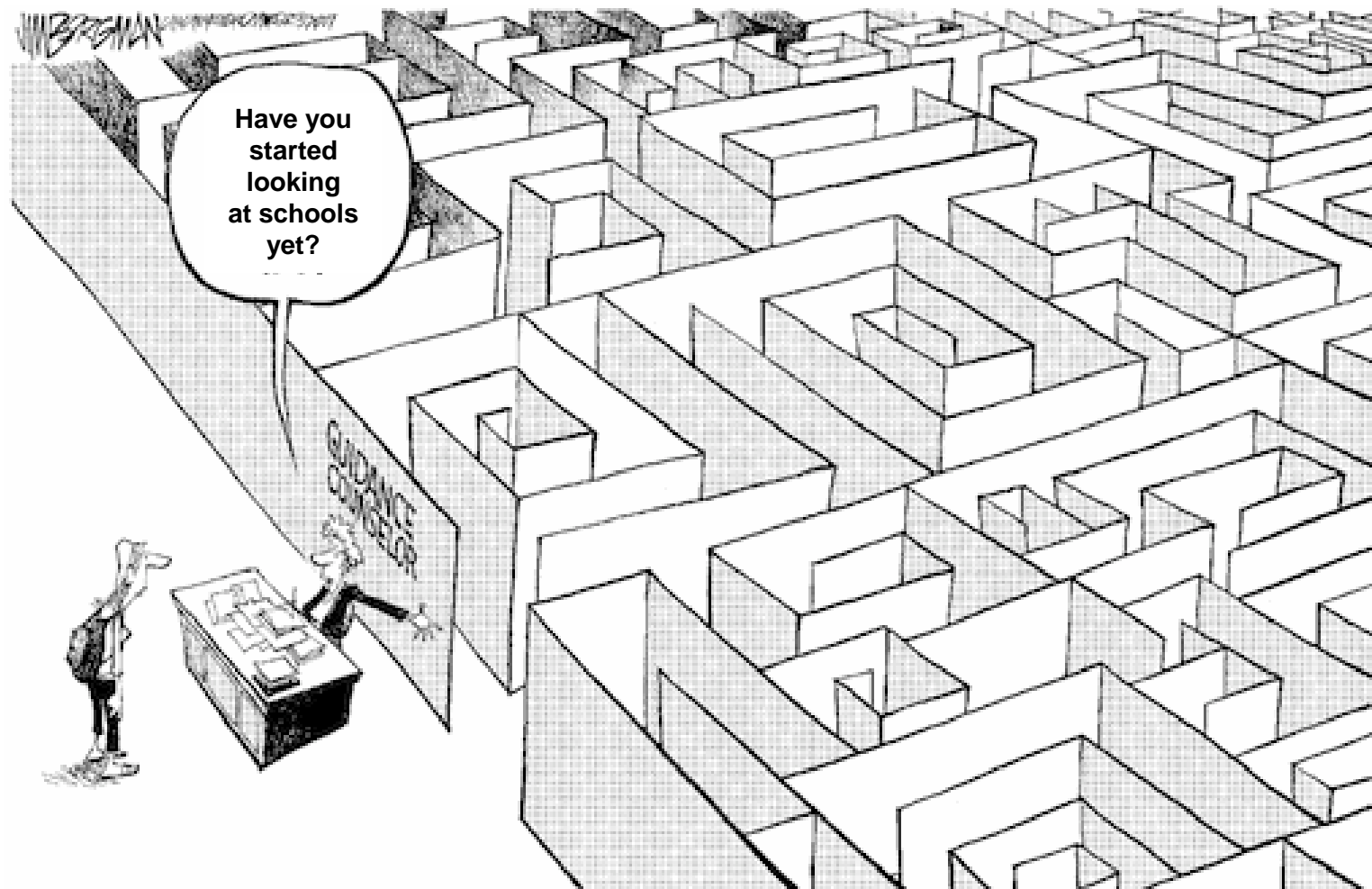


# Starting school in 2024

# Choosing a school



# Choosing a school

How do I know which school is right for my child?

