

STARTING OUT 2025

A guide to applying for a primary school place in Tameside.



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A GUIDE TO APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE

Your child is due to start primary school in September. This is a very exciting and important time and we hope this booklet will help you by providing all the information you need to help you to make your primary school application. Tameside has a range of primary schools to consider, as well as schools with resource bases and special schools for children with special educational needs. There are some facts about schools in this booklet, but for more detailed information you need to contact the relevant head teacher. You might want to make an appointment to visit the school before you complete your application form.

Please take the time to read through this booklet carefully, even if you have older children and already have experience of applying for a school place. The information provided will help you to state six preferences for the schools you would most like your child to attend.

You will need to complete an online application which is quick and easy to use (www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions) and we would encourage all parents to make use of this simple system. If you do not have access to the internet, you can use the facilities in your local library: you will need an email address.

In order to maximise your chances of being offered one of your preferred schools you must submit an application with any required documents on time and your child must meet the admissions criteria of the school to be offered a place.

The application closing date is 15 January 2025.

If you have any queries regarding the admissions process, send an email to

schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk

or telephone a member of our Admissions Team on 0161 342 4004 who will be happy to answer any questions you may have. If you need assistance with English, call in at any of the Customer Service Offices.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

1 November 2024	Web page made available for applications online.
15 January 2025	Closing date for submitting your application.
23 January 2025	Final date by which changes to applications (due to exceptional circumstances) can be accepted.
16 April 2025	National Offer Day – On this date, school place offers are communicated to parents. Waiting lists for individual schools open.
2 May 2025	Waiting lists are established.
From 25 April 2025	Second round of allocations for late applications received after 15 January 2025. Further offers made from this date are subject to places becoming available.
16 May 2025	Closing date for returning appeal forms.
From 26 May 2025	Third round of allocations for late applications received after 25 April 2025. Further offers made from this date are subject to places becoming available.
From June 2025	Appeals are heard by the Independent Appeal Panel.
September 2025	Children start school.
The end of the school year	Waiting lists for individual schools close at the end of the school year unless individual school admission arrangements say otherwise.

SECTION 1: BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR APPLICATION

This section will provide you with information about what you should know and do before making a school application.

Please talk to your child before making the application. Do not be influenced by others. The right school for other children is not necessarily the right school for your child.

- **It is important that you take time to read the information in this booklet to help you understand how the application process works.**
- Visit schools to ensure you are happy with your expressed preferences before submitting your application.
- Look to see how many places are available in each school. This is called the Published Admission Number or PAN. This number is set to take account of the number of pupils each site can accommodate in each year group and how many places are needed in an area.
- Consider how likely it is that your child will be offered a place at your preferred schools. Read the oversubscription criteria for each school and look to see which apply to your child.
- Use your six preferences.

MAXIMISE YOUR CHANCE OF SUCCESS

1. Apply on time

- The closing date is **15 January 2025**
- All applications received after this date will be processed at a later date after the majority of places have been allocated.
- A late application therefore means you are less likely to get the school you prefer or want
- Notification of places offered will be made on 16 April 2025 (unless your application is late)

2. Use all preferences

- You could disadvantage yourself if you do not use your opportunity to express a preference for six schools
- Each preference is considered in its own right so give yourself six separate chances
- We only look at the order of your preferences (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.) if we are able to offer you more than one of your preferences. We will always allocate the highest preference

3. Choose wisely

- Consider the school's oversubscription criteria
- Don't assume that you will be allocated a place at your closest school if you do not state it as one of your preferences
- Don't assume that your child will get priority because they attend a nursery at your preferred primary school. A place in nursery does not guarantee a place in reception.

WHEN CHILDREN START SCHOOL IN TAMESIDE

Children start school in the September of the school year in which they will become 5 years of age, which means most children are 4 years old when they start school. For entry in September 2025, children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 are eligible to start school in September 2025.

