

# **Applying for a Secondary School place in West Northamptonshire for September 2027**

West Northamptonshire Council's composite prospectus  
containing admission arrangements for Academies,  
Voluntary Aided, Free and Foundation Secondary  
schools, for entry into Year 7

Including information on UTCs for entry into Year 10

Deadline for Secondary Applications:

**Saturday 31 October 2026**



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council

# Introduction

Moving from Primary school to Secondary school is an important stage in every child's life.

The information provided in this prospectus aims to make it as easy as possible for parents and carers to understand the process of applying for a secondary school place.

If you have any queries, you can:

- **Email** [admissions@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@westnorthants.gov.uk)
- **Visit our website** [School Admissions | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions)
- **Telephone** our Customer Service Centre on **0300 126 7000**

Some common abbreviations used in this prospectus:

LA – Local Authority

WNC – West Northamptonshire Council

PAN – Published Admission Number

SIF – Supplementary Information Form

EHCP – Education, Health and Care Plan

If you are unsure about any of the terms used in this prospectus, please refer to the **Glossary** at the end of this prospectus.

The deadline for applying for a Year 7 place at a secondary school for  
September 2026 is midnight on:

**Saturday 31 October 2026**

# Section 1 – Making Your Application

This section gives you all the basic information about how to apply for a school place and the way in which we allocate places at secondary schools in West Northamptonshire.

There are several types of secondary schools in West Northamptonshire: Academies, Free Schools and Foundation Schools. A school's type affects the way in which decisions about admissions are made but your application for a Year 7 place at all schools must be made through your home local authority.

**Important:** You **must** make an application even if you have an older child already attending your preferred school. Places will not be allocated automatically to a younger sibling.

**All** West Northamptonshire secondary schools are comprehensive and do not allocate places according to ability. Some secondary schools, however, do admit up to 10% of their intake according to an aptitude in their respective specialism, and some use ability banding to ensure the intake includes a proportionate spread of children of different abilities. For more information see the school information in Section 3 of this prospectus.

## Stages of Education in West Northamptonshire

The table below shows which age group corresponds to which year group, key stage and school type.

| Age            | Year group | Key Stage                 | 3 tier system | 2 tier system | UTC |     |
|----------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----|-----|
| 4 to 5 years   | Reception  | Foundation or Early Years | Infant        | Primary       | N/A |     |
| 5 to 6 years   | Year 1     | Key Stage 1               |               |               |     |     |
| 6 to 7 years   | Year 2     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 7 to 8 years   | Year 3     | Key Stage 2               | Junior        |               |     |     |
| 8 to 9 years   | Year 4     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 9 to 10 years  | Year 5     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 10 to 11 years | Year 6     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 11 to 12 years | Year 7     | Key Stage 3               | Secondary     | Secondary     |     |     |
| 12 to 13 years | Year 8     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 13 to 14 years | Year 9     |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 14 to 15 years | Year 10    | Key Stage 4               |               |               |     | UTC |
| 15 to 16 years | Year 11    |                           |               |               |     |     |
| 16 to 17 years | Year 12    | Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form)  |               |               |     |     |
| 17 to 18 years | Year 13    |                           |               |               |     |     |

## Timetable for Secondary Application Process

| Date                                                                                                                                               | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>10 September 2026</b><br>onwards                                                                                                                | <b>Prepare</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read this prospectus carefully as it contains important information</li> <li>• Visit school open evenings and read school prospectuses</li> <li>• Read each school's oversubscription criteria (see Section 3)</li> <li>• Contact the School Admissions team if you have any queries</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Before the deadline:</b><br><b>Saturday 31 October 2026</b>                                                                                     | <b>Apply</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Submit your application</b></li> <li>• Make sure that your application form reaches the School Admissions Team by the deadline</li> <li>• Send your Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) and other documents (if applicable) to the preferred school(s) in support of your application</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: if we receive your application form after 31 October 2026, your application will be considered a late application and will be processed in one of our additional rounds of allocations (see below)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| National Offer Day<br><b>Monday 1 March 2027</b>                                                                                                   | <b>Receive offer of school place</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer emails sent by Local Authority to all applicants who applied online.</li> <li>• View your offer online (online applications only)</li> <li>• Offer letters posted to applicants who sent in an on-time paper application.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| From:<br><b>1 March 2027</b><br>onwards                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will assume that you are accepting the allocated place unless you let us know otherwise (if you are offered a school place in another county, check the rules on acceptance directly with the school)</li> <li>• Your child will be added to the waiting list of any preferred school at which a place was refused</li> <li>• Submit an appeal for a school at which your child has been refused a place (by published deadlines to ensure the appeal is heard before the end of the summer term)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> we will not withdraw a school place solely because you are dissatisfied and decline the offer. We must have written confirmation that your child has secured a school place elsewhere as we have a duty to ensure that all children are receiving their education entitlement.</p> |
| Late applications will be processed in rounds starting on the following dates:<br><b>19 April 2027</b><br><b>1 June 2027</b><br><b>5 July 2027</b> | <p>Emails containing the outcome of a late application will be sent to all late applicants who apply online. We will only contact parents/carers of children on the waiting list if we are able to offer a place. Please be aware that each reallocation round can be a lengthy process and can take a number of weeks to complete.</p> <p>For applications received:</p> <p>between 1 November 2026 and 9 April 2027 (inclusive)</p> <p>between 10 April and 21 May 2027 (inclusive)</p> <p>between 22 May and 25 June 2027 (inclusive)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Applications received <b>after 25 June 2027</b>                                                                                                    | Any applications received after 25 June 2027 will be dealt with as they are received and after the 3 <sup>rd</sup> round of reallocations ends. Applications received from 1 September will be treated as per in-year procedures.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Who can apply for Year 7 place at Secondary school?

Parents/carers whose child is **living in West Northamptonshire** can apply for their child's Year 7 place from September 2026 **via WNC** if their child:

- has their 11th birthday between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027 (usually Year 6 in primary school)

**Please note:** different application processes apply to:

- Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). See Section 2 for more information.
- Children who live outside West Northamptonshire. Parents should apply through their home local authority. See Section 2 for contact details of our neighbouring authorities.

## When is the deadline for Secondary applications?

We must receive your application form for a Year 7 place at secondary school by midnight on **Saturday 31 October 2026** at the latest for your application to be considered 'on time'.

If you send the form to us by post, make sure you allow enough time for it to get to us by this date. Ensure the correct postage is applied. WNC cannot take responsibility for a form reaching us after the deadline if this is due to insufficient postage being used.

## What are the different types of school?

There are several types of school in West Northamptonshire. A school's type affects the way in which decisions about its admissions are made:

- Community schools and Voluntary Controlled schools – the Local Authority is the admission authority and is responsible for setting the admission arrangements and for the allocation of places
- Voluntary Aided schools and Foundation schools – these schools are their own admission authority. School Governors are responsible for setting the admission arrangements and for the allocation of places
- Academies and Free schools – the Academy Trust is the admission authority and is responsible for setting the admission arrangements and for the allocation of places

If you live in West Northamptonshire, all schools must be applied for through West Northamptonshire Council using WNC's Common Application Form (CAF), even if the school is outside West Northamptonshire. Some schools require you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). See individual school oversubscription criteria in Section 3 to see if a SIF is required.

## How do I decide which schools to apply for?

When you apply for a Secondary school place for your child, you must tell us your four school preferences in order of priority.

To make these preferences you will need to find out more about the schools. You can:

- Find your local schools by visiting our [website](#). You can search for schools by postcode or distance from your home. Please be aware that the distances you find stated here will not be as precise as the measurements used for admission purposes (which are calculated using a different mapping system)
- Visit the websites of schools you are interested in or pick up a school prospectus. These could be available to view on the schools' individual websites, or you can ask the school for a copy.
- Visit the schools – most secondary schools hold open evenings for parents/carers, although they make take place in a virtual format. These give you a good opportunity to ask questions. You can find details of proposed open evenings on the schools' individual websites
- Find out about your local or “linked” school (if applicable). Not all schools have “catchment” or “linked” areas but some schools do give priority within their oversubscription criteria to children living in certain villages or areas, usually referred to as the linked area. Please be aware that if you wish to be considered for a place at your linked, local or closest secondary school, you **must** include the school as a preference. Living in a linked or catchment area does not guarantee a place at the school.
- Carefully read the oversubscription criteria in Section 3 for schools you are interested in to ascertain your chances of being able to gain a place. Putting a school as first or only preference does not guarantee that your child will get a place at that school. It is important for you to understand which criterion your child will be considered under and whether the school was oversubscribed last year as this will give you an indication of whether or not your child is likely to get a place
- View the websites of Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education) and the Department for Education (DfE) for additional information regarding exam and inspection results
- View neighbouring local authority websites to find information about schools in areas outside West Northamptonshire for which you may wish to apply

Before deciding on your four preferences, we advise you to:

- Consider how you will get your child to and from school each day. If you will need a car to transport your child each day, this is a long-term commitment
- Be aware that just because you live in a village or area that may be linked to a school (according to its oversubscription criteria), does not mean that your child is guaranteed a place at that school, nor that transport will be provided. Please see WNC's home to school transport policy on [our website](#) for more information.

## What if I have another child already at the school I would like my child to attend?

If you want your child to be considered for a place at a school that their brother or sister attends, you must still include that school as one of your preferences. It is your responsibility to tell us on the application form if your child has a sibling at one of your preferred schools. Failure to do this may mean your child cannot be considered under a sibling criterion. There is no guarantee that your child will be offered a place at a school that a sibling attends (please check individual schools' criteria in Section 3 for more information).

## How do I apply?

West Northamptonshire Council is responsible for coordinating the application process for entry into Year 7 at secondary school for all children who live in the local authority area.

If your child **lives in West Northamptonshire**, your application is therefore made to WNC even if your preferred schools are in a different authority area.

You must fill in WNC's Common Application Form and should tell us the names of your four preferred schools.

You do not apply directly to the schools themselves even if they have an admission authority other than the Local Authority (see information on Academies, Foundation and Free Schools in the Glossary in Section 4) but be aware that you may need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which will need to be returned directly to the school concerned.

The easiest way to apply for your child's secondary school place is by completing the online application form via our website.

**Please note:** WNC does not process applications for UTCs. If you would like to apply for a place for your child at a UTC, you must check the individual UTC application procedures and follow their instructions (see Section 2).

### If you can access the internet at home:

You can fill in an application form using our online application service at: [School Admissions | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions). You will need an email address in order to apply. You, as parent/carers, will be asked to register to the online portal using your email address and create a password (we advise you to make a note of this password as you will need it to access your application).

You must **submit** your application. Every time you open your online application you must press submit before you close it – even if you have not made any changes. An application must be submitted/resubmitted by the deadline (31 October 2026) to be a valid, on time application. If you do not press submit, we may not receive your application.

You will know if you have submitted your application because you will receive confirmation by email and, on the online portal, your application will have a green tick.

If you do not receive a confirmation email after submitting the application, check your spam, junk or deleted items and, if it is not there, log in to the portal again and check that the status of the application is "Submitted." This is particularly important as applications which have not been submitted by the deadline cannot be considered. If the application status shows it is submitted and you have definitely not received a confirmation email, contact the School Admissions team.

### If you have no access to the internet at home:

You can apply online at any of the following libraries: Brackley, Brixworth, Daventry, Deanshanger, Duston, Hunsbury, Northampton Central, Towcester, Weston Favell as well as the following Community Libraries: Abington, Kingsthorpe, Long Buckby, Middleton Cheney, Moulton, Roade, St James, Woodford Halse, Wootton.

Library computers are free to use for all, including free access to the Internet. You will need a [Northamptonshire Libraries membership](#) card and pin to log-in. Standard printing charges still apply. Please check [library opening hours](#) before visiting.

### **If you are not able to complete an online application:**

You can fill in a paper application form. These are available from the School Admissions team. The application can be emailed to you for you to print off and complete or posted to you.

**Do not** send your completed paper application form to a school.

When you have filled in the paper application form, send it back to the School Admissions team either by post, or by scanning or photographing the form. The postal and email addresses for the School Admissions team can be found on the form and at the end of this prospectus.

If you choose to post your completed form, we highly recommend that you use recorded delivery. It must reach us by the deadline.

- Please make sure that you place the correct postage on the envelope – if you are not sure, ask at the post office before you post the form to us. Incorrect postage may delay your application reaching us. It is not the responsibility of WNC to collect incorrectly stamped or addressed envelopes
- If you want us to confirm that we have received your paper application form, enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your application form for us to send back to you once we receive your application form. Ensure you put a first or second-class stamp on the envelope, otherwise we cannot send it back to you. You should contact the WNC School Admissions team if you do not receive your confirmation within 10 days
- If you hand in your form personally at the council offices, please ensure that you obtain a receipt. The address can be found at the end of this prospectus.

## **Why should I express four preferences and what is ‘equal preferencing’?**

When you apply for a secondary school place, you are asked to list your four preferred schools in order of priority.

Every school has a specified number of places available for applicants. This is called the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school.

- If fewer than this number of children apply for a place at the school, all of the children will be offered a place
- If more than this number of children apply, the school uses its oversubscription criteria to decide which children must be offered a place. The oversubscription criteria for all secondary schools in West Northamptonshire can be found in Section 3.

### **Equal preferencing**

Equal preferencing ensures that your child is considered for a place at each of your four preferred schools, regardless of whether the school is placed first, second, third or fourth on the application. Each of your preferences is treated as if it was a separate application. Admission authorities will not be informed where parents/carers have placed the school in their list of four preferences. This ensures there is no possibility of favouring those who name the school as first preference or discounting those who placed it as second, third or fourth preference.

If a school receives more applications than there are places available, the school's oversubscription criteria are used to decide who should be offered the places.

The admission authority (or the LA on their behalf) ranks applicants according to the oversubscription criteria for that school and then supplies the LA with a ranked list.

The LA must then allocate a place at the highest preference school where the child can be offered a place:

- It may be that a child would rank high enough to qualify for a place at all four preferred schools. In this case, the LA will offer a place at the school that is ranked first on the common application form and the child will then be removed from the second, third and fourth preference ranked lists, so that other children may be offered a place
- If a child can be offered a place at only one of their preferred schools, they will be offered a place at that school regardless of the preference order on the common application form
- If a child cannot be offered a place within the PAN of any of their preferred schools, the LA will offer a place at the nearest school to the child's home address with a place available i.e., the nearest school which has not reached their PAN, once all on-time preferences have been considered
- If a child is offered a place at a school which was not their first preference, they will be added to the waiting list for any of the schools which were a higher preference than the school offered. There is a right of appeal against the decision not to offer your child a place at the schools stated on your application unless you have been allocated a higher preference.

## Can I apply for the same school more than once?

The online application service will not let you choose a school more than once.

If you are filling in a paper application form, do not name the same school more than once in your preferences. Writing down the same school more than once will not increase your chances of getting a place at that school.

School Admissions legislation is clear that, if you only tell us one preference and it is not possible to offer a place at that school, your child will only be allocated an alternative school place after all the other applicants' preferences (first, second, third and fourth) have been considered.

The result might be that your child is allocated a place at a school which is a long way from your home, and transport may not be available. Please visit [our website](#) for more information on WNC's home to school transport policy.

## How do I include a school outside of West Northamptonshire in my preferences?

Applications for secondary school are co-ordinated nationally. All applicants must apply to their child's home local authority, regardless of where their preferred school is situated.

If one or more of your preferences is for a state-funded school in another local authority area, you can select these when you fill in your online or paper application form.

If you live in West Northamptonshire and you want to apply for a school outside West Northamptonshire:

- you must still apply through WNC's admissions portal, or send your application form to West Northamptonshire's School Admissions team, regardless of which local authority area your preferred schools are in
- you should not apply or send an application form to the local authority where the school is situated. We will liaise with that authority to make sure your application is considered according to your preferred school's oversubscription criteria (the exception to this is if you

are applying for a UTC, in which case you should check with the actual UTC for which you would like to apply (see Section 2)

- you will need to find out from the school directly if you need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to support your application for the school and you must return any SIFs directly to the schools concerned
- Some neighbouring counties have grammar schools. You must contact the appropriate county's local authority if you want your child to sit the 11+ exam for a grammar school in another county. The contact details for our neighbouring local authorities are shown in Section 2. If, once your child has sat the 11+, you then choose to apply for a place at a grammar school, you will need to add this school to your application which you submit to WNC.

## What are the chances of getting a place for my child at one of my preferred schools?

On National Offer Day in 2026, **76.9%** of applicants who applied on time for a secondary school place in West Northamptonshire were allocated their first preference. A further **19%** were allocated either their second, third or fourth preference meaning a total of **95.9% of children were offered a place at one of their preferred schools**.

It is important that you considered the likelihood of your preferred schools being oversubscribed. Many schools receive more applications than there are places available. When this happens, places are allocated according to the school's oversubscription criteria and different schools have different oversubscription criteria. We therefore recommend that before you apply, you read and consider each Secondary school's oversubscription criteria which can be found in Section 3.

Some considerations:

- Some schools give priority to children living in a particular village or area – often a criterion used for schools in rural areas, although living in a linked area does not guarantee a place at the school. Remember, if you live in a school's "linked" area and want to be considered for a place at that school, you must include it as one of your preferences. If you do not and it is oversubscribed, your child will not be allocated a place at that school if we are unable to offer any of your preferred schools. Instead, your child will be offered a place at the closest school that has places after all applicants' first, second, third and fourth preferences are considered, which may be quite far from your home
- Some schools give priority to children who already have a sibling on roll at the school although this does not guarantee admission. Please check individual schools' definitions of "sibling" to work out if your child has a valid sibling link and ensure you name the sibling on your common application form. You must still apply for a place at the school even if you already have a child attending
- The oversubscription admission criteria for faith schools may give priority to applicants on grounds of church attendance or commitment

Sometimes it is not possible to offer applicants a place at any of their preferred schools. In this situation, we will offer a place at the nearest school to the child's home address with places available at the time of allocation, following the allocation of all applicants' first, second, third and fourth preferences. Please note that this may not be your local school.