Who can help me make that decision?

# Choosing a school

## Talk to your child

- find out what is best for them
- consider how they will travel to school

# Choosing a school

## Visit the schools

- talk to the headteacher & staff
- ask for a tour of the school
- ... however, you will need to check the visiting arrangements with individual schools as access may be restricted post-Covid

# Choosing a school

## Read the school prospectus

- it will have detailed information about:
  - how the school is run
  - the admissions criteria
- available from the school
- download from the school website



School Prospectus

# Choosing a school

Read the primary education booklet published by your home local authority



download Barnet's booklet at  
[www.barnet.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

# Choosing a school

You can also find details of Barnet primary schools in the Schools Directory at

[www.barnet.gov.uk/directories/schools](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/directories/schools)

[Home](#) / [Directories](#) / [Schools](#)

## Schools

**Find by postcode**

[Find by keyword](#)

Find Schools closest to you.

Enter postcode

Select distance

Within 1 mile



Search



# Choosing a school

## Talk to the Customer Contact Centre

- the team can offer you advice and answer your questions
- how do I contact them?
  - tel: 020 8359 7651
  - if you live outside Barnet, you will find the contact details for your admissions team in Barnet's primary education booklet



# Choosing a school

## Look at Performance Tables and Ofsted reports

- the latest Ofsted reports are available from the Ofsted website [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)
- achievement and attainment tables are available at [www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables](http://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables)

# Choosing a school

**Look carefully at the admission criteria for each school**

- siblings
- children of staff
- distance



# Cut-off Distances for Barnet Community Schools April 2023

(where there were more applications than places available)

Barnfield Primary	0.589	None
Brookland Infant	All	1.076
Brunswick Park Primary	All	1.435
Chalgrove Primary	All	0.529
Colindale Primary	0.382	None
Coppetts Wood Primary	All	0.849
Courtland Primary	All	0.806
Cromer Road Primary	All	0.498
Edgware Primary	All	0.473
Fairway Primary	All	1.872
Foulds Primary	All	0.464
Frith Manor Primary	All	2.714
Goldbeaters Primary	0.429	None
Livingstone Primary	0.4	None
Manorside Primary	0.233	None
Martin Primary	All	0.788
Monkfrith Primary	All	0.685
Northside Primary	0.106	None
Sunnyfields Primary	0.472	None
The Orion Primary	All	0.533
Woodridge Primary	All	0.813

# Choosing a school

## Check the admission limit

- each school has a set number of places available
- this means some schools only have one form of entry (30 places)
- larger schools have 3 or 4 forms of entry

# How do I apply?

## How soon can I apply?

The online application system opened on **1 September 2024**

## Where do I apply?

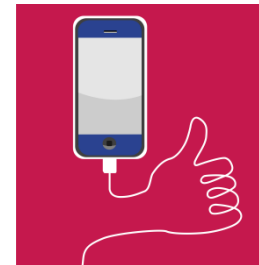
You need to apply online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)

(or check your Local Authority's website if you live outside London)

## What if I don't have a computer at home?

You can:

- use your smart phone or tablet
- go to your local library
- go to an internet café
- ask a friend or relative for help



# How do I apply?

## How many schools can I apply for?

- you can apply for up to six schools
- you should rank the schools in your order of preference
- it is important to think carefully about the order as you will not be able to change it after the closing date

## Can I apply to schools outside Barnet?

- yes, you must include all your chosen schools on the single application form, whether they are inside or outside the borough where you live

