that home-to-school transport assistance will be automatically provided to the child.

Applications for home-to-school transport assistance – usually in the form of a free bus pass – are assessed in line with the relevant Transport Policy. The criteria set out in that policy is different to the criteria and policy which is followed in relation to the school admissions process, and the time of making an application for transport assistance can also have an impact on the outcome, as this will not necessarily correlate with the school admissions process.

If transport assistance has been approved, but an alternative school can be offered from a waiting list, then this assistance may be stopped if the place from the waiting list is not taken up. Where transport assistance is requested in the case of a child who has been given an 'unplaced' school offer, such cases will be considered on an individual basis.

It is important that parents consider their child's transport options to and from school when making an application for school places. Where families are not eligible for home-to-school transport assistance then it is the legal responsibility of the parent / carer to ensure that the child gets to and from school each day, not the local authority and not the school that the child will be attending.

Information on applying for transport assistance, and the criteria used when assessing applications, can be found on the Warwickshire website at:  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schooltravel](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schooltravel)

## **Section 3 - Warwickshire County Council Oversubscription Criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary, Infant and Junior Schools**

### **2021 entry Coordinated Admissions Scheme**

Some schools – academies, voluntary aided, foundation and free – are classed as their own admission authority. These schools must have their own set of admission arrangements in place for each relevant entry year, however, they must all adopt the local authority's process for coordinated admissions, as set out in Sections 1 and 2 of this document.

Where a school is over-subscribed (i.e.: they receive more applications than they have places available), criteria will be assigned to each application, with each criterion given a different order of priority. Places available at the school will then be filled in priority order, according to the criteria assigned to each application.

Warwickshire schools that are maintained by the local authority – community or voluntary controlled schools – will all adopt the criteria as set out below. The admission authority for these schools is Warwickshire County Council.

Own admission authority schools may also choose to adopt the over-subscription set by the local authority, as set out below, or they may choose to adopt their own criteria. However, this must be fully documented in the school's admission arrangements for the relevant entry year.

#### **Please note:**

- a) Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names a school will be admitted first. In this event, the number of places that remain for allocation will be reduced.
  
- b) Children attending, or with a place at, a nursery class do not have a higher priority for - and are not guaranteed - a place at the attached primary school.
  
- c) 'PAN' = Published Admission Number

The PAN for each individual school is confirmed in the local authority's documentation relating to the 2021 entry year, which can be found online at: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoollacriteria](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoollacriteria)

## **Primary Schools** *(Reception entry)*

If a Warwickshire Community or Voluntary Controlled **primary** school is over-subscribed, then the following over-subscription criteria will be used when allocating places. Additional information relating to categories 1 – 3 can be found further on in this document.



**Criterion 1a:** Looked after children and all previously looked after children;

**Criterion 1b:** Children who have been adopted through a CVAA UK agency;

**Criterion 2:** Children who receive the Early Years Pupil Premium for their early years provider;

**Criterion 3:** Children who are currently, or have been at any point since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015, subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan

**Criterion 4:** Children living in the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 1 - 6 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 5:** Other children living in the priority area for the school;

**Criterion 6:** Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 1 – 6 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 7:** Other children living outside the priority area for the school.

## **Infant Schools** ***(Reception entry)***

If a Warwickshire Community or Voluntary Controlled **infant** school is over-subscribed, then the following over-subscription criteria will be used when allocating places. Additional information about criterion can be found below.

**Criterion 1a:** Looked after children and all previously looked after children;

**Criterion 1b:** Children who have been adopted through a CVAA UK agency;

**Criterion 2:** Children who receive the Early Years Pupil Premium for their early years provider;

**Criterion 3:** Children who are currently, or have been at any point since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015, subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan

**Criterion 4a:** Children living in the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Year 1 or 2 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 4b:** Children living in the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the partner junior school in Years 3 - 6 at the time of admission in September 2021\*;

**Criterion 5:** Other children living in the priority area for the school;

**Criterion 6a:** Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Year 1 or 2 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 6b:** Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the partner junior school in Years 3 - 6 at the time of admission in September 2021\*;

**Criterion 7:** Other children living outside the priority area for the school.

*\*If you are also applying for a Year 3 place at the partner junior school for another child, for entry in September 2021, please be aware that they will not be considered as a sibling link for the infant school applicant until after that child has been offered a place at the junior school and you have confirmed your acceptance of the Year 3 place.*

## **Junior Schools** **(Year 3 entry)**

If a Warwickshire Community or Voluntary Controlled **junior** school is over-subscribed, then the following over-subscription criteria will be used when allocating places. Additional information about criterion can be found below.