Please also refer to the above information on Equal Preferencing for more information.

## What is Banding and how does it work?

Some Secondary schools in West Northamptonshire operate a policy of fair banding within their admission arrangements. These schools are as follows:

- Northampton School for Boys
- Northampton School for Girls
- Northampton School

Banding is not a process of selection. It is a preliminary grouping of children before a set of oversubscription criteria are applied and is intended to ensure a proportionate spread of children of different abilities.

In order to “band” the children, applicants will be required to sit a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) which will be arranged by the school or admission authority for the school.

This is not a test that a child can “pass” or “fail.” The results are used to place applicants into bands of ability either equally or according to local or national averages and may also be used to provide information for the setting of students after admission.

You can find out more information about the type of banding each school uses, how it works, dates for tests and whether a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) is required by checking each school’s oversubscription criteria in Section 3 and on the school’s individual websites.

**Please note:** tests for banding purposes are different to Aptitude Tests. Aptitude Tests are carried out by schools that admit up to 10% of students according to their aptitude in a particular specialism. Please see information on individual schools’ admission arrangements in Section 3 to see which schools admit according to aptitude.

## What happens if my child is not offered a place at any of our preferred schools?

If all your preferred schools are oversubscribed (i.e., they receive more applications than places available) and we cannot offer your child a place at any of them, we will offer a place at the school which is closest to your home address and which still has places available at the end of the allocation process, i.e., when all first, second, third and fourth preferences have been considered for all on-time applicants.

## Can I change my preferences once they have been submitted?

- If you apply online for a school place you can revisit your application and change your preferences up until the deadline on 31 October 2026. Every time you open your application you MUST press SUBMIT before you close it – even if you have not made any changes. If you do not press submit, we may not receive your application. You will know that your submission/resubmission has been successful because you will receive a confirmation email and the portal will show a green tick beside your application.
- If we are in receipt of more than one application either online or on paper, we will only consider the latest dated application received before the deadline. On-time applications will be processed before any applications received after the application deadline.
- After the application deadline, parents/carers wishing to change their preferences will be asked to complete a late application form. Late applications will be considered in our additional rounds of allocations, which start in April 2027.

## Do I need to send any other paperwork (e.g., Supplementary Information Form)?

In order to process your application, some schools require you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which must be returned directly to the school. For example:

- Faith schools may ask for information about your allegiance to a religion
- Schools with a specialism may need information to assess whether your child has an aptitude for the school's specialism (if you wish to apply on those grounds)
- Some schools require you to apply for your child to sit a test for banding purposes before being considered.

Please refer to the individual school information in Section 3 or contact the school directly to find out if any of your preferred schools need you to provide extra information.

If you have included one or more of these schools amongst your preferences, you must get the SIF directly from the school. Please note some schools ask you to complete the SIF via a webform on their website.

When you have completed your SIF, you must return it directly to the school concerned. **Do not** send it to the School Admissions team. WNC is not responsible for ensuring that these forms are sent to schools.

## What is the position relating to children from multiple birth groups?

For all WNC maintained schools, if the last child to be allocated to a particular school is a twin or a child from a multiple birth group, all children in the group will be offered places at the school, even if it means exceeding the Published Admission Number.

**Please note:** Other admission authorities may not have the same policy regarding twins and children from multiple birth groups. You can find out a school's position on the allocation of children from multiple birth groups by looking at the school's individual admission criteria in Section 3 or from the school's own website.

Please be aware that if you make a preference for a school which uses random allocation as part of its oversubscription criteria, there is a chance that only one child from a multiple birth group may be allocated a place at the school. This could mean that twins, or other multiple birth groups, are allocated places at different schools.

## Why is my child's home address important?

WNC's definition of the child's home address is the permanent address at which the child normally resides with their parent/carer on the application deadline.

Documentary evidence may be required together with proof of actual permanent residence at the property concerned.

Places cannot be allocated on the basis of an intended future change of address unless house moves have been confirmed through the exchange of contracts or signing of a formal lease prior to the deadline (31 October).

The School Admissions Team reserves the right to seek further written proof to support an applicant's claim to residence, and that an applicant's child/ren are living at the stated address.

Each year, the School Admissions team will check a sample of addresses by asking the parents or carers to provide evidence of the address they have expressed on their applications.

If you change your address at any time during the admission process, please tell the School Admissions team so we can update your correspondence address.

**Please note:** Some admission authorities have a different definition of what constitutes a child's home address. Therefore, whilst WNC may accept the address on your application, the admission authorities of some schools may choose to carry out their own checks based on their own admission arrangements. Please check individual school information in Section 3.

The admission authority (or the LA processing an application on behalf of the admission authority) has the right to investigate any concerns they may have about an application and to withdraw the offer of a place if it is considered that there is evidence that an applicant has made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information.

## What if I move during the application process?

We allocate school places using the address at which your child is living on the application deadline (31 October) unless you have provided us with proof of exchange of contracts or the signing of a lease agreement by this date.

### Change of address before the application deadline for:

#### Online applications

If you move house BEFORE the application deadline, you will be able to change your address and your preferences (if necessary) on your online application until 31 October 2026.

#### Paper applications

You will be able to provide your new address and/or change your preferences if you advise us by email or letter. We must receive any new information about your address or preferences by 31 October 2026.

Alternatively, you can post a new application to us with the new address and or/preferences but we must receive it by 31 October 2026 for the application to be considered as 'on time'.

Please note that we may need to ask for documentary evidence of a new address e.g., a copy of signed lease/rental agreement (minimum six months) or copy of solicitor's letter confirming exchange of contracts/completion date.

All applications received after the deadline will be considered as 'late' applications and will not be processed until after National Offer Day.

### Change of address after the application deadline:

Please inform us of your new address by email or letter so that we can communicate with you.

Places cannot be allocated on the basis of an intended future change of address unless house moves have been confirmed by the application deadline through the exchange of contracts or signing of a formal lease.

If you move address AFTER the closing date for applications and wish to change your preferences based on your new address, you should complete a new 'late application' form. This application must be accompanied by documentary evidence of your new address (e.g., a copy of signed lease/rental agreement (minimum six months) or copy of solicitor's letter confirming exchange of contracts/completion date). Late applications are dealt with during our further rounds of allocation which start in April 2027.

We will still process your 'on time' application and a school place will be allocated based on the address your child was living at on the application deadline. If appropriate, we will then process any 'late applications' from April 2027, using your new address.

## **What happens if I do not live with my child's other parent and our child spends time at each address?**

Where more than one adult share parental responsibility and if the adults live at different addresses, it is important that an agreement be reached on which schools to apply for, prior to making the application.

When parents live separately and the child spends time with each parent, the home address will usually be treated as the place where the child sleeps for most of the school week (i.e., Sunday night – Thursday night inclusive). If the child spends equal amounts of time at two addresses, the parents must agree which address they wish to be the child's main address.

Please note: other admission authorities may have a different method of deciding which address will be used. Please check the information given for your preferred schools in Section 3.

We will only respond to the parent or carer (the applicant) who has completed the application form. Where a parent has not shared information about the preference process with the other parent, we will use the following procedure if we receive a request for information from one of the parents:

- We will contact both parents to establish their right to view the information
- Once parental responsibility has been confirmed, we will send the information to which they are entitled.

## **What happens if two adults who have parental responsibility for a child both submit an application with a different address and/or different preferences?**

The LA can only process one application. If multiple applications are received for the same child with conflicting addresses and/or preferences, or the School Admissions team is made aware of a dispute between two parents, all applications will be placed on hold and will **not** be processed until:

- a new single application is made, signed by all parties; or
- written agreement is provided from both parents indicating which application they have agreed on; or
- a court order is provided confirming which parent's application carries precedence.

If no agreement can be made, parents are recommended to seek legal advice. If an agreement cannot be reached before the application deadline, this may affect the chances of a child being allocated a place at their preferred school/s.

Further information on parental responsibility can be found on [DfE website](#).

## **When will I hear about the school place allocated to my child?**

### **National Offer Day – Monday 1 March 2027**

All applicants who made an on-time application online by 31 October will receive an email advising them of the school at which their child has been allocated a place on the above date. The email will

be sent to the email address you used when you applied. Alternatively, you can visit [our website](#), and login to the application portal to find out where your child has been allocated a school place.

**Remember to keep your password safe to enable you to do this.**

All applicants who made paper applications on time will be sent a letter, posted first class on 1 March 2027, informing them of the name of the school at which their child has been allocated a place. This offer letter will be sent to the address you have provided on your application form.

## What if I am unhappy with the school place I am offered?

We understand that it can be disappointing for you and your child if your child is not allocated a place at one of your preferred schools.

If you have not been to visit the school where your child has been allocated a place, you are advised to contact the school and arrange an appointment to find out more about the school if possible.

You will be automatically added to the waiting list of each school that was a higher preference than the school that was offered. Your child will remain on the waiting list until 31 December.

You can also:

- make a late application for schools for which you have not yet applied. A list of schools with places will be on our website [School Admissions | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](#) from National Offer Day, but you can apply for schools which are already full if you wish and be added to their waiting list/s if a place is not available. Please be aware that other parents/carers may also make late applications for the schools which still had places on National Offer Day and places offered will be subject to the application of the oversubscription criteria meaning a place is not guaranteed.
- appeal against the decision not to offer a place at a school at which your child was not allocated a place. Details will be on your offer email and you can also refer to the section in this prospectus on appeals in Section 2 or visit the [appeals website](#).

## Can a school place be withdrawn?

Yes. If you have provided us with fraudulent or misleading information on your application form (e.g., a false claim to be living at a certain address or a false claim to have a sibling link) which has prevented us from giving a place to a child who should have been given the place, we may withdraw your offer of a place.

The admission authority (or the LA processing an application on behalf of the admission authority) has the right to investigate any concerns we may have about an application and to withdraw the offer of a place if it is considered that there is evidence that an applicant has made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information.

If a place is withdrawn, your child will be offered a place at an alternative school that still has places available.

## What happens after National Offer Day – 1 March 2027?

If you are accepting the offered school place and the school you have been offered is in West Northamptonshire, there is no need to contact us. We will assume that you have accepted the place. The allocated school will contact you in due course.

If the school offered is outside of West Northamptonshire, we recommend you contact the school directly to check whether you need to formally accept the offer.

If your child has been refused a place at any of your higher preference preferred schools, you will automatically be placed on the waiting list. You can also choose to appeal against the decision not to offer your child a place at that school. You cannot appeal for a school for which you have not applied or for a school which was a lower preference than that which you have been offered. You will need to first make a new late application.

## **How do waiting lists work?**

From National Offer Day – 1 March 2027 – waiting lists are established for all schools that receive more applications than they have places available and all those refused a place will be added.

If a place becomes available at a school which has a waiting list, all those on the waiting list will be considered, including those appealing for a place, along with any new applicants.

Waiting lists do not work on a first come, first served basis. Instead, on reallocation dates (see timetable at the start of Section 1), we will start to allocate to the available places using the schools' oversubscription criteria (see Section 3). Please note, a child's position on the waiting list can change if new applicants are added to the list who have a higher priority for admission in line with a school's oversubscription criteria.

All oversubscribed schools maintain a waiting list until 31 December. If you wish to remain on the waiting list for a school after 31 December, you will need to contact the School Admissions Team by email or in writing by 31 December.

## **What is a late application?**

Applications received after the application deadline (midnight on 31 October) are referred to as 'late' applications.

Parents/carers who make a late application will not receive notification of the outcome of a late application on National Offer Day (1 March 2027).

Late applications will be processed within our additional rounds of allocations between April and July 2027. The reallocation dates and deadlines for consideration in each round, can be found in the timetable at the start of Section 1. Depending on the number of applications received, it may take several weeks to process each round. Where an email address has been given, applicants will receive an offer via email.

If a late application is made for popular (oversubscribed) schools, it is possible that we will not be able to offer a place as the popular schools fill up with on-time applicants. If we cannot offer a place at one of your preferred schools, we will offer a place at the closest school to your child's home address that still has places.

## **What do I need to do if my child is being educated out of their normal age group at primary school?**

Some children may be being educated out of their normal age group, for example, if they have been back-classed or if they are summer born and started in Reception at Compulsory School Age when the rest of their age group were moving into Year 1.

If these children are going to remain at Primary school until the end of their Year 6, this means that when they transfer to Secondary school, they will be the age of a Year 8 child.

Parents/carers will need to seek agreement from the admission authorities of their preferred school/s that they can apply for Year 7 out of the normal age group with their adopted cohort, rather than having to either miss Year 6 at Primary school (to start Year 7 with their normal age group), or complete Year 6 at Primary school and go straight into Year 8 (missing Year 7).

It is recommended that this is done when children in their normal age group are in Year 6, so when these children are in Year 5, at the same time as submitting a Year 7 application for their normal age group.

Parents/carers will need to put their request in writing to their preferred schools. The school will pass the request to their admission authority to see if they agree to the request. Essentially parents/carers are asking to delay their Year 7 application by a full year so their child can continue to be educated with their adopted age group.

The admission authority of the school will consider the request and make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. They will then set out clearly for parents/carers the reasons for their decision about the year group the child should be admitted to.

Parents/carers do not have a right to appeal if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

If the admission authority of the school agrees to your request, the application for a Year 7 place in your child's normal age group will be withdrawn (if one has been submitted) and you can make an application for your child's Year 7 place at the same time as the rest of their adopted year group as part of the normal admissions round for that year. Please note, you will need written confirmation from the school and/or their admission authority that they will accept an application out of normal age group and this will need to be sent to the School Admissions team either before or at the same time as your Year 7 application is submitted.

## Section 2 – Additional Useful Information

This section contains additional information which may be useful when applying for your child's school place.

### In-Year Applications

An in-year application refers to an application for a school place made during the school year or, an application for admission to a school made at the start of the school year for any year group other than the normal year of entry. The normal years of entry are: Reception for entry to Primary and Infant schools; Year 3 for entry to Junior schools; Year 7 for children moving into Secondary schools and Year 10 for entry to UTCs.

West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) co-ordinates in-year applications for all Secondary schools in the WNC area of Northamptonshire, with the exception of the following schools:

- [Abbeyfield School](#)
- [Caroline Chisholm School](#)
- [Chenderit School](#)
- [Duston School, The](#)
- [Northampton School](#)
- [Northampton School for Boys](#)
- [Silverstone UTC](#)
- [Weston Favell Academy](#)

The schools above manage their own in-year admission process. Parents/carers wishing to apply for an in-year place at any of these schools should visit the school website or contact the school directly.

The local authority (WNC) provides an in-year application form on the website for parents/carers to complete when applying for a place for their child at a school where WNC co-ordinates in-year admissions i.e. at all mainstream state schools other than the schools listed above. When making an application for an in-year school place, parents/carers should be aware that:

- Applications should not be made more than 20 school days before the place is required and applications outside this timescale will not be processed (children of UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces) and Crown Servants may apply for places in advance)
- Applications should only be made by a person with parental responsibility
- The in-year application form allows parents/carers to list up to four schools in order of preference.

The in-year admission process can take up to 15 school days. Children who live in the local area and attend a local school should continue to attend their current school until an admission date has been agreed at the new school.

Children are expected to start at the new school within five school days of being allocated a place.

### Home Address

If families are moving into the West Northamptonshire Council area, documentary evidence may be required to verify the address. The evidence may be in the form of a solicitor's letter to confirm exchange of contract, or a copy of the signed tenancy or rental agreement.

## Applications from overseas children

Parents/carers who are not UK or Irish nationals should check they, and their children, have a [right of abode](#) or that the conditions of their immigration status otherwise permit them to access a state-funded school in the UK before applying for a school place in England. It is not the responsibility of the admission authority or local authority to check.

WNC will consider applications for places at state-funded schools from parents/carers who are moving or returning to England or the UK where the place is required within 20 school days of the application being submitted.

For further information on the processing of applications from foreign nationals, or from another country, for a state-funded school place in England, please use the following link to the [DfE website](#)

## Children of UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces) and Crown Servants

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting, or crown servants returning from overseas, the School Admissions team will:

- a) allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area (if one is available), provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date.
- b) use the address at which the child will live when applying their oversubscription criteria if the parents/carers provide some evidence of their intended address. Admission authorities must use a Unit or quartering address as the child's home address when applying their oversubscription criteria, where a parent/carer requests this.

## Applications from Middle School children for a Year 9 place at a secondary school in the WNC area

There may be children living in the WNC area who attend a middle school in another local authority area. These children may want to apply for a Year 9 place in a West Northamptonshire secondary school, rather than, or as well as applying for an upper school place. Such applications are in-year applications rather than co-ordinated applications. This is because the co-ordinated scheme only applies to applications for the normal year of entry to a school which, for a Secondary school, is Year 7.

Please note that we are only able to accept in-year applications up to 20 school days before the place is required. Therefore, applications from children wanting a Year 9 place at a Secondary school (rather than an Upper school) will be considered as in-year applications and should be made in July.

## Where to find the in-year application form

The in-year application form for any school not listed above should be completed online and can be found on WNC's website under [Move school during the school year \(In-year\)](#). If you are unable to use the online form, please contact the School Admissions team to request a paper copy.

## Finding the nearest school

The nearest schools to your home address can be found using our website [Find a school | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](#).

Please be aware that the distances provided here are not as precise as the measurements used when School Admissions measures for the purpose of allocating places – these are calculated using a different mapping system.

## Linked or catchment areas

In West Northamptonshire, some schools give priority to children who live in a particular area. This can be referred to as a linked, catchment, defined or designated area.