Children reach statutory school age on the prescribed date following their 5th birthday. The prescribed days are 31st August, 31st December and 31st March. Statutory school age means the age when a parent is legally required to make sure that their child attends school (or is educated other than at school).

All children are allowed to start full-time in September or defer admission until they reach compulsory school age (or until the start of the summer term if this is earlier). You can also request that your child attend part-time initially, but you will need to discuss this with the school at which your child has been offered a place.

Request to Delay Entry to School in the Same Year (Known as Deferred Entry)

If you feel that your child is not ready to start school in the September following their fourth birthday, you can either arrange for your child to attend part-time until they reach statutory school age or defer the date your child is admitted to the school until later on in the Reception year. If your child's entry is deferred, the school must hold your child's place and not offer it to another child. Your child must also start school in the school year for which the offer was made. The latest your child can start school is at the beginning of the summer term 2026.

If you wish to defer your child's entry, you will need to confirm this with the school where your child has been offered a Reception place. You may also need to confirm this with the early learning provider so that your child can continue to receive their free early learning entitlement.

Applying to a year group outside the normal age group (for summer born children)

Children born between 1 April and 31 August are regarded as summer born children. In exceptional circumstances, summer born children may be admitted to school in a different year group. This is usually due to concerns in relation to a child's development. If you would like to request for your 'summer born child' to start school outside of their normal age group, and be admitted to reception rather than Year 1, please follow the process below.

Parents should apply for the normal reception year for their child. The normal year in this case, is the academic year when your child will be five years old – between 1 September and 31 August.

To make a request for delayed admission, parents should note on the online application the intention that they do not wish to send their child to school until the September after their fifth birthday and request that the child is admitted out of their normal age group - to reception rather than Year 1.

Complete the Request for Out of Year Admission Form in Section 15 choosing option (b) and send it to School Admissions. The Team will send your request and supporting evidence to the preferred schools you have listed on your online form and the relevant Head Teacher may contact you to discuss your child's circumstances.

Evidence could show:

- whether your child is summer born
- information about your child's personal, social, emotional development and academic development
- if relevant, the child's medical history and views of a medical professional
- whether your child has previously been educated out of year group
- whether your child was born prematurely

The council or school will look at each case on its merits, taking into account the child's best interests and either agree or refuse the request on that basis.

Where the council is the admissions authority, we will consider the relevant head teacher's views before a final decision is taken. We may also take into account the views of the child's current early years setting and other professionals.

Parents should return the completed Request for Out of Year Admission Form and supporting information to the Admissions Team by 15 January (See Section 15).

If your request to delay is refused by any of the schools you have approached, your child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group. You should submit an online application by the closing date. If your request is agreed by any of the schools you have approached, the decision to delay admission will only stand for any named school that agreed the request. Your child may then apply for admission into reception rather than Year 1 the following year; but you would need to apply **again** for a reception place for that year (see School Admissions for the relevant form).

Please note the decision to agree to delay your child's admission does not guarantee that a place will be available the following year as this depends on the number of applications for entry in that year and it is not possible to reserve a place until the following year.

Requests for admission out of the normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time. An application from a child who would 'normally' be a Year 1 child for a reception place will be considered alongside applications for reception. There is no statutory right of appeal if your request is not agreed.

Normal entry school place offers

Your child will receive the offer of a school place for admission to the normal age group on national offer day. You must decide whether to accept the offered place or ask for the place to be withdrawn and it will be offered to another child.

Please use the following table to see what options are available to you.

CHILD'S BIRTHDAY	OPTIONS AVAILABLE (You should discuss these with your allocated school)
1 September - 31 December (autumn term)	Child can attend full-time, request to attend part-time from September or defer admission until the beginning of January 2026.
1 January - 31 March (spring term)	Child can attend full or part-time from September 2025 or defer admission until the beginning of January 2026 or until after Easter 2026.
1 April- 31 August (summer term)	<p>Child can attend full or part-time from September 2025 or defer admission until January or Easter.</p> <p>You can also choose not to send your child to school until the September following their fifth birthday. If you opt for this, an application under the 2026/27 admissions policy will be required and will normally be considered for Year 1 rather than a Reception class.</p>



THE COORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME

Tameside operates a co-ordinated admissions scheme. This means parents only have to complete one application. There is co-ordination between the council and other admissions authorities, and every parent who lives in Tameside receives one offer of a school place.

