

## Applying for Secondary School.

You can (and should) apply for up to 6 schools.

The admission criteria is applied to all your preferences, and the one you have ranked highest and meet the criteria for will be the school you will get offered. If the LA is unable to meet any of your preferences for your child, they will be allocated the closest school to home with a place available.

This could be anywhere in the borough.

## Experience

Nothing beats your own experience of a school. You should (when we can!) visit as many schools as possible, especially if they are on your 'no list'! The worst thing that can happen here is that your initial thoughts are confirmed. There is always a chance you could change your mind though. Your views of a school should match your family needs, not others. Our children are all individuals and will need/want different approaches.

## Travel

Consider the journey to school rather than the distance. Even if your plan is to drive your child to school, they may not always want this!

## Ofsted

Do consider Ofsted grading, if you wish.

However, remember, the criteria this organisation use is very broad. Your decision is based on your family needs.

## Extra forms

Some schools require extra forms to be sent, pre-application closing date. Please check websites.

## Criteria

Children with an EHCP are offered a place prior to allocation of places in line with the Admissions Code. Once these children have been allocated, this will reduce the number of places available by the number of children who fall under this remit. Following this the admission criteria is considered in this order:

- 1) Children who are in Public Care, or previously in public care
- 2) Children with a particular medical condition (not applicable to all schools)
- 3) Children having a sibling at the school (not applicable in all schools)
- 4) Denominational Grounds (not applicable to all schools)
- 5) Distance – As the crow flies between home address and the school (slightly different for Sandwell Academy)

Please consider this document as a guide only. The application process is a complicated one! This has been created in the absence of parent meetings. If you have any questions, please contact either the primary or secondary school. If you have more generic questions you can contact me at

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Or check [sandwell.gov.uk](http://sandwell.gov.uk)