Living in a school's linked area means that a child may get some priority when the oversubscription criteria are applied for that school but living in a linked area **does not** guarantee a place at a school, nor does it guarantee that transport will be provided. Please see WNC's home to school transport policy on [the WNC website](#).

## How the in-year admissions process works

When the School Admissions team receives a completed in-year application form for any school not listed above, and written proof of a new home address (if necessary), we will look to see if there are any available places in your child's year group at your preferred schools. If a place can be offered at one of your preferred schools, we will inform you in writing by email or letter. The school will contact you with a start date. If you have not heard from the school within five school days of receiving your offer email from School Admissions, please contact the school directly.

If it is not possible to offer a place at one of your preferred schools, you can ask for your child's name to be added to the waiting list by [emailing the School Admissions Team](#).

If a place cannot be offered at any of your preferred schools and your child does not have a school place, we will offer a place at the school which is the nearest to your home address with places available in your child's year group.

Please also see our [In-year Co-ordination Scheme](#) for more information.

## Right to appeal

Parents/carers have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at any school for which they have applied. For details of how to appeal, please refer to the [Appeals Team's website](#).

## Requests for admission outside the normal age group

Parents/carers may seek a place for their child out of their normal age group. Parents/carers of children who are gifted and talented or parents/carers of children who have experienced problems such as ill health, may wish their children to be educated in either a higher or lower year group, according to the child's circumstances. For all WNC secondary schools, parents/carers must make their requests directly to the schools themselves prior to submitting an in-year application.

The admission authority of the school will consider the request and make a decision based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. The views of the Head teacher at the school will also be considered. The admission authority of the school will then set out clearly for parents/carers the reasons for their decision about the year group the child should be admitted to.

Parents can then submit their application for the school for whichever year group the admission authority has identified along with a copy of the decision.

Parents/carers do not have a right to appeal if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Please check individual schools' admission arrangements directly with the schools or on their websites to ensure you are following the correct procedure to make your request.

## Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans

### How do I apply for a school place if my child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

If your child has an EHCP, their school allocation is administered by WNC's EHC service.

Parents should therefore not apply for a school place using the normal common application form. Instead, they will receive a letter from the Education, Health and Care team, seeking details of school preference. You will be asked to return your preference within 15 days for new assessment cases. For changes of placements for existing EHC plans, this should be highlighted during your child's Annual Review process.

### For Phase Transfers

Phase transfers happen when a child or young person makes the following transitions in their educational journey:

- early years setting to school
- infant school to junior school
- primary to secondary school
- secondary school onto further education

By June of the year before your child is due to move to a new school (for example, when they are in Year 5 for the transfer to secondary school), you will get an email from our EHC Admin team. This email will ask you to tell us which schools you prefer. You will need to send us the names of your two preferred schools by the end of September.

The local authority will begin liaising with your preferred school, and other schools in your area, to find out whether they will be able to meet your child's needs.

The local authority will write to you in January to let you know which school we propose to name in your child's EHC plan.

Your child's EHC plan will then be amended and finalised to name the new school. This will be done before 15 February in the year of transfer for children going into Reception, Year 3 at Junior school and Year 7 at Secondary school.

### If you are unhappy about the school or college named on your EHC plan

If you would like to discuss the school, college or provision that is named on the EHC plan then you can discuss with the SENCO at the named setting in the first instance.

If you disagree with the setting or provision we have named you can appeal to the SEND Tribunal Service. The views and opinions of children, young people and their families are important to us, we want your voices to be heard. You can also speak to West Northants SEND IASS team who will assist you to understand this process and the steps involved.

If your child is under assessment for an Education Health & Care assessment and therefore does not have an EHCP, you will need to complete an application form for a mainstream school place via the School Admissions website by the deadline on 15 January. If it is agreed that your child needs an EHCP, the EHC team will then consult to find an appropriate setting.

## Contact Us

If you need any further information or clarification please contact the Education, Health and Care Team, the contact details are:

**Telephone:** 01604 526115 (weekdays 10am to 4pm)

**Email:** [EHCPPostAssessments@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:EHCPPostAssessments@westnorthants.gov.uk) or [EHCAssessments@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:EHCAssessments@westnorthants.gov.uk)

## **Information Advice Support Service (IASS)**

IASS offers free and impartial advice and support to parents/carers of children and young people aged 0 to 25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). You can contact them for more information:

**By visiting their [website](#)**

**By emailing [sendiass@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@westnorthants.gov.uk)**

**By telephoning 0300 126 1039**

## **School Admissions Appeals**

You have the right to appeal against the decision not to offer your child a place at the schools stated on your application unless you have been allocated a higher preference.

WNC's Democratic Services arranges appeals for some schools but not all of them.

### **Before submitting your appeal**

Read the on-line information about appeals and timescales on the [School Admissions pages of the WNC website](#)

### **How to submit your appeal**

You should complete the online appeal form on the [WNC website](#) (if WNC arranges the school's appeals) or follow the instructions given by the school (if WNC does not arrange the appeals).

For appeals arranged by WNC, if you complete the online appeal form on the WNC website and wish to submit supporting evidence after lodging your appeal, it should be e-mailed to [AppealsTeam.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:AppealsTeam.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk) within ten working days.

Please also use this e-mail address to notify WNC if you subsequently decide not to proceed with your appeal.

The timetable for appeals for entry to Year 7 in the normal admission round for 2027 admissions, will be published on the Appeals website by 28 February 2027. A deadline will be given by which appeals should be submitted. Appeals received after the published deadline will still be heard, but there is no guarantee they will be heard before the end of the school year in which the application is made.

### **What happens next?**

Visit the School Admissions pages of the [WNC website](#) – there may be other schools you wish to apply for, alongside and independently from the appeal process. To do this, please submit a late secondary application. Your child's allocated place will remain until such time as a new place is offered or we receive notification from you that your child will be attending an independent school. This will ensure that if your appeal is unsuccessful, your child will not be left without a school place.

You will be contacted by WNC's Appeals Team with further details of your appeal. For further information on the appeal process, please visit the [WNC website](#).

Impartial free legal advice about appeals can be obtained from:

- [Coram Children's Legal Centre](#) (Telephone 0300 330 5485)

The School Admissions Appeals Code can be found on the [Department for Education's website](#).

# Home to school transport

## Mainstream Secondary Schools

Parents and carers are advised to read West Northamptonshire's Home to School Transport Policy for academic year 2026-2027 before submitting their preferences, to ensure they understand whether their child would qualify for free home to school travel assistance: [Free school travel assistance \(4 to 16 year olds\) | West Northamptonshire Council](#)

Parents and carers who require travel assistance to their nearest suitable school or geographically associated school as detailed in the Home to School Transport Policy, should apply online at [Free school travel assistance \(4 to 16 year olds\) | West Northamptonshire Council](#). The Council will then assess your entitlement and eligible students will be offered travel assistance either by way of a personal travel budget, dedicated vehicle or a bus pass.

For parents and carers who apply and secure a place for their child at a school which is not their nearest or geographically associated school, they can apply for a non-entitled (paid for) pass on one of our existing contracted services. Non-entitled applications need to be submitted by 31 May 2027 in order to guarantee that a seat is available for the start of the new academic year. More information regarding this scheme can be found on the following link: [Non-entitled \(paid for\) school travel assistance | West Northamptonshire Council](#)

It is important to note that all parents and carers applying for a new school place will be required to apply for travel assistance as this will not be automatically given, and applications will need to be submitted by 31 March 2027. This will ensure that travel assistance is provided in time for the start of the academic year.

The Council has introduced changes to its Home to School Transport Policy from September 2024. The key changes to the policy include:

1. The cost of a non-entitled buss pass has increased. For the 2026/27 academic year, the annual charge is £1,050. This fee is subject to annual review and may increase for students commencing in the 2027-28 academic year.
2. The removal of "Linked Schools" from the policy and replacing this with a list of "Geographically Associated Schools" for transport purposes.
3. Transport for children who move house during Year 11 and who are continuing to attend their current school, which is no longer the nearest or geographically associated school, will only be considered if the house move is necessitated by an emergency.
4. Changes to the council Walking Route Assessment Criteria.

Parents and carers are advised to refer to the council's home to school transport policy prior to making their preferences to understand which school(s) free travel assistance will be provided to.

## Transport Entitlement

The council will provide or arrange free travel assistance either by Personal Travel Budget, dedicated vehicle or a bus pass to the nearest suitable or geographically associated school for the following pupils:

### Distance

- Pupils between the ages of 4 and 8 years, attending their nearest suitable or geographically associated school where the distance is more than two miles from that school measured by the shortest available walking route.

- Pupils aged 8 to 16 years, attending their nearest suitable or geographically associated school where the distance is more than three miles from their home address measured by the shortest available walking route.

### **Low income**

- Pupils aged 11 to 16 entitled to targeted free school meals, or those whose parents are in receipt of Universal Credit with an income of no greater than £7,400 per annum will receive free travel assistance to one of the three nearest schools to their home address which are over 2 miles (measured by an acceptable walking route) and less than 6 miles (measured by the shortest road route).
- Pupils aged 8 but under 11 entitled to targeted free school meals, or those whose parents are in receipt of Universal Credit with an income of no greater than £7,400 per annum will receive free travel assistance to their nearest suitable school if they live more than 2 miles from that school measured by the shortest available walking route.
- Once your child reaches the age of 8 years, and you think they will qualify for free travel assistance under the above criterion, you may submit an online application form which can be found on the [School Travel Assistance](#) pages of the LA's website.

Note: The Government has introduced changes to the eligibility criteria for free school meals. There are now two distinct categories of entitlement and the provisions outlined above apply to pupils who qualify under the "Targeted Free School Meals" criteria, as set out below.

*Targeted Free School Meals = this continues to be based on the existing income threshold and applies to pupils from households receiving Universal Credit with annual earned income of £7,400 or less.*

If your child's eligibility for free school meals or your Universal Credit ceases, then free transport will be withdrawn at the end of the school year.

### **Availability of School Places**

Where a place is not available at your child's nearest suitable or geographically associated school at the point of starting school, transferring school, or moving to a new area, free travel assistance will be provided to the next nearest suitable school subject to the distance and route acceptability criteria.

If your child is allocated a place at one of your preferred schools which is not your nearest suitable or geographically associated school, you will take responsibility for the provision and cost of transport to the school your child is allocated.

Where you include your nearest suitable or geographically associated school as one of your preferences, but fail to get a place at any, free transport will be provided to the nearest suitable alternative school subject again to the distance and route acceptability criteria. However, if this place is declined in favour of a different school, you will take responsibility for the provision and cost of transport to that preferred alternative school.

### **Unsafe Routes**

Where pupils aged 4 to 16 years are attending their nearest suitable or geographically associated school and the walking route to school is less than the distance outlined above and is assessed as being unacceptable to walk in accordance with the Council's published criteria, free travel assistance will be provided.

### **Children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) in a mainstream school**

Most children with an EHCP who live within the statutory distance will not need travel assistance, however we know that some children may need help. For parents or carers who require travel

assistance, they will need to make an application on the following link [Travel assistance for children with an EHC plan | West Northamptonshire Council](#)

Please note that as your child matures the level of support needed may change and this will be reviewed annually.

Note: Home to School travel assistance is not a door-to-door service and school children may be expected to walk to and from home to their nearest pick-up and set down point where their needs allow them to do so.

### **Where to get more information**

Further information can be found on [our website](#).

Alternatively you can email the team at [SchoolTravelApps@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolTravelApps@westnorthants.gov.uk)

If transport information changes after publication of this booklet, up-to-date information is available on the website.

## Sixth Form Admissions (Year 12)

The West Northamptonshire schools listed below all have sixth-form provision.

Please note that WNC is not responsible for the admissions process for sixth form places. If you wish to find out about applying for a place in a sixth form, please contact the school directly or visit the school's website for further details of their admission arrangements and how to apply.

### **Northampton**

Abbeyfield School  
Caroline Chisholm School  
Duston School, The  
Kingsthorpe College  
Malcolm Arnold Academy  
Northampton Academy  
Northampton International Academy  
Northampton School for Boys  
Northampton School for Girls  
St Thomas Becket Catholic School  
Weston Favell Academy

### **Daventry**

DSL V E-ACT  
Guilsborough Academy  
Moulton School & Science College  
Parker E-ACT Academy

### **South Northants**

Campion School  
Chenderit School  
Elizabeth Woodville School  
Magdalen College School  
Roade Village Academy  
Sponne School  
Silverstone UTC

## Neighbouring Local Authorities

You must submit your Common Application Form (CAF) to your home local authority when applying for a place for the normal point of entry (Reception for Primary or Infant school, Year 3 for Junior school and Year 7 for Secondary school), regardless of where the school is situated.

If you live in West Northamptonshire and wish to apply for a place at a school outside the area, you must still include this school as a preference on your common application form submitted to WNC.

**Do not** send an application form to the local authority in which the school is situated.

If you would like details of schools in surrounding local authorities please visit the local authority websites.

[North Northamptonshire Council](#)

[Bedford Borough Council](#)

[Buckinghamshire Council\\*](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Central Bedfordshire Council](#)

[Leicester City Council](#)

[Leicestershire County Council](#)

[Lincolnshire County Council](#)

[Milton Keynes City Council](#)

[Oxfordshire County Council](#)

[Peterborough City Council](#)

[Rutland County Council](#)

[Warwickshire County Council\\*](#)

\*Please note that Buckinghamshire and Warwickshire operate the 11+ system. Please contact the School Admissions teams in these authorities if you wish to register your child for the test.

## UTCs in and around Northamptonshire

| Name                                                                                                           | Contact Details                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Aylesbury UTC</b><br>Oxford Road<br>Aylesbury<br>Bucks<br>HP21 8PB                                          | <a href="#">Aylesbury UTC Website</a><br>Tel: 01296 388688<br>Email: <a href="mailto:reception@aylesburyutc.co.uk">reception@aylesburyutc.co.uk</a>                 |
| <b>UTC Oxfordshire</b><br>Greenwood Way<br>Harwell<br>Didcot<br>OX11 6BZ                                       | <a href="#">UTC Oxfordshire Website</a><br>Tel: 01235 391587<br>Email: <a href="mailto:admin@utcoxfordshire.org.uk">admin@utcoxfordshire.org.uk</a>                 |
| <b>Greater Peterborough UTC</b><br>Park Crescent<br>Peterborough<br>PE1 4DZ                                    | <a href="#">Peterborough UTC Website</a><br>Tel: 01733 715950<br>Email: <a href="mailto:office@gputc.com">office@gputc.com</a>                                      |
| <b>WMG Academy for Young Engineers</b><br>Mitchell Avenue<br>Coventry<br>CV4 8DY                               | <a href="#">WMG Academy Website</a><br>Tel: 02476 464661<br>Email: <a href="mailto:info@wmgacademy.org.uk">info@wmgacademy.org.uk</a>                               |
| <b>Cambridge Academy for Science &amp; Technology</b><br>UTC Cambridge<br>Robinson Way<br>Cambridge<br>CB2 0SZ | <a href="#">Cambridge Academy Website</a><br>Tel: 01223 724300<br>Email: <a href="mailto:cast-enquiries@cambridgeAST.org.uk">cast-enquiries@cambridgeAST.org.uk</a> |
| <b>Silverstone UTC</b><br>Silverstone Circuit<br>Silverstone<br>Northamptonshire<br>NN12 8TL                   | <a href="#">Silverstone UTC Website</a><br>Tel: 01327 855010<br>Email: <a href="mailto:info@utc-silverstone.co.uk">info@utc-silverstone.co.uk</a>                   |

Details of other UTCs in the country can be found by clicking [here](#).

## Section 3 – Individual School Information and Admission Arrangements – including Oversubscription Criteria

Each Secondary school in West Northamptonshire has its own set of admission arrangements, and therefore its own oversubscription criteria, which are set annually by its admission authority. These should be viewed on each school's own website prior to an application being made.

If a school receives more applications than the number of places available (known as the Published Admission Number or PAN), places are allocated according to that school's oversubscription criteria.

Children with an EHCP naming the school will always be admitted prior to the oversubscription criteria being applied for remaining places.

On the following pages you will find information about each Secondary school in West Northamptonshire, including contact details, the PAN, whether or not the school was oversubscribed last year, and the oversubscription criteria used for the school.

Please note: these are not the full admission arrangements for each school and are just an overview. You will find a link with each listed school which will take you to the school's website where you can view the arrangements (sometimes called the Admissions Policy) in full. If there are any discrepancies between the details given in this prospectus and those set out in the school's published admission arrangements, parents/carers should refer to the school's published admission arrangements.

**Please note:** If you live in West Northamptonshire and are applying for a place in a school outside of West Northamptonshire (i.e., a school not listed on the pages in this section), you must still apply for that school through West Northamptonshire Council, using the common application form.