Parents can express a preference for up to six schools. These schools can be in or out of Tameside. If you live outside Tameside you should complete the form from your home local authority, even if you wish to apply for a Tameside school.

We will allocate places at Tameside primary schools using the criteria in Section 8 for oversubscribed schools. Please note that the process for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan is different, however parents of children in this group may still complete an application if they wish to do so.

SELECTING YOUR PREFERRED SCHOOLS

You need to be aware that many schools in Tameside are heavily oversubscribed. This is important to remember when deciding on your preferred schools. In previous years, it has not been possible to meet all preferences at a number of schools. When considering your preferred schools, you are strongly advised to look at the school's oversubscription criteria and consider which category you would come under.

The number of preferences you can make on your application is limited. You need to be realistic in making your preferences. If your child is unlikely to meet the criteria, you may not receive an offer at any of your preferred schools. This could happen if you live too far away from the schools or if you name a faith school and are not baptised in the relevant faith. **It is therefore important to understand the order in which places are allocated if a school is oversubscribed by reading the admission policy for the school - see Section 8.**

THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT YOUR PREFERENCES

You should think carefully about your order of preference when you decide how to list the schools you are applying for. This is because if your child qualifies for a place at a number of schools, you will only be made one offer of the school which you named as a higher preference.

The law states that you have a right to express a school preference and admission authorities are required to comply with that preference but please be aware that it is subject to the availability of places at the school. This is because there will be times when there are more applications than places. **When there are more applications for a school than places available, oversubscription criteria (also called admission criteria) are used to determine priority for admission.**

You should decide which schools you would prefer your child to attend and apply for a school place online listing up to six different preferences. You don't have to express six preferences. **However, if you only give one preference, and are not offered a place at that school, you will be offered a place at the next nearest school with an available place after the six preferences of other applicants have been considered.** This may mean that by the time we look at allocating a place for your child, your local school may be full and your child may have to travel some distance to get to school.

The order of preference in which you list your schools is confidential. Schools are not told the preference order in which you have listed them.

Each of your preferences will be considered equally and separately. Listing second and third preferences will not affect your chance of being offered your first preference. Each school listed on your application considers your child's application against its oversubscription criteria only and not according to the order of preference you put the school on your application. This guarantees that, for example, an application from a parent who has ranked the school as third preference is considered equally to an application on which the school is ranked as first preference.

If we can offer your child a place at more than one of your preferred schools, we will offer you the highest ranked school we can, so please make sure you like your first preference more than your second preference and your second preference more than your third. **If we are not able to offer your child a place at any of the schools you applied for, we will offer a place at the next nearest school with available places.**

Changing your preferences or changing the order

You can make any changes to your application before the closing date. However, if you wish to change your preferences after the closing date please contact school admissions to discuss your options.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN)

The process of allocating a primary school place for children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) is different from children who do not have an EHCP. All children with an EHCP, regardless of their needs or school they attend, go through the process which is set out in the SEN Code of Practice.

Further detailed information can be found on Tameside's local offer website at:

www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer

Who decides which school a child with an EHCP goes to?

The council works in partnership with parents, schools and support services when making the final decision about which school is 'named' in the EHCP - and therefore which school the pupil will attend. While in law it is the council which 'names' the school, due regard must be paid to the preference of parents. However, the council is also required by the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice to consider:

- **The special educational needs of the pupils and the extent to which these can be met in a particular school - much of this information is taken from the advice of staff in schools, support services, therapy and health services as well as other agencies and professionals - usually through the annual review process.**
- **The impact the placement of a pupil may have on the education of other pupils at the school.**
- **The efficient and effective use of council resources.**

What if the council names a primary school which is not the preferred option of parents?