**Criterion 1a:** Looked after children and all previously looked after children;

**Criterion 1b:** Children who have been adopted through a CVAA UK agency;

**Criterion 2:** Children who receive the Pupil Premium, or Service Premium, through their current school, or who have done so at any point since starting school in Reception;

**Criterion 3:** Children who are currently, or have been at any point since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015, subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan

**Criterion 4:** Children who currently attend the partner infant school and who intend to remain at that school until the end of the 2020/2021 academic year in July 2021;

**Criterion 5:** Children living in the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 4, 5 or 6 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 5:** Children living in the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the partner infant school at the time of admission in September 2021\*;

**Criterion 6:** Other children living in the priority area for the school;

**Criterion 7a:** Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 4, 5 or 6 at the time of admission in September 2021;

**Criterion 7b:** Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the partner infant school at the time of admission in September 2021\*;

**Criterion 8:** Other children living outside the priority area for the school.

*\*If you are also applying for a Reception place at the partner infant school for another child, for entry in September 2021, please be aware that they will not be considered as a sibling link for the junior school applicant until after that child has been offered a place at the infant school and you have confirmed your acceptance of the Reception place.*

**Further information on Categories 1 – 3 of Warwickshire’s 2021 entry over-subscription for primary, infant and junior schools**

**1a. Children in care and children who ceased to be in care because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order).;**

*(a copy of the interim / full care order, or a copy of the adoption certificate, or other applicable documents, may be requested at any time during the admissions process)*

**1b. Children who have been adopted, either through a local authority or through a voluntary adoption agency that is registered with CVAA UK. This category applies to all adoptions which do not fit within Category 1a, including those which take place outside of English law;**

*(a copy of any relevant documents may be requested at any time during the admissions process)*

**2. Children who are in receipt of the Early Years Pupil Premium through their early years' provider, with no more than 14%\* of the places available to be allocated under this category. The child must be in receipt of the premium at the time the application is made;**

*Check your eligibility at: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)*

*\*14% represents the national figure (13.7%) of children in receipt of Free School Meals, as stated within the Department for Education's Statistical Publication entitled, 'Schools, Pupils and their Characteristics', issued in June 2018.*

*If the number of places from the percentage results in a decimal number, then this will be rounded down to a whole number if .4 or below and rounded up to a whole number if .5 or above.*

*E.g.: 14% of 30 = 4.2. In this case, the number of places available to allocate within this category would be a rounded down to a whole number of 4.*

**3. Children who are subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan at the time of making the application, or who have been at any point since 1 September 2015, with no more than 9% of the places available to be allocated under this category;**

*Further checks will be undertaken by Warwickshire County Council to confirm circumstances for children who are considered under this category. Relevant documents may also be requested from applicants at any time during the admissions process.*

*\*\*9% represents an average figure (8.7%) within the local authority of children either in need or on a child protection plan (where the conference stage commenced), when compared with cohort sizes of children aged 4– 16, resident in Warwickshire within the 2017/18 academic year. Data obtained from the Department for Education's statistical publication entitled, 'Characteristics of Children in Need', which contains analysis of data obtained in March 2017.*

*If the number of places from the percentage results in a decimal number, then this will be rounded down to a whole number if .4 or below and round up to a whole number if .5 or above.  
E.g.: 9% of 30 = 2.7. In this case, the number of places available to allocate within this category would be a rounded up to a whole number of 3.*

If there are more applicants who comply with either category 2 or 3 than the number of places available under that category, places will be allocated based on the distance between home and school, in line with the rules set out in these criteria for 'Priority within each over-subscription criterion'.

### **The following terms and definitions apply to all categories in Warwickshire's 2021 entry over-subscription criteria for primary, infant and junior schools**

#### **➤ Priority Areas**

Each community and voluntary controlled school has an area identified as its priority area (this is sometimes referred to as a 'catchment area').

A small number of schools share priority areas; these are known as 'shared priority areas'. Full details of priority areas are available on the Warwickshire County Council website and can be viewed using interactive maps.

Infant and Primary School Priority Area Maps can be accessed at:  
**<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mapinfantprimaryschools>**

Junior and Primary School Priority Area Maps can be accessed at:  
**<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mapjuniorprimaryschools>**

Some own admission authority schools do not have a priority ('catchment') area. Full details can be found in the individual admission arrangements for own admission authority schools.