### How the information is arranged

First there are three maps (not to scale) showing the Secondary schools and UTCs in West Northants. These are followed by tables giving information for each school as follows:

- **School:** the school's name and address
- **DfE no.:** the unique number given to the school by the Department for Education (DfE)
- **Contact details:** telephone number, email and website
- **Principal:** the name of the school Head teacher or Principal
- **PAN:** the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school for the normal point of entry (Year 7 for Secondary schools, Year 10 for UTCs)
- **Type of School:** this will tell you if the school is an Academy (A), Foundation (F) or Free School. The type of school dictates who is responsible for the admission arrangements for the school (see the Glossary in Section 4 for more information about the different types of school)
- **SIF:** this will tell you if you need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) as part of the application process for the school. SIFs must be returned directly to the school. This does not replace the Common Application Form that must be submitted to the local authority

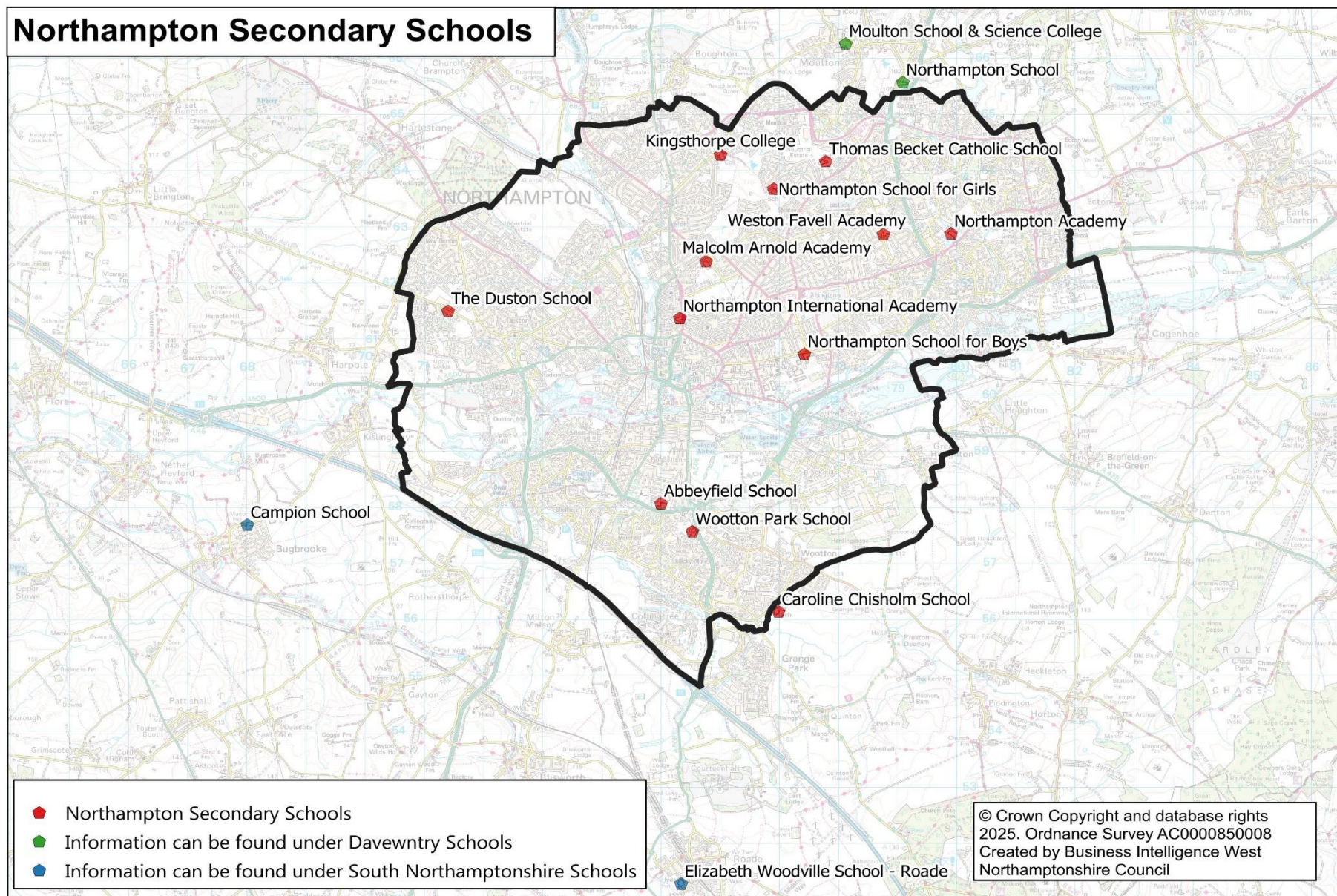
- **Test:** this will tell you if your child is required to take a test for this school. It may be that all applicants must take a test or that your child will be required to take a test if they want to be considered under an aptitude criterion. You can find out more about this by reading the oversubscription criteria for the school which can be found in this section
- **Number of prefs received for 2026:** the number of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> preferences received for Year 7 for September 2026 by the original application deadline of 31 October 2025
- **Oversubscribed in 2026:** this will tell you if the school was oversubscribed on the last National Offer Day (2 March 2026). A “Yes” indicates that the school reached its PAN and there were applicants who were refused places. A “No” indicates that all applicants requesting a place were offered a place (unless they were allocated a higher preference)

Following the table of information for the schools in the area, you will find the oversubscription criteria for each Secondary school in the local authority area which explain how places will be allocated at each school. Full detailed information can be found within each school's published admission arrangements which can be found on their websites.

## Further advice

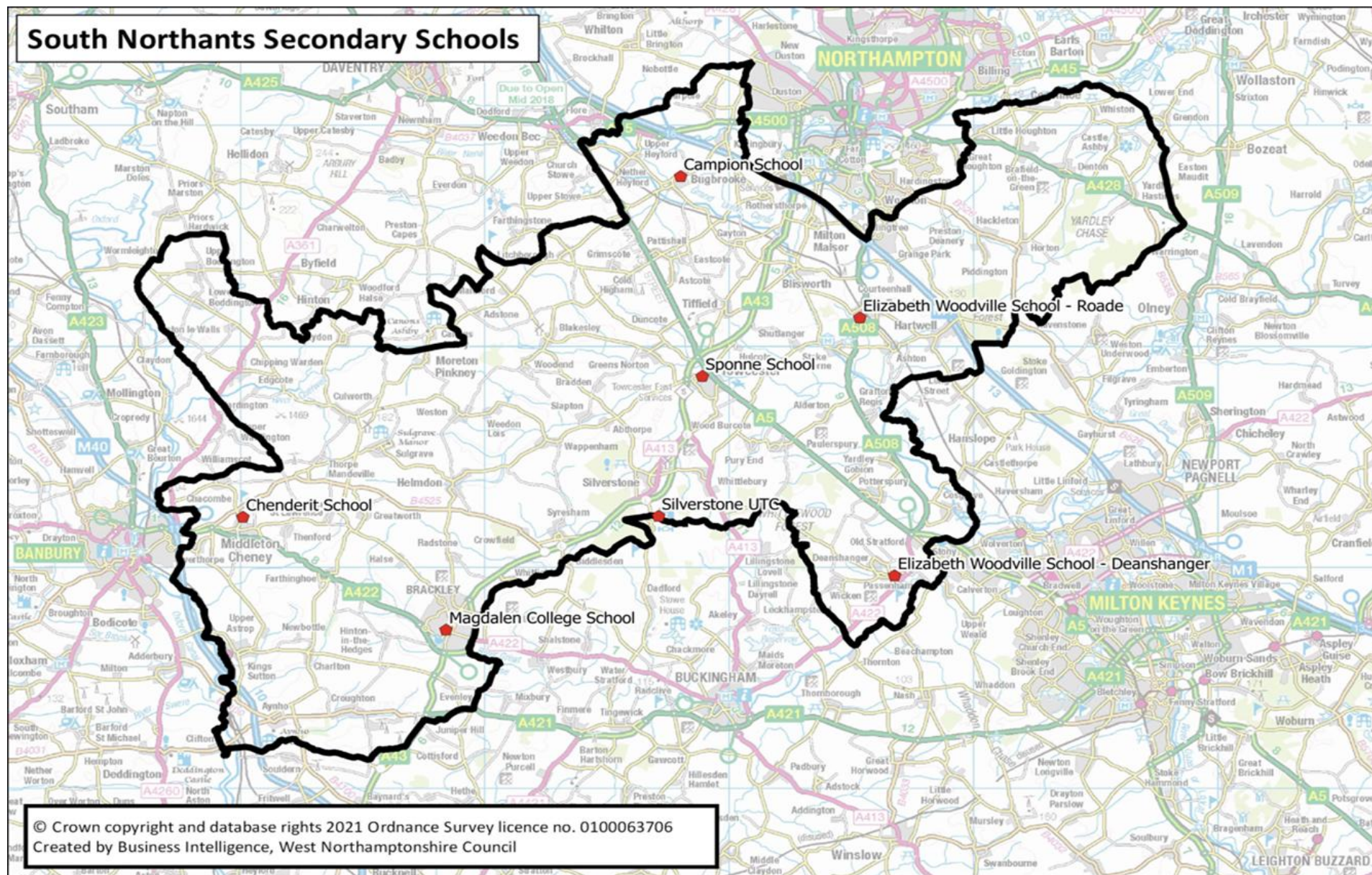
The definitions in the **Glossary** in Section 4 are those used by WNC. Many Own Admission Authority (OAA) schools have adopted these definitions but where a school which is its own admission authority uses slightly different definitions, these can be found within the individual school's admission arrangements on the following pages. We therefore advise parents/carers to read the **Definitions** at the end of this prospectus in Section 4 and within individual schools' admissions arrangements for the appropriate year of entry on the school's own website.

# Northampton Secondary Schools



A detailed map of the Daventry area in Northamptonshire, showing the catchment areas for several secondary schools. The map is color-coded to represent different school zones: green for Market Harborough, blue for Rugby, yellow for Northampton, and pink for Daventry. A large black outline delineates the overall catchment area. Key schools marked with red dots include The Parker E-ACT Academy, Danetre and Southbrook Learning Village, Guilsborough Academy, Moulton School & Science College, and Northampton School. The map also shows major roads (A426, A43, A5, A4304, A4309, A4300, A4301, A4302, A4303, A4304, A4305, A4306, A4307, A4308, A4309, A4310, A4311, A4312, A4313, A4314, A4315, A4316, A4317, A4318, A4319, A4320, A4321, A4322, A4323, A4324, A4325, A4326, A4327, A4328, A4329, A4330, A4331, A4332, A4333, A4334, A4335, A4336, A4337, A4338, A4339, A4340, A4341, A4342, A4343, A4344, A4345, A4346, A4347, A4348, A4349, A4350, A4351, A4352, A4353, A4354, A4355, A4356, A4357, A4358, A4359, A4360, A4361, A4362, A4363, A4364, A4365, A4366, A4367, A4368, A4369, A4370, A4371, A4372, A4373, A4374, A4375, A4376, A4377, A4378, A4379, A4380, A4381, A4382, A4383, A4384, A4385, A4386, A4387, A4388, A4389, A4390, A4391, A4392, A4393, A4394, A4395, A4396, A4397, A4398, A4399, A4400, A4401, A4402, A4403, A4404, A4405, A4406, A4407, A4408, A4409, A4410, A4411, A4412, A4413, A4414, A4415, A4416, A4417, A4418, A4419, A4420, A4421, A4422, A4423, A4424, A4425, A4426, A4427, A4428, A4429, A4430, A4431, A4432, A4433, A4434, A4435, A4436, A4437, A4438, A4439, A4440, A4441, A4442, A4443, A4444, A4445, A4446, A4447, A4448, A4449, A4450, A4451, A4452, A4453, A4454, A4455, A4456, A4457, A4458, A4459, A4460, A4461, A4462, A4463, A4464, A4465, A4466, A4467, A4468, A4469, A4470, A4471, A4472, A4473, A4474, A4475, A4476, A4477, A4478, A4479, A4480, A4481, A4482, A4483, A4484, A4485, A4486, A4487, A4488, A4489, A4490, A4491, A4492, A4493, A4494, A4495, A4496, A4497, A4498, A4499, A4500, A4501, A4502, A4503, A4504, A4505, A4506, A4507, A4508, A4509, A4510, A4511, A4512, A4513, A4514, A4515, A4516, A4517, A4518, A4519, A4520, A4521, A4522, A4523, A4524, A4525, A4526, A4527, A4528, A4529, A4530, A4531, A4532, A4533, A4534, A4535, A4536, A4537, A4538, A4539, A4540, A4541, A4542, A4543, A4544, A4545, A4546, A4547, A4548, A4549, A4550, A4551, A4552, A4553, A4554, A4555, A4556, A4557, A4558, A4559, A4560, A4561, A4562, A4563, A4564, A4565, A4566, A4567, A4568, A4569, A4570, A4571, A4572, A4573, A4574, A4575, A4576, A4577, A4578, A4579, A4580, A4581, A4582, A4583, A4584, A4585, A4586, A4587, A4588, A4589, A4590, A4591, A4592, A4593, A4594, A4595, A4596, A4597, A4598, A4599, A4600, A4601, A4602, A4603, A4604, A4605, A4606, A4607, A4608, A4609, A4610, A4611, A4612, A4613, A4614, A4615, A4616, A4617, A4618, A4619, A4620, A4621, A4622, A4623, A4624, A4625, A4626, A4627, A4628, A4629, A4630, A4631, A4632, A4633, A4634, A4635, A4636, A4637, A4638, A4639, A4640, A4641, A4642, A4643, A4644, A4645, A4646, A4647, A4648, A4649, A4650, A4651, A4652, A4653, A4654, A4655, A4656, A4657, A4658, A4659, A4660, A4661, A4662, A4663, A4664, A4665, A4666, A4667, A4668, A4669, A4670, A4671, A4672, A4673, A4674, A4675, A4676, A4677, A4678, A4679, A4680, A4681, A4682, A4683, A4684, A4685, A4686, A4687, A4688, A4689, A4690, A4691, A4692, A4693, A4694, A4695, A4696, A4697, A4698, A4699, A4700, A4701, A4702, A4703, A4704, A4705, A4706, A4707, A4708, A4709, A4710, A4711, A4712, A4713, A4714, A4715, A4716, A4717, A4718, A4719, A4720, A4721, A4722, A4723, A4724, A4725, A4726, A4727, A4728, A4729, A4730, A4731, A4732, A4733, A4734, A4735, A4736, A4737, A4738, A4739, A4740, A4741, A4742, A4743, A4744, A4745, A4746, A4747, A4748, A4749, A4750, A4751, A4752, A4753, A4754, A4755, A4756, A4757, A4758, A4759, A4760, A4761, A4762, A4763, A4764, A4765, A4766, A4767, A4768, A4769, A4770, A4771, A4772, A4773, A4774, A4775, A4776, A4777, A4778, A4779, A4780, A4781, A4782, A4783, A4784, A4785, A4786, A4787, A4788, A4789, A4790, A4791, A4792, A4793, A4794, A4795, A4796, A4797, A4798, A4799, A4800, A4801, A4802, A4803, A4804, A4805, A4806, A4807, A4808, A4809, A4810, A4811, A4812, A4813, A4814, A4815, A4816, A4817, A4818, A4819, A4820, A4821, A4822, A4823, A4824, A4825, A4826, A4827, A4828, A4829, A4830, A4831, A4832, A4833, A4834, A4835, A4836, A4837, A4838, A4839, A4840, A4841, A4842, A4843, A4844, A4845, A4846, A4847, A4848, A4849, A4850, A4851, A4852, A4853, A4854, A4855, A4856, A4857, A4858, A4859, A4860, A4861, A4862, A4863, A4864, A4865, A4866, A4867, A4868, A4869, A4870, A4871, A4872, A4873, A4874, A4875, A4876, A4877, A4878, A4879, A4880, A4881, A4882, A4883, A4884, A4885, A4886, A4887, A4888, A4889, A4890, A4891, A4892, A4893, A4894, A4895, A4896, A4897, A4898, A4899, A4900, A4901, A4902, A4903, A4904, A4905, A4906, A4907, A4908, A4909, A4910, A4911, A4912, A4913, A4914, A4915, A4916, A4917, A4918, A4919, A4920, A4921, A4922, A4923, A4924, A4925, A4926, A4927, A4928, A4929, A4930, A4931, A4932, A4933, A4934, A4935, A4936, A4937, A4938, A4939, A4940, A4941, A4942, A4943, A4944, A4945, A4946, A4947, A4948, A4949, A4950, A4951, A4952, A4953, A4954, A4955, A495