Parents and carers can discuss their preferences by telephoning a Caseworker. See contact details in section 13.

After the school has been named, parents/carers can contact the Caseworker to discuss the council's reasons for naming the school in the EHCP. If parents/carers are still unhappy with the school, a meeting can be arranged.

The letter issued with the EHCP tells parents/carers how to appeal to the SEN and Disability Tribunal (this needs to be within eight weeks of the Plan being issued). Or the matter could be referred to the Disagreement Resolution Service - a less formal process.

Tameside Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Advice and Support (IAS) can provide advice and support to parents / carers as they are considering and / or speaking to the council about their preferred school.

Telephone: 0161 359 8005

Email: tamesidesendiass@togethertrust.org.uk

www.tameside.gov.uk/sendias

What should parents consider when deciding on their preference for a primary school?

Parents who have gone through this process already have found the following information / sources of information helpful:

- Most children with special educational needs attend mainstream schools.
- All mainstream primary schools in Tameside receive resources, training and support to meet the requirements of children with special educational needs, including those who have a EHCP.
- Every year some pupils transfer from one type of special school/specialist provision to another, depending on their special educational needs, recent progress, level of attainment and so on.
- Pupils with an EHCP are not automatically entitled to assistance with home to school travel. Parents / carers therefore need to consider travel arrangements to and from school when they decide on their preferred school. Assistance with travel between home and school, where necessary, is subject to Tameside's Transport Policy which can be found at:

www.tameside.gov.uk/sen/transport/parents

Do you know about our

SEND

Local Offer?

You can visit www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer to find out more about our special education needs and disability local offer and give us your feedback.



Mainstream or Special School?

The council would normally name a local primary school in an EHCP unless there are specific reasons why a local school would not be able to meet the needs of the child.

Where the council names a placement in a mainstream school it may well specify specialist resourced provision in a mainstream school. Resourced provision for a small number of children is available at:

- **Russell Scott Primary, Denton**
- **Oakfield Primary, Hyde**
- **Corrie Primary, Denton**
- **Rosehill Methodist, Ashton**
- **Greenside Primary, Droylsden**
- **St James CE Primary, Ashton**
- **Dane Bank Primary, Denton**

All have resourced provision for pupils with additional needs.

- **St John Fisher RC Primary, Denton**, has resourced provision for children with significant social and communication difficulties ASD.

Children must have an EHCP to access resourced provision, and the significant needs the resourced provision caters for. Where the needs of a child are particularly significant or complex, the council may place the child at a primary special school:

- **Oakdale, Dukinfield** - for children with severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties
- **Thomas Ashton School** - for children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties
- **Hawthorns, Audenshaw** - for children with moderate learning difficulties - children must have an EHCP to access this provision.

If your child has significant additional needs you may want to seek advice from your named SEN Caseworker. Telephone: **0161 342 4433**.

Please note: Children still going through the statutory assessment process (without a finalised EHCP) must follow the same online application procedure as that set out for other children.

SEND – Who can I speak to for more advice?

The SEN Team is available to provide special educational needs advice. Please call them on 0161 342 4433.

Tameside Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Advice and Support (IAS) Service provides confidential, impartial information, advice and support on education matters and health and social care issues in relation to education. **Telephone: 0161 359 8005**

Email: tamesidesendiass@togethertrust.org.uk

SECTION 2: MAKING AN APPLICATION

This section gives you information to help you complete the application. Please read it through carefully.

If you live in Tameside and your child is due to start school or transfer to Stalyhill Junior School in September 2025, you must apply online at: www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions/psa.

Libraries have public access computers where you can access the website and most of our schools will help you access the online system if you do not have a home computer.

The online facility is available from 1 November 2024 to midnight on 15 January 2025.

There are clear simple prompts to guide you through making your application and we will email you confirmation that your application has been received.