# How do I apply?

## Realistic Preferences

- if you only select one school, it **will not** increase your chances of getting a place at the school and your child will be considered for that one school only
- if this is unsuccessful, you may miss out on an offer which could have been made at another school and you are likely to be offered a place at the nearest school with a vacancy
- it is important to make realistic school choices to increase your chances of securing an offer and to avoid disappointment
- it is important to check how places were offered last year
- remember the cut-off distances are just a guide and will change every year.....
- .....just because you live nearer to the school than the last child offered a distance place last year, it doesn't mean your child is guaranteed a place



# How do I apply?



## Do I need to fill in any other forms?

- All voluntary aided schools and some foundation schools & academies will ask you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF)
- the SIF will ask for additional information, for example
  - ☐ faith schools will ask about church attendance and request a priest's reference
  - ☐ Catholic schools may ask for a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP)
  - ☐ Jewish schools will also ask you to complete a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP), which must be signed by a Rabbi
- SIFs, CCPs and CRPs must be returned to the individual schools

# How do I apply?

## What else do I need to provide?

### ■ Proof of address

- ☐ your permanent address must be used on the application form
- ☐ you must not use a temporary address or an address of convenience, this includes a child minder's address, a business address or the address of a relative or friend
- ☐ if you own a property previously used as a home address and apply from another address, the second address will be treated as an address of convenience
- ☐ if you have moved in recent months you may be asked to provide proof of the new address and proof that you have disposed of the previous address

### ■ A copy of your child's birth certificate

# Fraudulent address

- each year a small number of parents provide a false address to get a school place
- in doing so they could be depriving your child of a place
- providing false information is a criminal offence
- if you know someone who intends to use a false address, you can report this in confidence to the Corporate Anti-Fraud Team
- report it online at [www.barnet.gov.uk/anti-fraud](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/anti-fraud)
- call the fraud hotline on 020 8359 2007

# How do I apply?

## When is the closing date for on-time applications?

- 15 January 2024
- You must apply before 12 midnight on 15 January



# How do I apply?

## What happens if I miss the closing date?

- Your application will be given lower priority than on-time applications
- in previous years, some children did not get a place at their older sibling's school because their applications were late
- some late applications may be treated as 'on-time' if there is an exceptional reason (for example you have just moved into the borough)
- You must let the Admissions Team know your reason by **9 February 2024** (Reason for Late Application Form, will be available online).



# What happens next?

## Co-ordinated admissions

- the admissions process is co-ordinated by all 33 London boroughs, neighbouring boroughs and other home counties
- application lists are exchanged
- offer lists are drawn up
- offer lists are exchanged.



# What happens next?

## How will places be allocated?

- if the school is over-subscribed, the published oversubscription criteria will be applied to decide who can be offered a place
- each school listed on the application form will be considered against the individual school's oversubscription criteria
- your order of school preference is not passed to the individual schools.

# Offers

## Will I be offered more than one school place?

- Where the applicant qualifies for a place at more than one school, a place will be offered at the school that was ranked as the higher preference on the application form
- any lower preferences will be withdrawn and offered to other children
- no child will be offered more than one school.



# Offers

## When will I hear?

- National Offer Day is **Tuesday 16 April 2024**
- emails will be sent to all applicants in the evening of 16 April
- applicants who are not offered their first choice can log in to their eAdmissions account for further information

# Offers

## Accepting offers

- click on the 'Reply' button at the bottom of the offer email notification and log into your eAdmissions account and submit your response
- places must be accepted by **30 April 2024**

# No offer

## What happens if I don't get any of my preference schools?

- where possible your child will be allocated an alternative school
- this will normally be the nearest school with a vacancy
- remain on the waiting lists
- appeal for a place

# Appeals

- every parent has the right of appeal
- appeals are heard by an independent panel
- you will have the opportunity to present your case in person

# .....however

**Reception class appeals are nearly always unsuccessful because....**

- infant class sizes must not exceed 30 children
- infant class appeals are only successful if you can prove that the local authority or the school has made a mistake

or that

- the decision not to offer a place was not rational or was outrageous in its defiance of logic

# Starting school in 2024