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## Secondary schools in West Northamptonshire

| School                                                                                                                               | DfE No.      | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                          | Principal             | PAN | Type of school            | SIF                              | Test | Number of prefs received for 2026 | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Abbeyfield School</b><br><br>Mereway<br>Northampton<br>NN4 8BU                                                                    | 941/<br>4007 | 01604 763616<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk">enquiries@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.abbeyfieldschool.org.uk">www.abbeyfieldschool.org.uk</a> | Mr Richard Shaw       | 240 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18) | No                               | No   | 317                               | No                       |
| <b>Campion School</b><br><br>Kislingbury Road<br>Bugbrooke<br>Northamptonshire<br>NN7 3QG                                            | 941/<br>4051 | 01604 833900<br><a href="mailto:csoffice@campionschool.org.uk">csoffice@campionschool.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.campionschool.org.uk">www.campionschool.org.uk</a>               | Mrs Kim Bradley-Smith | 240 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18) | No                               | No   | 481                               | No                       |
| <b>Caroline Chisholm School</b><br><br>The Wooldale Centre for Learning<br>Wooldale Road<br>Wootton Fields<br>Northampton<br>NN4 6TP | 941/<br>4005 | 01604 344744<br><a href="mailto:office@ccs.northants.sch.uk">office@ccs.northants.sch.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk">www.ccs.northants.sch.uk</a>                   | Mr Chris Bishop       | 219 | Academy<br>(age 4 to 18)  | No                               | No   | 565                               | Yes                      |
| <b>Chenderit School</b><br><br>Archery Road<br>Middleton Cheney<br>Near Banbury<br>OX17 2QR                                          | 941/<br>4089 | 01295 71156<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@chenderit.net">enquiries@chenderit.net</a><br><a href="http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk">www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk</a>                | Mr Chris Billings     | 180 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18) | Portfolio for Arts Aptitude only | No   | 460                               | Yes                      |

| School                                                                              | DfE No.      | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                                        | Principal          | PAN | Type of school         | SIF                      | Test                   | Number of prefs received for 2026 | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>DSL V E-ACT Academy</b><br><br>Hawke Road<br>Daventry<br>NN11 4LJ                | 941/<br>2022 | 01327 313400<br><a href="mailto:DSLVenquiries@e-act.org.uk">DSLVenquiries@e-act.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.dslvacademy.e-act.org.uk">www.dslvacademy.e-act.org.uk</a>                           | Ms Sarah Hadlow    | 120 | Academy (age 4 to 18)  | No                       | No                     | 168                               | No                       |
| <b>Duston School, The</b><br><br>Berrywood Road<br>Duston<br>Northampton<br>NN5 6XA | 941/<br>4066 | 01604 460004<br><a href="mailto:admissions@thedustonschool.org">admissions@thedustonschool.org</a><br><a href="http://www.thedustonschool.org">www.thedustonschool.org</a>                             | Mr Sam Strickland  | 180 | Academy (age 4 to 18)  | No                       | No                     | 584                               | Yes                      |
| <b>Elizabeth Woodville School</b><br><br>Stratford Road<br>Deanshanger<br>MK19 6HN  | 941/<br>4041 | 01908 563468<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@ews.tove.org.uk">enquiries@ews.tove.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.ewsacademy.org.uk">www.ewsacademy.org.uk</a>                                           | Mrs Hannah Jones   | 120 | Academy (age 11 to 18) | No                       | No                     | 158                               | No                       |
| <b>Guilsborough Academy</b><br><br>West Haddon Road<br>Guilsborough<br>NN6 8QE      | 941/<br>4042 | 01604 740641<br><a href="mailto:info@guilsborough.northants.sch.uk">info@guilsborough.northants.sch.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.guilsborough.northants.sch.uk">www.guilsborough.northants.sch.uk</a> | Mr Simon Frazer    | 238 | Academy (age 11 to 18) | No                       | No                     | 357                               | No                       |
| <b>Kingsthorpe College</b><br><br>Boughton Green Road<br>Northampton<br>NN2 7HR     | 941/<br>4071 | 01604 716106<br><a href="mailto:admissions@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk">admissions@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk">www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk</a>     | Mrs Sharan Matharu | 240 | Academy (age 11 to 18) | Yes – Arts Aptitude only | For Arts Aptitude only | 391                               | No                       |

| School                                                                                 | DfE No.      | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                                          | Principal        | PAN | Type of school                  | SIF                                               | Test                             | Number of prefs received for 2026 | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Magdalen College School</b><br><br>Waynflete Avenue<br>Brackley<br>NN13 6FB         | 941/<br>4550 | 01280 846300<br><a href="mailto:info@magdalen.northants.sch.uk">info@magdalen.northants.sch.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.magdalen.northants.sch.uk">www.magdalen.northants.sch.uk</a>                   | Mr S Farar       | 240 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)       | No                                                | No                               | 261                               | No                       |
| <b>Malcolm Arnold Academy</b><br><br>Trinity Avenue<br>Northampton<br>NN2 6JW          | 941/<br>6910 | 01604 778000<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@malcolmarnoldaacademy.co.uk">enquiries@malcolmarnoldaacademy.co.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.malcolmarnoldaacademy.co.uk">www.malcolmarnoldaacademy.co.uk</a> | Miss Clare Berry | 240 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)       | Yes –<br>for faith<br>criteria<br>and<br>Aptitude | For<br>Music<br>Aptitude<br>only | 483                               | No                       |
| <b>Moulton School &amp; Science College</b><br><br>Pound Lane<br>Moulton<br>NN3 7SD    | 941/<br>4022 | 01604 641600<br><a href="mailto:admin.dept@moultonschool.co.uk">admin.dept@moultonschool.co.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.moultonschool.co.uk">www.moultonschool.co.uk</a>                               | Mr Barrie Murphy | 240 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)       | No                                                | No                               | 642                               | Yes                      |
| <b>Northampton Academy</b><br><br>Wellingborough Road<br>Northampton<br>NN3 8NH        | 941/<br>6905 | 01604 210017<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@northampton-academy.org">enquiries@northampton-academy.org</a><br><a href="http://www.northampton-academy.org">www.northampton-academy.org</a>                 | Mr Julian Smith  | 270 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)       | No                                                | No                               | 1097                              | Yes                      |
| <b>Northampton International Academy</b><br><br>Barrack Road<br>Northampton<br>NN1 1AA | 941/<br>4018 | 01604 212811<br><a href="mailto:info@nia.emat.uk">info@nia.emat.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.nia.emat.uk">www.nia.emat.uk</a>                                                                           | Mr Martin Serráo | 240 | Free<br>School<br>(age 4 to 18) | No                                                | No                               | 175                               | No                       |

| School                                                                                 | DfE No.      | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                                  | Principal                 | PAN | Type of school                       | SIF | Test          | Number of prefs received for 2026 | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Northampton School</b><br><br>Thorpeville<br>Northampton<br>NN3 7TR                 | 941/<br>4002 | 01604 815815<br><a href="mailto:dnicholson@nsbtrust.school">dnicholson@nsbtrust.school</a><br><a href="http://www.northamptonsschool.co.uk">www.northamptonsschool.co.uk</a>                     | Mr Matthew Edwards        | 220 | Free School<br>(age 11 to 16)        | Yes | Yes – for all | 1054                              | Yes                      |
| <b>Northampton School for Boys</b><br><br>Billing Road<br>Northampton<br>NN1 5RT       | 941/<br>5404 | 01604 230240<br><a href="mailto:dnicholson@nsbtrust.school">dnicholson@nsbtrust.school</a><br><a href="http://www.nsb.northants.sch.uk">www.nsb.northants.sch.uk</a>                             | Mr Richard Bernard        | 215 | Single Sex Academy<br>(age 11 to 18) | Yes | Yes – for all | 1011                              | Yes                      |
| <b>Northampton School for Girls</b><br><br>Spinney Hill Road<br>Northampton<br>NN3 6DG | 941/<br>4076 | 01604 679540<br><a href="mailto:admissions@nsg.northants.sch.uk">admissions@nsg.northants.sch.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.nsg.northants.sch.uk">www.nsg.northants.sch.uk</a>                   | Mrs Cristina Taboada-Naya | 270 | Single Sex Academy<br>(age 11 to 18) | No  | Yes – for all | 659                               | Yes                      |
| <b>Parker E-ACT Academy, The</b><br><br>Ashby Road<br>Daventry<br>NN11 0QE             | 941/<br>4001 | 01327 705816<br><a href="mailto:theparkerenquiries@e-act.org.uk">theparkerenquiries@e-act.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.theparkeracademy.e-act.org.uk">www.theparkeracademy.e-act.org.uk</a> | Mr Maughan Johnson        | 210 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)            | No  | No            | 248                               | No                       |
| <b>Road Village Academy</b><br><br>Stratford Road<br>Road<br>NN7 2LX                   | 941/<br>4006 | 01604 862125<br><a href="mailto:enquiries@rva.tove.org.uk">enquiries@rva.tove.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.rodevillageacademy.org.uk">www.rodevillageacademy.org.uk</a>                     | Miss Emma Reed            | 120 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)            | No  | No            | 208                               | No                       |

| School                                                                                                      | DfE No.      | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                    | Principal        | PAN | Type of school               | SIF                                                  | Test | Number of prefs received for 2026 | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sponne School</b><br><br>Brackley Road<br>Towcester<br>NN12 6DJ                                          | 941/<br>4004 | 01327 350284<br><a href="mailto:info@sponne.org.uk">info@sponne.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.sponne.org.uk">www.sponne.org.uk</a>                                             | Mr Graham Forbes | 232 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)    | No                                                   | No   | 356                               | Yes                      |
| <b>St Thomas Becket Catholic School</b><br><br>Becket Way<br>Kettering Road North<br>Northampton<br>NN3 6HT | 941/<br>4703 | 01604 493211<br><a href="mailto:office@thomasbecket.org.uk">office@thomasbecket.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.thomasbecket.org.uk">www.thomasbecket.org.uk</a>                 | Mr Paul McCahill | 180 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)    | No – but may need to provide docs for faith criteria | No   | 360                               | No                       |
| <b>Weston Favell Academy</b><br><br>Booth Lane South<br>Northampton<br>NN3 3EZ                              | 941/<br>4000 | 01604 402121<br><a href="mailto:admin@westonfavellacademy.org">admin@westonfavellacademy.org</a><br><a href="http://www.westonfavellacademy.org">www.westonfavellacademy.org</a>   | Mr Tim Marston   | 270 | Academy<br>(age 11 to 18)    | No                                                   | No   | 502                               | No                       |
| <b>Wootton Park School</b><br><br>Wootton Hall Park<br>Northampton<br>NN4 0HZ                               | 941/<br>4020 | 01604 931139<br><a href="mailto:info@woottonparkschool.org.uk">info@woottonparkschool.org.uk</a><br><a href="http://www.woottonparkschool.org.uk">www.woottonparkschool.org.uk</a> | Mr Dan Rosser    | 60  | Free School<br>(age 4 to 18) | No                                                   | No   | 1020                              | Yes                      |

## UTCs in West Northamptonshire

| School                                                                     | DfE Number | Contact details                                                                                                                                                                | Principal         | PAN                                                                                   | Type of school     | SIF | Test | Number of prefs received for 2026                                           | Oversubscribed for 2026? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Silverstone UTC</b><br><br>Silverstone Circuit<br>Towcester<br>NN12 8TL | 941/4011   | 01327 855010<br><br><a href="mailto:info@utc-silverstone.co.uk">info@utc-silverstone.co.uk</a><br><br><a href="http://www.utc-silverstone.co.uk">www.utc-silverstone.co.uk</a> | Mrs Angela Murphy | 110 – High Performance Engineering<br><br>28 – Business & Technical Events Management | UTC (age 14 to 18) | Yes | No   | High Performance Engineering = 196<br><br>Business & Events Management = 54 | Yes                      |

# Secondary schools in West Northants

## Abbeyfield School (941/4007)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Abbeyfield School website](#).

### Oversubscription criteria

When there are more applications for places than there are places available, and after the allocation of places to children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school, priority will then be given in the following order:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children
2. Children of staff at Abbeyfield School in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a) The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or
  - b) The member of staff is appointed to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
3. Children who will have a brother or sister currently enrolled at Abbeyfield School at the time of admission of the child
4. Children who live closer to Abbeyfield School than any other secondary school
5. Other children

If the PAN is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. If two applications cannot otherwise be separated, for example if the distance from home to school is identical for two or more applicants, random allocation will be used to decide who has the highest priority for admission.

### Definition of a Sibling

- A brother or sister living at the same address, who shares the same parents
- A half-brother or half-sister living at the same address, where two children share one common parent
- A stepbrother or stepsister living at the same address, where two children are related by a parent's marriage
- Children living in the same family unit, even if they are not biological brothers and sisters – for example when the parents are not married/in a civil relationship
- Adopted or fostered children living in the same household

### Children of Staff

The staff member must be a full or part-time member of teaching or non-teaching staff directly employed by the school/trust. This does not include staff working for outside agencies on the school site. The staff member and child must live at the same address as part of the same family unit for this criterion to apply.

## Campion School (941/4051)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Campion School website](#).

### Oversubscription Criteria

When the school is oversubscribed and after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff (teaching and support staff employed on a permanent basis):
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application is made, and/or
  - b) where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is demonstrable skill shortage for the vacant post in question
3. Pupils who live in the linked area (see below), who have an older brother or sister at Campion School at the time of application
4. Pupils who live in the linked area associated with the school: The civil parishes of Astcote, Banbury Lane, Blisworth, Brington, Brockhall, Bugbrooke, Cold Higham, Dalscote, Eastcote, Flore, Fosters Booth, Gayton, Grimscote, Harpole, Kislingbury, Litchborough, Lower Heyford, Milton Malsor, Nether Heyford, Nobottle, Pattishall, Pineham Barns, Rothersthorpe, Upper Heyford, Whilton, Whilton Locks, Upton Meadows (South of Weedon Road, West of Upton Way), Weedon Bec.
5. Pupils who do not live in the linked area who have an older brother or sister at Campion School at the time of application
6. Pupils attending the designated contributory Primary Schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Blisworth Community Primary School, Brington Primary School, Bugbrooke Community Primary School, Flore CE Primary School, Gayton CE Primary School, Harpole Primary School, Kislingbury CE Primary School, Milton Parochial Primary School, Pattishall CE Primary School, Rothersthorpe CE Primary School, The Bliss Charity School and Upton Meadows Primary School
7. All other children

### Tiebreaker

If the admission number is exceeded within criterion 4, priority will be given to those who live furthest from the nearest alternative state-funded secondary school. If the admission number is exceeded in any other criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. In the event that two or more applicants are tied for the final place, and the distance from home to school is identical, the place will be allocated using a computerised random allocation process. Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings from the same family tied for the final place. Where the final place is offered to a twin, triplet or multiple birth, a place will be offered above the PAN to the other twin, triplet or multiple birth children.

### Sibling

Children living in the same family household, who have a sibling on the roll of the school at the time of application to the school. Sibling includes brother or sister, half brother or sister, legally adopted brother or sister, stepbrother or sister, or the child of the parent/carers partner, and in

every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address. Cousins are not regarded as siblings.

## **Caroline Chisholm School (941/4005)**

**In accordance with the school's all-through status, children who are already in attendance at Caroline Chisholm School at the end of year 6 automatically transition into year 7 for the secondary phase without the need to reapply.**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Caroline Chisholm School website](#).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

Places will be allocated to students who have an Education Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as appropriate provision. If the number of applications exceeds the number of places remaining, priority will then be given to children in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff
3. Students with a sibling continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child
4. Students who live in the linked areas of Grange Park, Wootton, Wootton Fields, St George's Fields, Courteenhall and Quinton associated with the school
5. For applications to Year 7 as part of the co-ordinated rounds, students attending the designated contributory primary schools (i.e. Preston Hedges Primary School, Woodland View Primary School and Wootton Primary School) and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made for admission to secondary phase
6. Other students

### **Distance Tiebreaker**

If the admission number is exceeded in any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. Should two distances be the same, a process of random allocation will be used.

### **Linked Area**

Wootton, Wootton Fields and St George's Field: Bounded by the A45 to the west, the B526 Newport Pagnell Road to the north, Wooldale Road to the south and the extent of the St George's Field development to the east accessed via the B526 Newport Pagnell Road.

Grange Park: The development to the east of Saxon Avenue, bounded by Saxon Avenue to the west, the M1 to the south, and Bridge Meadow Way, Little Field and Lark Lane to the north.

The village of Quinton and hamlet of Courteenhall lie to the southeast and east respectively.

### **Children of Staff**

- Staff (both teaching and non-teaching, full-time and part-time) who have been directly employed by Caroline Chisholm School for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or employed to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- Members of staff on a temporary/fixed term contract providing the term of their contract fits the timescales above to qualify for staff status.

## Sibling

A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify under this criterion. This includes:

- Brothers or sisters sharing the same parents.
- Half-brothers or half-sisters, where two or more children share one common parent.
- Stepbrothers or stepsisters, where two or more children are related by a parent's marriage or partnership.
- Children adopted to parents with other children.

A student in the school will only count to provide a priority to a sibling if he or she is attending the school in Year Reception to Year 12 at the time the allocations are made and is still expected to be on the school's roll at the time of the proposed admission.

## Chenderit School (941/4089)

### Important:

If parents/carers would like their child to be considered under the Visual Arts Aptitude criterion for the normal admissions round, a portfolio must be submitted to the school by **3pm on Friday 16 October 2026**, in addition to making their application through their local authority. See below and on the [School website](#) for more information about the Arts Aptitude.

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Chenderit School website](#).

## Oversubscription criteria

Places will first be allocated to children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as offering the appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will then be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Pupils who live in the linked area associated with the school: Appletree, Aston-le-Walls, Chacombe, Chipping Warden, Culworth, Edgcote, Farthinghoe, Greatworth, Kings Sutton, Lower Boddington, Marston St Lawrence, Middleton Cheney, Moreton Pinkney, Overthorpe, Plumpton, Stuchbury, Sulgrave, Thenford, Thorpe Mandeville, Upper Boddington, Warkworth, Weedon Lois, Weston and Wappenham
3. Pupils who will have an older brother or sister continuing at Chenderit School who is expected to remain on roll at the time of admission of the younger child
4. Pupils attending the designated contributory Primary Schools: Boddington CE Primary Academy, Chacombe CE Primary Academy, Chipping Warden Primary Academy, Culworth CE Primary Academy, Farthinghoe Primary School, Greatworth Primary School, King's Sutton Primary Academy, Middleton Cheney Primary Academy, St Loys CE Primary Academy, St Mary's Catholic Primary (Aston-le-Walls)
5. Pupils selected for their aptitude in the visual arts. A maximum of 10% of the intake will be selected through the presentation of a portfolio and assessments as to aptitude. If you are applying for one of the aptitude places you will need to submit a portfolio to the school by the closing date for consideration, which is **3pm on Friday 16 October 2026**. Please contact the school directly for details of what to include in your portfolio – details are also available on the [school website](#)

6. Children of a member of staff who has been directly employed by Chenderit School for a period of not less than 2 calendar years at the time of the child's application and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage leading to the child's admission in the following academic year
7. Other pupils

### **Allocation to PAN**

If the admission number is exceeded within criterion **5**, priority will be given according to aptitude scores. If the admission number is exceeded within any other criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

## **DSL V E-ACT Academy (941/2022)**

**This is an all-through school. Children in Year 6 will automatically transfer to Year 7 and do not need to apply for a place.**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [DSL V E-ACT Academy website](#).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

All children whose Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be given to those children who meet any of the criteria set out below, in order, until all places are filled.