You can change the information online at any time until the closing date, remembering to re-submit if you reopen your account for any reason. Once submitted and downloaded by us you will need to contact the admissions team to make any changes. The outcome of your application will be available to view on national offer day.

It is important to keep a record of your email and password to be able to make changes to your application and to log on to view your offer.

Record them here for future use:

Email:

Password:

If you have any difficulties in using the system please contact the School Admissions Team between 10am and 2pm (Monday-Friday) on: 0161 342 4004 or email:

schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk

You can use the online form to apply for a voluntary aided (faith/church) school, an academy, a free school or a school in another Local Authority area, but you must remember to provide any additional supporting documents or information as required by that school's oversubscription criteria.

The supporting documents and information must be sent directly to the school clearly stating your child's name, address and date of birth.

Independent schools

If you want your child to attend an independent school, it is not the policy of Tameside Council to pay the fees, or any other expenses. You will, therefore, need to make your own arrangements for your child to attend this type of school. Parents are advised to submit an application for a pupil in a Tameside school even if you have applied for an independent school place separately.

Home education

It is a parental right to educate a child at home. The council would seek to assess and approve the provision being made by the parent. Please telephone **0161 342 4092** for more details about home education.

Childcare

Many parents have complex childcare arrangements and these cannot be taken into account when allocating places. Also remember a place in nursery does not guarantee a place in reception.

Distance check

If you would like us to measure the straight line distance to your preferred schools, please email us at schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk stating your child's name, date of birth, address and the schools you want us to measure to.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS: WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- 1. Decide which six schools you would most like your child to attend and decide your order of preference**
- 2. Check whether your preferred schools require you to provide additional information**
- 3. Go to www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions and complete the online application**
- 4. You must include details of any exceptional medical and social needs on the online form. Supporting documents should be sent to the School Admissions Team using the contact details at the back of this document. Please write your child's name and date of birth on all documents.**

COMPLETING THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

Your child's details

Enter your child's details ensuring that the address, postcode and date of birth are correct so that we can process your application accurately. It is essential that this information is correct. We regularly check addresses and if they are not correct we may have to withdraw our offer of a school place. The address you give us should be the child's permanent address at the time of application. 'At the time of application' means the closing date for applications unless you are in the process of moving house when the second deadline applies (see sections 2 and 11). If you are moving within Tameside, you must still make your application by the deadline.

Home address

The child's current permanent residential address must be used. The home address is the address of the parent with whom the child normally lives from Monday to Friday. The address of a relative or childminder, or where your child stays or sleeps because of special domestic arrangements or personal circumstances cannot be considered.

An intention to change address cannot be considered by the council until proof is available.

You cannot use an address until you are permanently residing there and able to prove you have no connection with the previous address. Further information about proof of address can be found in section 11 of this booklet.

All changes of address will be checked to ensure there is a permanent commitment to the new address and that it is not a temporary arrangement to access a preferred school. **A temporary address cannot be considered. This includes other property owned by the applicant, temporary rental agreements and temporary moves to live with friends or family.**

Any recent change of principal carer and/or parental responsibility (for example, if a child moves to live at another address) must be supported by satisfactory legal documents such as a court order. **Only applications from a person who is legally responsible for the child can be accepted.** If a child does not live with their parent/s and is looked after by relatives, documentary evidence such as a Will or a Court order are required as proof that the relatives are the child's guardians. A private fostering arrangement will not give parental responsibility.

If it is discovered that a place has been offered based on a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application (for example a false claim to residence) that offer will be withdrawn.

Parents who live separately

When parents live separately, the application must be based on the address at which the child usually lives. When parents live separately but the child lives with both parents at different addresses, the child's home address will be taken to be the address of the parent/carers eligible to receive Child Benefit.

Who is a parent?

The definition of a 'parent' in education law is wider than just those with parental responsibility. The definition of a parent is defined in section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This can include all natural parents whether they have parental responsibility or not, other people who have acquired parental responsibility by court order or anyone else who has care of a child such as another family member.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

Please indicate in the appropriate place if your child has an education, health and care plan (EHCP). Please name the local authority dealing with your child.