#### **➤ Priority within each over-subscription criterion**

Where applicants are allocated the same criterion, priority is given in order of distance between the child's home and the school applied for (shortest distance = highest priority).

Distance will be calculated by using a straight-line measurement from the address point location coordinate of the applicant's home address (as set by Ordnance Survey) to the centre point ('centroid') of the school in question. (The centroid is a predetermined point set by Warwickshire County Council and all distances are subject to changes which may occur with updates of mapping data).

Transport Assistance will not be approved on the sole basis that the school offered is the catchment school and will only be provided in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Home-to-School Transport Policy. This may mean that the nearest appropriate school – for transport purposes – may be a school in a different priority area.

➤ **Sibling, i.e. brother or sister, attending the school at the time of admission**

Sibling is defined as: a full brother or sister; a half brother or sister; an adopted brother or sister; a child living in the same address who is being Looked After by a local authority; a step-brother or sister; or the child of a parents' partner, where the child for whom the school place is being sought is living in the same family unit and at the same address as that sibling.

➤ **Definition of Home Address**

Where the child normally resides during the school week and where they sleep for at least 50% of the week.

If arrangements are such that a child resides at two addresses for equal amounts of time, then parents must decide which address to use for admissions purposes. Failure to agree on the address to use on the child's application for a school by the national closing date will result in Warwickshire County Council using a random number generator to determine which application to process.

Addresses involved in child-minding arrangements, whether with professional child-minders, friends or relatives, are excluded.

Where a school place is offered based on an address which is subsequently found to be different from the address where the child ordinarily resides, that place may be withdrawn. Cases will be assessed on an individual basis and in discussion with any schools named on the application which are their own admission authority.

There is an expectation that the child will be resident at the address used to allocate a place on a long-term basis, and until at least the start of the autumn term (September 2020) in relation to the coordinated admissions process.

Short-term house moves purely to secure a school place may be considered fraudulent or intentionally misleading and, in such circumstances, the place may be withdrawn.

Where a child's address changes after National Offer Day, the Local Authority (acting on behalf of the school, in some cases) may request an explanation for the house move

and documentary evidence that the child is resident at the new property. The Admissions Service operates a thorough and robust address checking process, which may include both announced and unannounced home visits

➤ **Postal Address File (PAF)**

The address point location coordinate of the applicant's home address as set by Ordnance Survey.

- **Applications made from the same multiple dwelling which shares a single Postal Address File (PAF), and;**
- **Other applications where the distance from home to school is identical**

Where required, individual priority for such applicants within a criterion will be determined by a random number generator allocation. The draw will be carried out by two officers of the Admissions Service in the presence of a local authority solicitor. The result of the draw will be recorded and countersigned at the time by all parties involved. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in writing.

**Warwickshire Infant and Junior schools**

Area	Infant schools	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Junior schools
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<b>Nuneaton &amp; Bedworth</b>			
	Abbey C of E Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Queen's C of E Academy
	Arden Forest Infant School (Bulkington)	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	St James C of E Academy (Bulkington)
	Chilvers Coton Community Infant School and Nursery	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Queen's C of E Academy Middlemarch (Foundation) Junior School
	Exhall Cedars Infant School, Exhall	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	St Giles Junior School, Bedworth
	Galley Common Infant School Nathaniel Newton Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Michael Drayton Junior School (Hartshill)
	Glendale Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Croft Junior School Middlemarch Junior School
	Race Leys Infant School (Bedworth)	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Race Leys Junior School (Bedworth)
	Whitestone Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Chetwynd Junior School
<b>East (Rugby)</b>			
	Abbots Farm Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Abbots Farm Junior School
	Bawnmore Community Infant School Bilton Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Bilton C of E Junior School



	Boughton Leigh Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Boughton Leigh Junior School
	Brownsover Community Infant School		
	Dunchurch (Foundation) Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Dunchurch Boughton C of E (Aided) Junior School
	Leamington Hastings C of E Academy		
	Henry Hinde Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Henry Hinde Junior School
<b>Central/South</b>			
	Briar Hill Infant School, Whitnash	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	St Margaret's C of E Junior School, Whitnash
	Emscote Infant School, Warwick	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	All Saint's C of E Junior School, Warwick
	Telford Infant School, Leamington	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Telford Junior School, Leamington
	Thorns Community Infant School, Kenilworth	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Park Hill Junior School, Kenilworth
	Studley Community Infant School	<i>PARTNER OF</i>	Studley St Mary's C of E Academy, Studley