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who will have siblings on the roll of the school at the point of the new pupil joining the school.
3. Children whose parent/carer is employed by E-ACT (teaching and non-teaching) and whose place of employment is the academy and who has either:
  - a) been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.
  - b) been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a recruited to fill a vacancy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Other children

### **Tiebreaker**

Where two or more applications cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined above, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school. Where two or more applicants live at the same distance from the school and it is therefore not possible to determine priority, random allocation will be used to decide between them.

In the case of twins or other multiple births, where one child is offered the final place, the school may admit the other child or children from the same multiple birth.

### **Sibling**

A sibling is a brother or sister, half brother or sister (sharing one common parent), stepbrother or sister living at the same address, and adopted or fostered children living at the same address.

## Duston School, The (941/4066)

**This is an all-through school. Children already on roll in Year 6 will automatically transfer to Year 7 and do not need to apply for a place.**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit [The Duston School website](#).

### Oversubscription criteria

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff (teaching and non-teaching, full and part-time, permanent members of staff) in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a) The member of staff has been employed directly by The Duston School for two or more years at the time at which the application for the admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
3. Priority will next be given to children with siblings at the school at the time of application. Siblings include step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and are living as a family unit with one or both parents. For the sibling link to apply, a brother or sister must live at the same address when the application is made. If siblings live between two addresses, applicants must provide proof to show that the main address is the same for both children
4. Other pupils

### Tie break

In the case of two or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined above, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Where the distance between two children's homes and the school is the same, random allocation will be used to decide between them. If the last child to be allocated a place is a twin or a child from a multiple birth group, the other twin or children from the multiple birth group will also be allocated a place even if this means going over PAN.

### Children of staff

In order for the staff criterion to be applied, the child should reside at the same address as the member of staff.

## Elizabeth Woodville School

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the website.

### Oversubscription criteria

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. If the school is not oversubscribed, all applicants will be

offered a place. In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be allocated according to the oversubscription criteria below in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who have an older brother or sister continuing at Elizabeth Woodville School during the year of application of the younger child and who live at the same address as the application (within a family unit) including adopted children, stepbrothers, stepsisters and children in foster care
3. Children who live in the linked area associated with the school: Alderton, Cosgrove, Deanshanger, Furtho, Grafton Regis, Heathencote, Old Stratford, Passenham, Paulerspury, Potterspury, Pury End, Puxley, Wicken, Yardley Gobion
4. Children of current staff working at the school where:
  - a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
5. Children attending the designated contributory primary schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Cosgrove Village Primary School, Deanshanger Primary School, John Hellins Primary School, Old Stratford Primary School, Paulerspury CE School, Yardley Gobion CE Primary
6. Other children

In the case of two or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to the address point of the school, using a geographical information system. Where the distance between two children's homes and the school site is the same, random allocation will be used to decide between them.

## **Guildsborough Academy (941/4042)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Guildsborough Academy website](#).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

Places will first be allocated to children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as offering the appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff at the school, in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a) Where the member of staff has been employed by Guildsborough Academy for one or more years at the time which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) Where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage
3. Children who live in the civil parishes of Arthingworth, Clay Coton, Clipston, Cold Ashby, Cottesbrooke, Creaton, Crick, East Farndon, East Haddon, Elkington, Great Oxendon,

Guilsborough, Haselbech, Holdenby, Hollowell (including Teeton), Kelmarsh, Lilbourne, Long Buckby (including Buckby Wharf), Marston Trussell (including Hothorpe and Thorpe Lubenham), Naseby, Ravensthorpe (including Coton), Sibbertoft, Spratton, Stanford on Avon, Sulby, Thornby, Watford, Welford, West Haddon, Winwick and Yelvertoft

4. Children with a brother or sister at the school who is expected to remain on roll at the time of admission of the child
5. Pupils attending the designated contributory primary schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Clipston Endowed VC Primary School, Crick Primary School, East Haddon CE Primary School, Guilsborough CE Primary School, Long Buckby Junior School, Maidwell Primary School, Naseby CE Primary Academy, Spratton CE Primary Academy, Welford, Sibbertoft & Sulby Endowed School, West Haddon Endowed CE Primary School, Yelvertoft Primary School
6. Other children

### **Allocation to PAN:**

If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

### **Twins or other multiple births**

In the case of twins or other multiple births from the same household, if, when applying the oversubscription criteria, one twin or multiple birth is offered a place and the other is not, then a place will be offered to the other twin or multiple birth sibling above the Published Admission Number. If the qualifying sibling withdraws, then the second place (or places) will be forfeited.

### **Siblings**

A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify under this criterion. For School Admissions purposes, the term sibling includes:

- stepbrothers and stepsisters
- half-brothers and half-sisters, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address.

### **Children of Staff**

A staff member is defined as a permanent full or part-time member of teaching or non-teaching staff employed directly by the school or Trust. The child must be living for at least part of the week with the staff member to be eligible to be considered under this criterion.

## **Kingsthorpe College (941/4071)**

### **Important:**

If parents/carers would like their child to be considered under the Visual or Performing Arts Aptitude criterion for the normal admissions round, a SIF "Aptitude Admissions," available from the school, must be completed and returned to the school. **Please check with the school for deadline.** Visit the [College website](#) for more information about deadlines and workshop dates.

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the Kingsthorpe College website.

## **Oversubscription criteria**

Following the admission of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the college as appropriate provision, where the College is oversubscribed, places will be allocated using the following criteria:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff at Kingsthorpe College where any of the following conditions are met:
  - a) The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or
  - b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
3. Up to 24 students with a demonstrated particular aptitude in the visual or performing arts (art, dance, drama or music). Students will be selected through workshops. All applicants will be scored across a range of skills within their area of aptitude. If there are more applications than places available, applicants who meet the scoring requirements will be ranked in order of distance to the school  
  
If you wish your child to be considered for a place under the criterion aptitude for visual or performing arts (for the normal admissions round only), please complete an 'Aptitude Admissions' form (Supplementary Information Form), available from the college and return it to Kingsthorpe College (deadline to be confirmed). Dates for tests/workshops to be confirmed
4. Students who live in the postcode areas NN2 8, NN2 7, NN3 6
5. Students who will have an older brother or sister continuing at Kingsthorpe College at the time of admission of the younger child (see full definition below)
6. Other students

### **Tie breaker**

Should there be an oversubscription in any criterion, places will be awarded to those students who live nearest to the school. Distances are measured from the address point of the home address to Kingsthorpe College on a straight-line basis using WNC's Geographical Information System.

### **Definition of a sibling**

- A brother or sister living at the same address, who shares the same parents
- A half-brother or half-sister living at the same address, where two children share one common parent
- A stepbrother or stepsister living at the same address, where two children are related by a parent's marriage
- Adopted or fostered children living in the same household

## **Magdalen College School (941/4550)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Magdalen College School website](#).

## Oversubscription criteria

Places will first be allocated to children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as offering the appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will then be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Students who live in the linked area associated with the school, i.e. the parishes of Aynho, Brackley, Croughton, Evenley, Helmdon (including Astwell and Falcutt), Hinton-in-the-Hedges, Newbottle (including Charlton), Radstone, Silverstone, Syresham (including Crowfield) and Whitfield. Also, the villages of Steane and Halse
3. Students who will have a brother or sister continuing at Magdalen College School at the time of admission of the child
4. Students attending the designated contributory primary and junior schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Bracken Leas Primary School, Brackley Junior School, Croughton All Saints CE Primary School, Helmdon Primary School, Newbottle and Charlton CEVA Primary School, The Radstone Primary School, Silverstone CE Primary School and Syresham St James CE Primary School
5. Other students

### Allocation to PAN

If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. In the case where there are multiple applications from the same shared dwelling (e.g. flats) or where the distance between two or more children's homes to the school (using the system referred to above) is identical, a computerized random allocation system will be used to decide which child gets priority.

### Multiple Birth Groups

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the applications will be considered together as one application, meaning we will offer places to all children in the group, even if it means exceeding the PAN.

In the case of siblings (see definition above) in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining, these too will be considered as one application.

## Malcolm Arnold Academy (941/6910)

### Important:

This school requires a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to be completed if you would like your child to be considered under the Faith criterion (Group B). The form is available from the school/on their website and must be returned to the school by 31 October 2026 to be considered for an on-time application. Those wishing to apply under the aptitude criterion (Group C) must **apply for the test by 5 October 2026** via the school website.

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Malcolm Arnold Academy website](#).

## Oversubscription criteria

When there are more applications for places than there are places available, and after the admission of children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the school, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. **Group A** – Up to 60 places allocated to students who attend Malcolm Arnold Preparatory School at the time of application to Malcolm Arnold Academy
3. **Group B** - Up to 120 places allocated to those expressing a preference for admission under Faith Grounds, such places being awarded using the following sub-criteria in descending order. Applicants wishing to be considered under this criterion must complete a Supplementary Information Form which can be obtained from the Academy and returned by 31 October
  - i. Applicants who have demonstrated the required religious allegiance (as certified in a satisfactorily completed Form SIF/B) to the Church of England or any other church that is a member of Churches Together in England **and** the student is currently attending a designated link school. The following schools are defined as designated link schools: All Saints CEVA Primary School, Collingtree CEVA Primary School, St Andrew's CEVA Primary School, St James' CEVA Primary School, St Luke's CEVA Primary School, Weston Favell CEVA Primary School
  - ii. Other applicants who have demonstrated the required religious allegiance (as certified in a satisfactorily completed Form SIF/B) to the Church of England or any church that is a member of [Churches Together in England](#)
  - iii. Applicants who have demonstrated the required religious allegiance (as certified in a satisfactorily completed Form SIF/B) to another faith.
4. **Group C** - Up to 24 students who display an aptitude for learning music. A child with aptitude is one who is identified as being able to benefit from the teaching in Music, or who demonstrates a particular capacity to succeed in this subject.
5. **Group D** - places are allocated on Community Grounds as follows with the remaining places being awarded using the following criteria in descending order:
  - i. Admission of students whose siblings currently attend either Malcolm Arnold Preparatory school or Malcolm Arnold Academy and who will continue to do so on the date of admission
  - ii. Admission of students currently attending a named feeder school (Briar Hill Primary, Cedar Road Primary, Eastfield Academy, Kings Heath Primary, The Arbours Primary Academy)
  - iii. Children whose parent/carer in all staff groups are employed by the trust to work at the academy:
    - a) Where the member of staff has been employed to work at the academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, or

- b) where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at Malcolm Arnold Academy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

## **6. Other children**

### **Allocation of Places up to PAN**

In the event of oversubscription within any criteria, places will be allocated prioritising children who live closest to the academy. If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, random allocation will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

### **Multiple Births and Brothers and Sisters in the Same Year Group**

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth group, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the other children in the group will also be offered places, even if it means exceeding the admission number.

In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining, places will be allocated over the published admission number to accommodate all siblings unless this would make the class too large and prejudice the education of the other children.

## **Definitions**

### **Group B – ‘Faith Grounds’**

‘Religious allegiance’ is demonstrated and defined as at least one of the parents or guardians of the child being regarded by the priest/minister/worship leader as part of the worshipping community at the church/worship centre. This would not necessarily mean that the parent or child is a ‘member’ in a technical sense (e.g., through baptism, confirmation or electoral roll) but would imply a pattern of attendance at worship (on Sunday or at other times) that is more than ‘occasional’ and has been sustained for more than a short, very recent period of time.

### **Group C – ‘Aptitude for the learning of Music’**

To apply for a place under this criterion, parents/carers must complete a musical aptitude form as well as the common application form (CAF). The process is as follows:

- Complete a CAF and return it to your local authority by 31 October
- Apply for a musical aptitude test by 5 October 2026
- Applicants are also encouraged to audition for a Beckwith scholarship at the same time as applying for a place at the academy. Eligibility for a Beckwith scholarship does not impact on whether an applicant is offered a place at the academy; scholarships are awarded after a place has been offered
- Applications to be made online via the [school website](#)
- Aptitude testing will take place at the academy on 7 October 2026
- There will be no further test days after the application deadline
- Parents/carers will be notified of the result of aptitude testing by 19 October 2026

Note: Parents/carers are notified of the results of these tests prior to the deadline for return of Common Application Forms (CAF). If on receiving these results, parents/carers decide they wish to apply to the academy, they must list Malcolm Arnold Academy as one of the preferences on the CAF. Parents/carers should be aware that the result of the test does not guarantee a place at the school.

## Moulton School & Science College (941/4022)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Moulton School & Science College website](#).

### Oversubscription criteria

Places will first be allocated to children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as offering the appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will then be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Students who live in the defined area associated with Moulton School & Science College (MSSC)
3. Students attending, at the time of application, MSSC's designated contributory primary schools (i.e. Boughton Primary School, Brixworth CEVC Primary School, Harlestone Primary School, Moulton Primary School, Overstone Primary School, Pitsford Primary School, Sywell CEVA Primary School, The Bramptons Primary School and Walgrave Primary School and continuing in attendance until the formal offer of places is made.
4. Students who are children of staff employed by the school (teaching and non-teaching, full and part-time, permanent members of staff) in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed at MSSC for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to MSSC is made, and/or
  - b) where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage
5. Students who will have a sibling continuing at MSSC in the year of admission
6. Other students

If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. In the case where there are multiple applications from the same shared dwelling (e.g., flats) or where the distance between two or more children's homes to the school is identical, random allocation will be used to decide which child gets priority.

### Defined Area

The defined area for the school is the parishes of: Boughton (including Buckton Fields), Brixworth, Scaldwell, Harlestone, Harlestone Manor, Althorp, Moulton, Overstone (including Overstone Leys), Pitsford, Sywell, Church with Chapel Brampton, Walgrave, Hannington, Holcot and Old and the area to the south of Moulton village known as Moulton Leys, defined by Moulton parish to the north, the A43 to the east, Talavera Way (A5076) to the south-east and Moulton Way/Boughton Lane to the south-west.

### Staff child

The child must be living at the same address as the staff member and includes adopted, foster and stepchildren, living as part of the same family unit (including those where the parents are not married/in a civil relationship).

## Northampton Academy (941/6905)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Northampton Academy website](#).

## Oversubscription criteria

When the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to these children who meet the criteria set out below in priority order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of a member of staff – To ensure the highest quality of teaching staff, priority will be given to children of staff where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage or where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time when the application for admission to the Academy is made
3. Sibling link – children who have a sibling attending the Academy on National Secondary application deadline day
4. Other children

### Tiebreaker

If in criteria 2-4 above, a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted, the child living closest to the school will be given priority for admission. If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings from the same family tied for the final place. Where the final place available was offered to a child from a multiple birth, a place will be offered above the published admissions number to the other children in the multiple birth group.

### Definition of Sibling

“Sibling” means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister, a stepbrother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place. A sibling link includes foster siblings. A sibling link does not apply to cousins or other more distant relations or to any sibling living at a different address.

## Northampton International Academy (941/4018)

**This is an all-through school. Children on roll in Year 6 will automatically transfer to Year 7 and do not need to apply for a place.**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Northampton International Academy website](#).

## Oversubscription criteria

Places will be allocated to children who have an EHC plan naming the school as appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will then be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Siblings of pupils who will continue to attend NIA
3. Children of staff employed at NIA:
  - a) Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or

- b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- 4. Pupils from Castle Academy
- 5. Pupils who live closer to the preferred school than any other school
- 6. Other children

### Allocation to PAN

If the published admission number (PAN) is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

### Multiple Birth Groups

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the other children in the group will also be offered places, even if it means exceeding the Published Admission Number. In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining which is to be offered to one sibling, the other too will be offered a place.

### Children of staff

The staff member must be a full or part-time member of teaching or non-teaching staff directly employed by the school/trust. This does not include staff working for outside agencies on the school site. The staff member and child must live at the same address as part of the same family unit for this criterion to apply.

## Northampton School (941/4002)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Northampton School website](#).

### Important:

**All students who seek a place at the school under any criteria must complete a Northampton School Supplementary Information Form and submit it to the school by midnight on 31 October 2026, as well as submitting their common application form to their Local Authority by midnight on 31 October 2026. [Please click here to access the Northampton School Admissions webpage](#). All applicants will be required to attend on the morning of Saturday 14 November 2026 to sit a Common Ability Test.**

In addition to the above, if they wish to be considered under the Aptitude criterion, students must attend the aptitude test days which take place in the week commencing 12 October 2026 (dance, drama and sport) and on 19 October 2026 (music). Parents/carers should book an appointment time via [the school's website](#), prior to the relevant test date.

### Oversubscription criteria

Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan will be admitted to the school where the school (after consultation with the Local Authority) has been named on the EHC plan as appropriate provision. If the school is oversubscribed, places are allocated using the following oversubscription criteria set out below in the following order.

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children

2. 10% (22) children registered as eligible for Free School Meals and children who have been registered as eligible for Free School Meals at any point in the last six years. Evidence of eligibility will be obtained after the closing date
3. Children of staff directly employed by the NSB Trust where either or both of the following conditions are met:
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed by the NSB Trust to work at Northampton School as their primary place of work for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
4. Siblings of pupils attending either Northampton School or Northampton School for Boys on the closing date for applications
5. Aptitude – 10% of the PAN will be allocated to children who have demonstrated an aptitude in our specialist areas of Performing Arts (12 places) and Sport (10 places).
6. Children living with the defined catchment area as set out on the map below within the red area. If the number of applicants falling under this criterion in any one band exceeds the number of places available, then those allocated a place will be decided by random allocation
7. The remaining places are allocated using a system of Norm Referenced Banding

## **Banding**

**All** applicants to the school will take the same Common Ability Test on **Saturday 14 November 2026**. The test will be used to place ALL applicants into five equal sized ability bands. An equal number of applicants will be selected fairly from each band. Children who sit the test or who provide a reason with supporting evidence for non-attendance will be considered for places before those who have not.

Where in any criterion the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available in a band, a process of random allocation will be applied. Such process will be overseen by an independent third party.