Cared For Children – formerly known as Looked after Children (LAC)

The School Admissions Code 2021 requires that schools' oversubscription criteria must give priority to cared for children or children who have previously been cared for but immediately after being cared for become the subject of an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. This includes those 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 Section 1.7 of the Admission Code).

Please provide proof with your application if you wish to be considered under this criterion.

Admission of children of UK service personnel and crown servants

The council acknowledges that service families are subject to movement within the UK and from abroad. The council is not able to reserve places but will consider requests and allocate places in advance of the move provided the application is accompanied by an official letter declaring a relocation date. A Unit or quartering address can be used if evidence of the intended address is not provided. For in year admissions places will be allocated, subject to a place being available in the relevant year group, prior to moving. If we are unable to allocate a place at that time, parents will be offered the right to appeal.

Your details

It is important that this information is correct as we may use this to contact you about the admissions process. We also need to know your relationship with the child and whether you have parental responsibility as defined by the Children Act 1989.

Your preferences

Each school application should be discussed with all those with parental responsibility for the child.

Rank the schools you would like your child to attend in order of preference by writing the name of the school in the boxes with the school you want first in the 'Preference 1' section and the school you want second in the 'Preference 2' box etc.

Preference is not the same as choice. The law does not give parents the right to choose a particular school for their child and have that choice met.

We strongly recommend you use your options of listing six schools. There is no advantage in listing only one school.

If you choose to list just one school and your application is unsuccessful, you will have no say in the school you are allocated to. You could be allocated a school some distance from your home if nearer schools are oversubscribed.

The online system will not allow you to select the same school more than once as we can only process one application per child per school. Please note: You may be allocated any one of your preferences and you need to be sure that you are willing and able to get your child to that school. If you are offered one of your preferences the council will not pay for transport to school; this is your responsibility.

If only one of your preferred schools can offer a place, that school will be offered. If more than one school can offer a place, the offer will be for whichever school is the highest preference on the application. This may not be your first preference school.

If it is not possible to offer a place at any of your preferred schools, a place will be allocated at the nearest school to your address with places still available after all other applications have been processed. This may not be your nearest school. Parents are not guaranteed a place at one of their preferred schools.

You will still need to apply for a Reception place even if your child attends the school's nursery. Having a place in the nursery class or foundation unit DOES NOT guarantee a place in Reception.

Your reasons for applying for each of your preferences

We need you to give us this information so that the local authority or school governors can correctly apply their oversubscription criteria. If you do not provide us with the correct information in this section it could mean that we cannot consider you under a particular criterion, e.g. if you fail to tell us that the child has a sibling (brother or sister) connection within the school, then this will not be considered.

Siblings (brothers and sisters)

It is important to show on the form if there will be a brother or sister at the school when your child starts. Add the names of any brothers or sisters that attend the school and their date of birth in the appropriate place. By sibling, we mean a brother or a sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, sisters and brothers of fostered children or the child of the parent/carer's partner but in every case the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address. Every effort will be made to ensure that twins and those from multiple births can attend the same school however this may not be a preference school named on the application.

Confirmation

In this section you are confirming that all the information you have provided is correct as at the time of application and you have not deliberately given any false information. 'At the time of application' means the closing date for applications unless you are in the process of moving house when the second deadline 23 January 2025 applies.

Tameside Council, as a responsible admissions authority, reserves the right to verify any address given as the child's permanent address in order to ensure that it is allocating places appropriately and fairly. Where a suspected fraudulent application is identified during the allocation process (before

allocation day), if relevant evidence is not provided and the application is deemed to be fraudulent, the family concerned will be offered the opportunity to provide their correct address and advised that the application will now be treated as 'late'. Failure to provide any document reasonably required by the council to verify residence after the allocation day will result in the place being withdrawn. We will then offer a place at the nearest school to the home address with an available place. This may be some distance away.

Multiple applications

Tameside Council can only accept one application per child. If applications are received from both parents which are not the same we expect parents to agree which application to use and inform School Admissions in writing (and signed by both parents) before the closing date. If we do not receive this confirmation by the closing date we will accept the application of the main parent/carer eligible to receive Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit.

Special circumstances form

The Exceptional Medical or Social Needs admission rule is designed to give priority for a school place to children who may have exceptional reasons to attend a particular school. Most, but not all, schools include this rule as part of their admissions criteria.

You should use this form to provide evidence if the following circumstances apply:

- **Exceptional medical or social needs** - if you have exceptional medical or social needs which you would like to be taken into account with your application. Your application will be considered under criterion 2 provided satisfactory evidence is given on the Special Circumstances Form. Return the form by 15 January 2025.
- **The Special Circumstances Form can be found in section 14 of this booklet and must be returned by 15 January 2025.**

Exceptional circumstances panel

A Panel of Children's Services Officers or School Governors where relevant will consider the evidence given in the application and whether this is appropriate / relevant for the particular school (and not just why a child shouldn't attend a different school). The Panel does not have to accept any recommendations made in the evidence.

The Panel will need to decide whether it shows that the needs of the child can only be met at the specific school. The Panel expects the evidence to show why other schools would not be able to meet this need.

The Panel will keep in mind that all Tameside schools are able to support children with special educational needs, and are expected to manage most medical needs. This means it is unlikely that an application made only on these reasons would be successful.

An application with medical evidence may be agreed where a child has an exceptional illness or disability (for example, limited mobility) which means that, in the opinion of the Panel, the child can only reasonably attend one school. If the Panel feels that the child's needs could be met by other schools, they will not agree the application.

An application with social evidence may be agreed where a child's education would, in the opinion of the Panel, be seriously affected if they did not go to a particular school. This must be clearly shown in the supporting evidence.

A parent's place of work, childcare arrangements or a family connection with the school is not sufficient reason alone for agreeing an application. However, they may be taken into account if there are other reasons as well.

If the parent has applied for more than one school, the Panel will look at each application separately and make a decision.

Where the Panel agrees a child's application it will be considered under the exceptional needs rule during the allocation of school places. However, an agreed application does not guarantee a place at the school.

If, on National Offer Day, your child has not been offered a place at your preferred school you will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. During the appeal you will be able to explain why you would like your child to go to the particular school and can include the evidence you gave to the Exceptional Circumstances Panel.

Amending / reviewing online applications

If you re-visit your online account for any reason, to make changes or just to review it, you must re-submit your application in order for it to be processed.

Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The council maintains a register entry in respect of education which includes the administration relating to pupils. All personal information will be held in accordance with GDPR legislation and personal information provided on the application form is treated in confidence and complies with the requirements of the Data Protection Act. This information may also be shared with other Local Authorities.

Verification of information

The council may verify information you have provided on the application form, which could involve contacting other departments of the council or other councils who maintain appropriate records. In instances where the information provided is different from that held by them, they may use the information on the application form.



SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

The closing date for receipt of your application is **15 January 2025**. Before you submit your application please check that you:

- are familiar with the oversubscription criteria for each school you are applying for;
- are clear on the order you want to list the schools you are applying for;
- think carefully about naming a school where your child is unlikely to qualify for a place; and
- do not disadvantage your child by listing only one preference;
- have used all six preferences as this will increase your chances of obtaining a place for your child at one of your preferred schools.

Moving into Tameside BEFORE the allocation process

If you move into Tameside after the closing date, but **before 23 January 2025**, and you can provide documentary evidence to confirm this, your application will be processed at the same time as those applications received by 15 January 2025. (See section 11 for more information on proof of address).

If you move into the area **after 23 January 2025** your application will only be considered as a late application and will be processed with other late applications in subsequent rounds of allocations commencing from 25 April 2025.