For more information on Banding, please visit [the school website](#).

## **Aptitude**

Students who wish to have the opportunity of gaining a place under the Aptitude criterion **must** attend the Aptitude test days which occur prior to the application deadline. There will be no further opportunity to be tested for aptitude after these dates. You must book a test time online to be able to sit the Aptitude Test/s. Please visit [the school's website](#) for more information and to book.

The Sport, Dance and Drama Aptitude tests will take place in the week beginning 12 October 2026.

The Music Aptitude test will take place on Monday 19 October 2026.

## **Catchment area**



### Children of Staff

A 'direct employee' is taken to be any member of staff (teaching or non-teaching) with two years continuous employment. "Children of staff" is taken to include a son, daughter or stepson/daughter, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address as the parent who is employed by the school.

### Sibling

For the purposes of this criterion, 'sibling' is taken to include a stepbrother/sister, half-brother/sister, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address.

### Twins or other multiple births

In the case of twins or other multiple births from the same household, if, when applying the oversubscription criteria, one twin or multiple birth sibling is offered a place and the other is not, then a place will be offered to the other twin or multiple birth sibling above the Published Admission Number. If the qualifying sibling withdraws, then the second place (or places) will be forfeited.

## Northampton School for Boys (941/5404)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Northampton School for Boys website](#).

**Important:**

All students who seek a place at the school under **any** criteria **must** complete an **NSB Supplementary Information Form** and submit it to the school by **midnight on 31 October 2026**, as well as submitting their common application form to their Local Authority by **midnight on 31 October 2026**. [Please click here to access the Northampton School for Boys Admissions webpage](#). All applicants will be required to attend on the morning of **Saturday 14 November 2026** to sit a Common Ability Test.

In addition to the above, if they wish to be considered under the Aptitude criterion, students must attend the aptitude test days which take place on 10 October 2026 (technology) and 19 October 2026 (music). Parents/carers should book an appointment time via [the school's website](#), prior to the relevant test date.

This is a single sex school for boys aged 11-18 which admits girls into the Sixth Form only.

## **Oversubscription criteria**

Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan will be admitted to the school where the school, after consultation with the Local Authority, has been named on the EHC plan as an appropriate provision. If the school is oversubscribed, places are then allocated using the following oversubscription criteria:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children of staff directly employed by the NSB Trust where either or both of the following conditions are met:
  - a) where the member of staff has been employed by the NBS Trust to work at Northampton School for Boys (NSB) as their primary place of work for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
3. Sibling Link – where an elder brother/sister, living at the same address, are on roll and attending either NSB or Northampton School on the closing date for applications
4. Aptitude – 10% of places are awarded to boys with a demonstrated particular aptitude for Music and/or Technology, approximately half in each specialism
5. The remaining places are allocated using a system of Norm Referenced Banding as described in the DfE School Admissions Code

## **Banding**

All applicants will be required to attend on the morning of **Saturday 14 November 2026** in order to sit a Common Ability Test (CAT), the results of which will be used to both operate the banding system fairly and to provide valuable management information used for setting purposes. Those sitting the test will be considered for a place before those who do not sit the test unless the school is provided with a reason with supporting evidence for non-attendance.

For more information on the CAT and how banding operates, see the school's admission arrangements on [the school's website](#).

## **Aptitude**

Students who wish to have the opportunity of gaining a place under the Aptitude criterion **must** attend the Aptitude test days which occur prior to the deadline for completing the NSB supplementary information form. There will be no further opportunity to be tested for aptitude after these dates. You must book a test time online to be able to sit the Aptitude Test/s. Please visit the school's website for more information and to book.

The Technology Aptitude test will take place on **Saturday 10 October 2026**.

The Music Aptitude test will take place on **Monday 19 October 2026**.

### **Children of Staff**

A 'direct employee' is taken to be any member of staff (teaching or non-teaching) with two years continuous employment with the school or seasonal employment totalling two years. Staff contracted in to provide services to the school do not count as 'direct employees.' For the purposes of this criterion, 'children of staff' is taken to include a son, daughter or stepson/daughter, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address as the parent who is employed by the school.

### **Sibling**

For the purposes of this criterion, 'sibling' is taken to include a stepbrother/sister, half-brother/sister, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address. Parents/carers applying under this criterion may be required to provide evidence of the address. Although their place is not dependent on the performance in the common ability test, all boys applying for a sibling criterion place are required to sit the test in order that the overall ability range of the intake reflects that of the applicants.

### **Twins or other multiple births**

In the case of twins or other multiple births from the same household, if, when applying the oversubscription criteria, one twin or multiple birth sibling is offered a place and the other is not, then a place will be offered to the other twin or multiple birth sibling above the Published Admission Number. If the qualifying sibling withdraws, then the second place (or places) will be forfeited.

## **Northampton School for Girls (941/4076)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Northampton School for Girls website](#).

### **Important:**

**All** applicants are required to attend an ability banding test on **Saturday 7 November 2026**, regardless of which criterion they are applying under. Following submission of their Common Application Form to their home LA, applicants should register for the CAT via the school's online form by midnight on **2 November 2026**.

Northampton School for Girls (NSG) is a single sex school for girls aged 11-18. Boys are admitted into the Sixth form only.

NSG uses a fair-banding system. This is to ensure that in any given year, the students admitted to the school in the relevant year group are representative of all levels of ability amongst the applicants and that no level of ability is over or under-represented.

## **Oversubscription criteria**

Where there are more applications for places than there are places available, and after the admission of children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the school, priority will be given within each band in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who will have an older sibling on roll at NSG at the time of application and continuing at NSG at the time of admission of the child
3. Children of staff
4. Other children

If the number of places available within any band is reached within any criterion, random allocation will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

## **Banding**

ALL applicants seeking a place under any of the oversubscription criteria, are required to sit a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) for banding purposes. The test will take place on Saturday 7 November 2026. Following submission of their Common Application Form to their home LA, applicants should register for the CAT via the school's online form by midnight on 2 November 2026.

Following the test, applicants will be divided into five equal bands according to ability. An equal number of places will be allocated from each band using the criteria above.

Apart from children with an EHCP naming the school, any applicants not sitting the test will only be allocated places should any be available once all those who have set the test have been offered.

## **Children of staff**

Children of staff (teaching and non-teaching, full and part-time permanent members of staff) directly employed by the school in either or both of the following circumstances:

- a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
- b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

The child must be living at the same address as the staff member and includes adopted, fostered and stepchildren, living as part of the same family unit (including those where the parents are not married or in a civil relationship).

## **Twins, triplets or other multiple births**

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth group, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the other children in the groups will also be offered places even if it means exceeding the PAN.

In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining which is to be offered to one sibling, the other too will be offered a place.

## **Parker E-ACT Academy, The (941/4001)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Parker E-ACT Academy website](#).

## **Oversubscription criteria**

All children whose Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be given to those children who meet any of the criteria set out below, in order, until all places are filled:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who will have siblings on the roll of the school at the point of the new pupil joining the school.
3. Children whose parent/carer is employed by E-ACT (teaching and non-teaching) and whose place of employment is the academy and who has either:
  - a) been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.
  - b) been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a recruited to fill a vacancy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Other children

### **Tiebreaker**

Where two or more applications cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined above, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school. Where two or more applicants live at the same distance from the school and it is therefore not possible to determine priority, random allocation will be used to decide between them.

In the case of twins or other multiple births, where one child is offered the final place, the school may admit the other child or children from the same multiple birth.

### **Sibling**

A sibling is a brother or sister, half brother or sister (sharing one common parent), stepbrother or sister living at the same address, and adopted or fostered children living at the same address.

## **Roade Village Academy (941/4006)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the Roade Village Academy website.

## **Oversubscription criteria**

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. If the school is not oversubscribed, all applicants will be offered a place. In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be allocated according to the oversubscription criteria below in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who have an older brother or sister continuing at Roade Village Academy during the year of application of the younger child and who live at the same address as the application (within a family unit) including adopted children, stepbrothers, stepsisters and children in foster care

3. Students who live in the linked area associated with the school: Ashton, Blisworth, Collingtree, Hackleton, Hardingstone, Hartwell, Horton, Piddington, Preston Deanery, Roade, Shutlanger, Stoke Bruerne, Wootton Hall Park or Grange Park.
4. Children of current staff working at the school where:
  - a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
5. Children attending the designated contributory primary schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Ashton CE Primary School, Blisworth Community Primary School, Collingtree CE Academy, Hackleton CEVA Primary School, Hardingstone Academy, Hartwell Primary School, Roade Primary School, Stoke Bruerne CE Primary School
6. Other children

In the case of two or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to the address point of the school, using a geographical information system. Where the distance between two children's homes and the school site is the same, random allocation will be used to decide between them.

## Sponne School (941/4004)

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Sponne School website](#).

### Oversubscription criteria

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan names the school as appropriate provision will be admitted before any other places are allocated. If the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will then be allocated to those children who meet the criteria below, in order until all places are filled:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children, including stepchildren, of teaching and non-teaching staff working at the school where the member of staff has been employed at the school for at least two years at the time at which the application for admission is made. Alternatively, the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable shortage
3. Children who will have a sibling at Sponne School during the year of application of the younger child and who live at the same address
4. Children who live in the civil parishes of Abthorpe, Adstone, Blakesley (including Foxley), Bradden, Easton Neston, Farthingstone, Greens Norton (including Duncote), Litchborough, Maidford, Silverstone, Slapton, Tiffeld (including Caldecote), Towcester (including Wood Burcote), Wappenham, Whittlebury and Woodend
5. Children attending the designated contributory primary schools (Blakesley CE Primary School, Greens Norton CE Primary School, Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School, Silverstone CE Primary School, Tiffeld CEVA Primary School, Towcester CE Primary School, Whittlebury CE Primary School) and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made

## 6. Other children

### Tie break

In the case of two or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined above, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Where the distance between two children's homes and the school is the same, random allocation will be used to decide between them.

## St Thomas Becket Catholic School (941/4703)

### Important:

The school requires additional documentation if you would like your child to be considered under any of the Faith criteria (2, 3, 4, 8 or 9). Please see details below and on the school website to ensure appropriate additional documentation is returned to the school by 31 October 2026 for consideration in the normal admissions round.

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [St Thomas Becket Catholic School website](#).

### Oversubscription criteria

Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan naming the school will be admitted. If there are more applications than places available, priority will be given as follows:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Catholic children with a Certificate of Catholic Practice who have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission
3. Catholic children with a Certificate of Catholic Practice who attend an OLICAT Primary School designated as a feeder school
4. Other Catholic children
5. Children of staff who have either:
  - a) been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application for admission to that school is made, and/or
  - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
6. Children who have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission
7. Children who attend an OLICAT Primary School designated as a feeder school
8. Children from other Christian denominations whose parents wish them to receive a Christian education whose application is supported by a Christian minister
9. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion or other religious leader
10. Any other children

In the event that any criterion is over-subscribed, priority will be given to applicants in order of geographical proximity to the school (priority being given to the children who live closer to the school). In any situation where the application of the criteria results in more children with an equal

right to admission to the school than the number of available places, the tie-break will be made by random allocation.

### **Faith Criteria**

Please note that documents are required in addition to submitting a common application form for a school place and submission on their own does not constitute an application.

For more information on the definitions used above and in the oversubscription criteria, please view the school's admission arrangements which are published on [the school's website](#).

### **Brother or sister**

This includes all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and the child of a parent's partner where that child for whom the school place is sought lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

### **Feeder Schools**

The OLICAT Primary Schools designated as a feeder school are all in Northamptonshire and are:

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School, Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary School, Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, St Edward's Catholic Primary School, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, St Brendan's Catholic Primary School.

### **Home Address**

This refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.

## **Weston Favell Academy (941/4000)**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Weston Favell Academy website](#).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

Weston Favell Academy will first accept all pupils with a statutory right to a place through an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the Academy. Criteria will be applied for the remaining places in the order in which they are set out below:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children with a sibling on roll at the Academy at the time of application and admission
3. Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the Academy is made, and/or
  - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
4. Other children

If the PAN is reached within any of the above criteria, priority will be given to those whose home address is closest to the Academy. If two children are tied for the last place, then a process of random allocation using a computerised randomiser will determine who is allocated the last place.

### **Sibling**

A sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters or another child normally living for the majority of term time in the same household, where an adult in the household has parental responsibility as defined by the Children Act 1989, or any child in the household where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purposes of Section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This could include a person who is not a parent but who has responsibility for him/her.

### **Twins & Multiple Births**

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, all other children in the group will be offered places at the school.

In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining, places will be allocated over the PAN to accommodate all siblings.

## **Wootton Park School (941/4020)**

**This is an all-through school. Children on roll in Year 6 will automatically transfer to Year 7 and do not need to apply for a place.**

To view the full admission arrangements for 2027 (including definitions used by the admission authority for the school), visit the [Wootton Park School website](#).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

Following the allocation of children with an ECHP naming the school, where more applications are received than the number of places, the Academy will rank applications in accordance with the following oversubscription criteria, in order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children
2. Children who have an older sibling in the secondary phase of the school who attends the Academy at the date of admission
3. Children of staff of the Academy who have been employed for two or more years at the time of the application or are recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Children by distance from the school. After places have been filled under the first three criteria, up to 60% of any remaining places will be offered to those children who live nearest to the school.
5. After places have been allocated under the first four criteria, remaining places will be offered to other children. Where the number of applicants in this criterion exceeds the number of places, offers will be determined by random allocation.

### **Tie Breaker**

If the PAN is exceeded in criteria 1 to 4, priority will be given to those children who live closest to the school. In the case where two applications cannot otherwise be separated, e.g., when two distances are equal, random allocation will be used to determine which child shall be given a place.

## **Sibling**

Sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. Cousins are not regarded as siblings.

## **Children of Staff**

The staff member must be a 'direct employee.' This includes any member of staff (teaching or non-teaching) with two years continuous employment with the school or seasonal employment totalling two years. Staff contracted in to provide services to the school do not count as 'direct employees.' 'Children of staff' is taken to include a son, daughter or stepson/daughter, or child who is adopted or fostered or for whom a special guardianship order is in place, in all cases providing they are living at the same address as the parent who is employed by the school.

## **Multiple Birth Groups**

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted is from a multiple birth group, the other children in the group will also be offered places, even if it means exceeding the PAN. In the case of siblings (see definition above) in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining which is to be offered to one sibling, the other too will be offered a place.

# UTCs in West Northants

## Silverstone UTC (941/4011)

### **Important:**

The Local Authority does not co-ordinate applications for Silverstone UTC. All applicants will need to complete the UTC's online application form and indicate which specialism is being applied for. Applications must be made directly to the UTC by the dates shown in the Key Dates table below.

To view the full admission arrangements (including definitions used the admission authority for the school) for 2027, visit the [Silverstone UTC website](#).

Applicants should state on their application whether their preference is to follow High Performance Engineering or Business & Technical Events Management.

### **Oversubscription criteria**

Where the Silverstone UTC Academy receive more applications than places available, the following oversubscription criteria will apply after the admission of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as appropriate provision. The oversubscription criteria will be applied in the order below:

- a) Looked after children and all previously looked after children
  - b) Children of staff who are employed by Silverstone UTC (either full- or part-time) provided that the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application to the school is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. The child does not have to live with the staff member permanently
  - c) Siblings of existing students at Silverstone UTC. A sibling is defined as a biological or legally adopted brother or sister residing in the same household. This is taken to include a stepbrother/sister, half-brother/sister, or child who is adopted or fostered, in all cases providing they are living at the same address. Cousins, nieces, nephews and unrelated children sharing an address with the applicant are not considered siblings. The older sibling must be continuing at the UTC at the time of admission of the younger sibling
  - d) Remaining places will be allocated by random allocation within each of the following 'zones' as follows:
    - i. 70% of places will be allocated whereby priority is given to applicants whose home address is in the West Northamptonshire postcode areas of NN1 to NN7 and NN11 to NN13
    - ii. 20% of places will be allocated whereby priority is given to applicants whose home address falls in the postcode areas of MK1 to MK16 and MK18 to MK19
    - iii. 10% of places will be allocated to applicants whose home address falls outside of the areas above
- If places remain available from any of the zones above, these will be redistributed to those applicants from zones that are oversubscribed using random allocation

- In the case where West Northamptonshire local authority area is one of the oversubscribed zones, a weighting of places will be applied before random allocation occurs. This will be two places for the West Northamptonshire zone to one place across all the other oversubscribed zones unless no other zones are oversubscribed in which case the West Northamptonshire local authority area will be allocated all remaining places. Random allocation of places will then take place separately across all other zones as a whole
- In the instance where twins apply to join Silverstone UTC, if twin one is offered a space after applying our oversubscription criteria, the UTC will treat the application for twin two (as long as received on the same date and both twins live at the same home address) as equal and offer the second twin a space as well
- Home address” is defined as the home address as registered with the Doctor

### Key Dates in the UTC application process for Year 10 places

| Stage in process                    | Date                                                            | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prepare                             | At any time                                                     | Read the information on our website carefully. Complete an Expression of Interests form on the UTC website. Book onto a UTC open evening and read the online prospectus.                                                                                                                 |
| Apply - main application window     | 1 September – 31 December of Year 9                             | Following an Information, Advice and Guidance meeting, submit your electronic application by midnight on the latter date for intake into the next academic year. Please note that there may be curriculum changes between your application and this date. Check the website for details. |
| Main application window offers made | 22 January of Year 9                                            | Offer letters emailed to parents/carers<br><br><b>You will need to confirm your acceptance by the date stated on your offer letter to ensure that your place is not reallocated to another applicant.</b>                                                                                |
| Late application window             | 1 January to end of academic Year 9                             | Applications received from 1 January of Year 9 onwards will be dealt with as promptly as possible in batches up to the beginning of the next academic year.                                                                                                                              |
| Late applicant offers made          | Monthly from 28 February (29 February in a leap year) of Year 9 | Offer letters will be sent to parents/carers on a monthly basis from the date stated.<br><br><b>You will need to confirm your acceptance by the date stated on your offer letter to ensure that your place is not reallocated to another applicant.</b>                                  |

Deadlines are at midnight on the date shown as recorded on the website applications database. Where offer dates fall on non-working days, offers will be made on the next normal business day.

## Section 4 – Definitions and Glossary

This section contains additional information that may help you to understand terminology used within this prospectus.

### WNC's Definitions

These are some of the most common definitions used by WNC in the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools. They may differ from those for individual schools who are their own admissions authority, i.e.: Academies, Free, Voluntary Aided and Foundation schools. See definitions under individual criteria in Section 3 for these schools.

#### Looked After Children

A 'looked after child' is a child who, at the time of making an application to a school, is:

- a) in the care of a local authority, or
- b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989)

#### Previously Looked After Children

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they:

- a) were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders), or
- b) became subject to a child arrangements order (as defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 and as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014), or
- c) became subject to a special guardianship order (see Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

This includes children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

#### Sibling

A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify for a sibling link. For School Admissions purposes, the term sibling includes:

- half-brothers and half-sisters
- stepbrothers and stepsisters
- adopted children
- children in foster care
- children living in the same family unit, even if they are not biological brothers and sisters – for example when the parents are not married/in a civil relationship.

Cousins are not regarded as siblings.

## Home Address

When we refer to a child's home address, we mean the address at which the child normally resides with their parent/carer at the time of application.

When parents live separately and the child spends time with each parent, the home address will be treated as the place where the child sleeps for most of the school week (i.e. Sunday night – Thursday night inclusive). If the child spends equal amounts of time at two addresses, the parents must agree which address they wish to be the child's main address.

Places cannot be allocated on the basis of an intended future change of address unless house moves have been confirmed through the exchange of contracts or signing of a formal lease.

Documentary evidence of ownership or rental agreement may be required together with proof of actual permanent residence at the property concerned.

## Multiple Birth Groups

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, if the last child to be admitted to a particular school is from a multiple birth group, all other children in the group will be offered places at the school, even if it means exceeding the Published Admission Number (PAN).

In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place remaining, places will be allocated over the published admission number to accommodate all siblings unless this would make the class too large and prejudice the education of the other children or when this would breach infant class size limits.

## Children of Staff

Priority will be given to children of staff (teaching and non-teaching, full and part-time, permanent members of staff) in either or both of the following circumstances:

- a) Where the member of staff has been employed at the preferred school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
- b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

The child must be living at the same address as the staff member and includes adopted, foster and stepchildren, living as part of the same family unit (including those where the parents are not married/in a civil relationship).

## Glossary

Please find below the meaning of some of the terms used in this prospectus.

### Academic Year (also known as School Year)

The period beginning with the 1 August and ending with the next 31 July.

### Academy

A school which receives funding from the Government (through a "funding agreement") and follows the same rules on admissions, special educational needs and exclusions as other state schools and students sit the same exams.

## Academy Trust

A non-profit company that has trustees who are responsible for the performance of the academies in the trust and employs the staff for these academies. Trusts may run a single academy or a group of academies known as a Multi Academy Trust (MAT).

## Admission Arrangements

The overall procedure, practices and **oversubscription criteria** used in deciding the allocation of school places including any device or means used to determine whether a school place is to be offered.

## Admission Authority

The body responsible for setting and applying a school's admission arrangements:

- West Northamptonshire Council is the admission authority for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in West Northamptonshire
- The school's Governing Body is the admission authority for Voluntary Aided and Foundation schools
- The Academy Trust is the admission authority for Academies and Free schools

## Admission Criteria

See **Oversubscription Criteria**

## Admission Number

See **Published Admission Number**

## Age Range

This refers to the ages of the children who attend the school, e.g., a primary school's age range is 4 to 11 years, a secondary school's age range is 11 to 18 years.

## Allocation of places up to PAN (Published Admission Number)

Where the number of applications exceeds the Published Admission Number (PAN) for a particular school, applicants will be ranked according to the **oversubscription criteria** for the school (see Section 3).

Where there are more children in a particular criterion than there are places remaining to take the school up to its PAN, the children are usually ranked according to the distance from their home address to the **preferred school** or their **nearest alternative school**, depending on the school and the criterion in question (see oversubscription criteria in Section 3 to find out which type of distance ranking is used for individual schools). Please note, some schools do not use distance to rank applicants at all and may use random allocation.

## Any Other School

Some over-subscription criteria refer to children living, "closer to the school than any other school." For the purposes of WNC's School Admissions, this means any other state-funded school with an equivalent year group in West Northamptonshire. For example, if this phrase were included in the oversubscription criteria for a primary school for Reception, "any other school" would include all infant and primary schools in West Northamptonshire. If the over-subscription criteria were being used to allocate an in-year place for a Year 4 child, "any other school" would include all primary and junior schools in West Northamptonshire.

## **Appeal Panel**

See **School Admissions Appeal Panel**

## **Application Form**

See **Common Application Form (CAF)**

## **Banding**

Banding is not a process of selection. It is a preliminary grouping of children before a set of oversubscription criteria are applied and is intended to ensure a proportionate spread of children of different abilities.

In order to “band” the children, applicants will be required to sit a Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) which will be arranged by the school or admission authority for the school.

This is not a test that a child can “pass” or “fail.” The results are used to place applicants into bands of ability either equally or according to local or national averages and may also be used to provide information for the grouping of students after admission.

## **Catchment Area (also known as Linked, Defined or Designated Area)**

See **Defined Area**

## **Children in public care or previously in public care (known as Looked After Children)**

See **Looked After Children** and **Previously Looked After Children**

## **Closest School**

See **Any Other School**

## **Common Application Form (CAF)**

The form **parents** complete, listing their **preferred schools**, and then submit to their local authority when applying for a school place for their child as part of the local co-ordinated scheme, during the normal admissions round. Parents of children living in West Northamptonshire can express a preference for a maximum of four schools.

## **Community School**

A school which is controlled and run by the **Local Authority** and for whom the Local Authority is the **Admission Authority**

## **Composite Prospectus**

The prospectus that the local authority is required to publish by 12 September in the offer year. This prospectus includes detailed admission arrangements of all maintained schools and academies in the area (including **published admission numbers** and **defined areas**).

## **Compulsory School Age**

A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are: 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

## Co-ordinated Scheme

The process by which local authorities coordinate the distribution of offers of places for schools in their area. All local authorities are required to co-ordinate the normal admissions round and late applications for primary and secondary schools in their area.

## Defined Area (also known as Linked, Catchment or Designated Area)

A geographical area, from which children may be afforded priority for admission to a particular school. Please note: children living in a particular area may be given higher priority for places at a particular school but this does not mean they would be guaranteed a place at the school or entitled to transport to that school. See information about Home to School Transport in Section 2.

## Department for Education (DfE)

The Government department responsible for Education.

## Designated Area (also known as Linked, Catchment or Defined Area)

See **Defined Area**

## Determined Admission Arrangements

The set of admission arrangements detailing how places will be allocated at a particular school for a particular year which have been formally agreed at a meeting of the admission authority and the decision recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

## Distance Measurements

Unless otherwise stated, distances are measured from the address point of the home address to the address point of the school on a straight-line basis, using a **Geographical Information System**.

## Department for Education (DfE) Number

The unique 7-digit reference number for a school. The first 3 digits denote the Local Authority and the final 4, the school.

## Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

A legal plan made by the **Local Authority** under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special education, health and social care provision required for that child. Children with an EHC Plan have to be allocated a place at a named school prior to the application of the **oversubscription criteria**.

## Equal Preferencing

The process that **admission authorities** must use to consider all applications that express a preference for a school, regardless of whether it is their first, second, third or fourth preference.

## Fair Access Protocol (FAP)

Each local authority must have a Fair Access Protocol, agreed with the majority of schools in its area to ensure that, outside the normal admissions round, unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. In agreeing a protocol, the local authority must ensure that no school, including those with available places, is asked to

take a disproportionate number of children who have been excluded from other schools, or who have challenging behaviour.

## Faith Schools

A faith school is a school in the United Kingdom that teaches the National Curriculum but which has a particular religious character or formal links with a religious or faith-based organisation. The **oversubscription criteria** may give priority to children of worshipping families of a particular faith and staffing policies may be different too, although anyone can apply for a place.

## Feeder School (also known as Linked School)

Attendance at a “feeder school” may give a child priority for admission to a particular school.

If a junior or secondary school wishes to give priority in its **oversubscription criteria** to children who attend particular primary or infant schools, the junior/secondary school must name these “feeder school/s” in its oversubscription criteria. Please note, attendance at a designated feeder school does not guarantee a place at the preferred school.

## Free Schools

Free schools are all-ability schools funded by the government but not run by the local authority. Instead, the **admission authority** for a Free school is the academy trust that runs it. Free schools:

- can set their own pay and conditions for staff
- can set the length of school terms and the school day
- do not have to follow the National Curriculum

## Foundation School

A Government-funded school where the governing body is the **Admission Authority** for the school and therefore employs the staff and usually owns the land and buildings.

## Geographical Information System (GIS)

A system used to work out distances from home to school addresses. In this prospectus, this is usually referred to as WNC’s GIS. Address points are determined using by Eastings and Northings points. Each address has a unique address point established by the most valuable elements from the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NPLG), Ordnance Survey Master Map, Royal Mail Postal Address File and The Valuation Office Agency. An address point for a property does not change. Please note, many **Own Admission Authority Schools** use WNC’s GIS to carry out their measuring but not all of them.

## Governing Body

A school’s governing body is responsible for the strategic leadership, accountability, and high-level management of a school. They work with the headteacher to set the school's vision, monitor performance, and manage budgets, ensuring the best possible education for pupils. The governing bodies of **Foundation** and **Voluntary Aided** schools are also their **admission authority**.

## Home Address

The permanent residence of the child at the closing date for applications. See WNC’s definition in Section 4. **Own Admission Authority Schools** may have alternative definitions.

## In-year Application

An application for a school place made at any time during the academic year other than for the **normal point of entry** (to Reception, Year 3 (junior schools), or Year 7 (secondary schools)).

## Late Application

Any application form for a school's **relevant age group** received after the national deadline, i.e., after 31 October for secondary applications or 15 January for primary applications. Late applicants will not receive an offer of a school place on **National Offer Day**. Instead, their application will be processed in one of the further rounds of allocations (see timetable in Section 1 for details and dates of additional rounds of allocations).

## Linked Area (also known as Defined, Designated or Catchment Area)

See **Defined Area**

## Linked School (also known as Feeder School)

See **Feeder School**

## Local Authority (LA)

A local authority is the organisation responsible for providing public services for a specific area. A child's home local authority is the local authority where the child lives.

## Looked After Children (LAC)

Children who are in the care of local authorities as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. In relation to school admissions legislation, a 'looked after child' is a child in public care at the time of application to a school. See Section 4 for definition.

## National Offer Day

The specific day each year on which local authorities are required to send offers of school places to all **parents** of children in their area who have made an on-time application. For Year 7 places, National Offer Day is 1 March (or the next working day). For Reception (and Year 3 in junior schools), National Offer Day is 16 April (or the next working day).

## Nearest (or Closest) Alternative School

Some schools determine which children should be allocated places depending on the distance their home address is from their "Nearest Alternative School."

An "Alternative School" is one at which a place could have been allocated as an alternative to the preferred school, i.e., one with an equivalent year group. The nearest alternative school will be determined using a **Geographical Information System**. It does not have to be one of the expressed **preferences** and may be different for each applicant depending on where they live.

The nearest "Alternative School" is also used when it is not possible to offer a place at one of an applicant's **preferred schools**. In this situation, a place will be offered at the nearest alternative school with places after all applicants' first, second, third and fourth preferences have been considered. This may not be the school closest to the child's home address if that school has already reached its **Published Admission Number**.

## Normal Admissions Round

The period during which parents/carers are invited to express a minimum of three **preferences** for a place at any state-funded school, in rank order on the **common application form** provided by their home local authority, for a **normal point of entry**. This period usually follows publication of the local authority composite prospectus on 12 September, with the deadline for parental applications for a Reception (or Year 3 in junior school) place on 15 January, the deadline for applications for a Year 7 place on 31 October and offers made to parents/carers on **National Offer Day** as defined above.

## Normal Age Group

The year group in which children are usually educated, as determined by their date of birth.

## Normal Point of Entry

The September of the first year of each phase of schooling:

- Reception in a primary or infant school
- Year 3 in a junior school
- Year 7 in a secondary school
- Year 10 in a UTC

## Oversubscription Criteria

The published criteria that an **admission authority** applies when a school receives more applications than there are places available, in order to decide which children will be allocated places. Oversubscription criteria vary from school to school and form part of a school's **admission arrangements**. Admission authorities may choose to give priority to children who, for example:

- live in a particular area (**Defined Area**)
- have a brother or sister at the school already (**Sibling Link**)
- practice a particular religion
- attend a particular school (**Feeder School**)
- are eligible for the pupil premium or the service pupil premium
- have a parent working at the school

## Own Admission Authority School (OAA)

Schools for which the Local Authority is not the admission authority. See **Admission Authority**.

## Parent

Refers to both individual parents and those with parental responsibility for a child, e.g., carers and legal guardians.

## Preferences (also known as Preferred Schools)

The schools for which **parents** would like their child to be considered and which they have named on their **Common Application Form**.

## Previously Looked After Child (PLAC)

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). This includes children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care

outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. See definition in Section 4.

## Published Admission Number (PAN)

The number of school places that the **admission authority** must offer in each **relevant age group** of a school for which it is the admission authority. Published Admission Numbers are part of a school's admission arrangements.

## Random Allocation

The process whereby places are allocated to applicants at random. When used by WNC, all applicants to be considered are given a unique number. The range of numbers is then entered into a computerised randomiser which returns the numbers in a random order. This order is then recorded and applicants will be ranked according to this randomly generated sequence. Any random allocation process must be supervised by someone independent of the school.

## Relevant Age Group

The age group to which children are normally admitted to a school, i.e., Reception in primary and infant schools, Year 3 in junior schools, Year 7 in secondary schools and Year 12 if the school has a sixth form. Each relevant age group must have **admission arrangements**, including a **Published Admission Number (PAN)**. Some schools (for example schools with sixth forms which admit children into the sixth form from other schools) may have more than one relevant age group.

## School Admission Appeals Panel

An independent panel which hears appeals relating to school admissions refusals.

## School Year

See **Academic Year**

## Sibling

A sibling is a brother or sister. Some schools give priority to children who already have a sibling at the school. See **Sibling Link**. For WNC's definition of Sibling see Definitions earlier in this section. **Own Admission Authority Schools** may have slightly different definitions. For more information, see individual school oversubscription admission criteria in Section 3.

## Sibling Link

Some schools give priority to children who have a brother or sister already on roll at the school. This is called a sibling link. The sibling may be required to be on roll at the **preferred school** on the date of application and/or the date of admission of the child and may or may not be required to share the same main address as the child for whom the application is being made. Please check individual schools' definitions of sibling in Section 3.

If the sibling of a child for whom an application has been made is subsequently offered a place at a school which has been listed as a **preference** on a **Common Application Form**, the **parent** should advise the School Admissions Team as a sibling link may now exist.

## Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Now known as an **Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan**

## Summer Born Child

This refers to a child born between 1 April and 31 August who does not reach **Compulsory School Age** until the September following their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, a full year after they would normally have started school.

## Supplementary Information Form (SIF)

An additional form which needs to be completed for certain schools to gather additional information (such as faith) as part of the application process for that school and which forms part of a school's **admission arrangements**. Completed SIFs contain information which enable schools to allocate places according to their **oversubscription criteria** and must be returned directly to the schools themselves. See individual school information in Section 3 to see if a SIF needs to be completed.

## Tiebreaker

All **admission arrangements** must include an effective, clear and fair tiebreaker to decide between two applications that cannot otherwise be separated. For community and voluntary controlled schools, where two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated, random allocation will usually be used to decide which applicant should be allocated a place. This process will be independently verified. Many **Own Admission Authority Schools** use this same tiebreaker. For more information, see individual school oversubscription criteria in Section 3.

## University Technical College (UTC)

A government-funded school with a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) focus, led by a sponsor or university with close ties to local business and industry. The **normal point of entry** for a UTC is Year 10.

## Voluntary Aided School

A school whose foundation or trust (usually a religious organisation) owns the land and buildings, inputs a small proportion of the capital costs for the school and forms a majority on the school's governing body. The governing body is the **Admission Authority** for the school and is therefore responsible for admissions to the school and employing the staff.

## Voluntary Controlled School

A school whose foundation or trust (usually a religious organisation) owns the land and buildings and whose members make up a quarter of the school's governing body. The **Local Authority** is the **Admission Authority** for the school and is therefore responsible for admissions to the school and employing staff.

## Waiting List

A list of children held and maintained by the **admission authority** (or the **Local Authority** if this has been pre-arranged) when the school has allocated all of its places, on which children are ranked in priority order against the school's published **oversubscription criteria**. Each added child requires the waiting list to be re-ranked.

## Do you need any help?

If you need any assistance regarding your application for a secondary school place, please contact the School Admissions team.

Tel: Customer Service Centre – 0300 126 7000

Email: [admissions@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@westnorthants.gov.uk)

Postal Address:

School Admissions  
West Northamptonshire Council  
One Angel Square  
Angel Street  
Northampton  
NN1 1ED

Please visit our [website](#) to make your online application for a secondary school place.

The deadline for applications is midnight on

**Saturday 31 October 2026**



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council