Applying for a school place AFTER the allocation process

If you apply for a school place or move into the area after the allocation of places, you will still be able to apply and name up to six preferences. We will offer you a place at one of your preferred schools if this is possible. If all the places at your preferred schools have been allocated, your child's name will be added to the waiting lists in criteria order. Your child will be allocated a place at the next nearest school to your home with available places.

Changing your application information

You can change the information at any time until the closing date, but once submitted and downloaded by us after the closing date you would need to contact the admissions team to amend your application. You will receive a confirmation email from us when your application has been submitted.

HOW LATE CHANGES OF PREFERENCE ARE DEALT WITH

Once parents have submitted their application, they cannot change preferences after the closing date except in exceptional circumstances, for example, a recent change of address for which proof will be required. No changes can be made to preferences or student details after 23 January 2025, even where there are exceptional circumstances, because the allocations process has started.

What happens if my application is late?

Late applications received after the closing date of 15 January 2025 will only be considered after all applications received by the closing date. This means it is much more likely you will not get a place at your preferred school, as the places may already have been given to other children.

Once the closing date for applications has passed, the online system will close for 2 weeks to enable all on time applications to be processed. The online system will reopen two weeks after the closing date to accept late applications.

Late applications will only be dealt with after all of those that have been received on time. This applies even if your child has exceptional medical or social needs or has a sibling at the school. If your application is late, you may not receive an offer of a school place on National Offer Day.

Please note: If you re-open your online account for any reason even just to review your application, you must re-submit. Failure to do so may mean that we are unable to download the application and it will not be added to our database.

Calls to the School Admissions Team

The School Admissions team receives a high volume of calls during the application period and on National Offer day. To help us deal quickly with requests, if you have an enquiry about your child's allocated school or you need advice on alternative options please email the Admissions Team in the first instance at schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk. A member of the team will look into your enquiry and send you an email response and if appropriate we will telephone you.

The School Admissions Team understands the anxiety of parents at the time of school allocations and will do what we can to help. In return we ask you to treat our staff with courtesy and respect.



THE ONLINE APPLICATION STEP BY STEP

1. Go to www.tameside.gov.uk click on '**Children and Families**' and then '**Schools and Education**'. Choose 'School Admissions'. Click on the tile 'Primary School Admissions'. Then click on the highlighted online application system link "Apply for a school place here" (under the How to Apply for a School Place header) to go to the Citizens Portal.
2. If you have used the online system before you can enter your email address and password and click on '**login**'. If you haven't used the online application before click on '**Register**' and then enter your details including your email address and password. **PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THESE DETAILS.**

Email:

Password:

3. The system will immediately send you a Citizen's Portal Activation email. Please check your JUNK or SPAM box if the email isn't in your Inbox. **THE LINK IN THE EMAIL WILL ONLY REMAIN ACTIVE FOR 7 DAYS** after which you will need to register again.
4. Log in to your personal email box and click on the link provided in your **Citizens Portal Activation email**. This will complete your registration.
5. Log in to the Citizens Portal using your email address and password (as instructed in step 1 above). Click on the '**School Places**' button and then '**Add Child**' button and proceed to add your child's details.
6. Click on the '**Start New Application**' that is shown under each child's details.
7. Check by putting in your postcode that you are applying to the correct Local Authority. If you are a Tameside resident click on the '**Continue to Apply**' button and choose the correct Transfer group for your child.
8. Select your school preferences. For each preference you'll be asked to provide supplementary information to support your application. You can change the order of these preferences if you wish to do so by selecting the appropriate arrow that will appear on the preference page after each school selection and you may also edit or remove your preferences.
9. After selecting your 6 preferences, click on '**next**' and submit your application by confirming you agree to the terms and conditions of the school admission process. **YOU MUST CLICK 'SUBMIT NOW' IN ORDER FOR US TO RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION.** You will then receive an email confirming the school preferences you have selected for your child.

SECTION 3: HOW APPLICATIONS ARE PROCESSED

This section tells you how school places are allocated.

Who decides who is offered places?

There are different types of schools. Decisions about which children should be offered school places are made by the admissions authority for each school type. However, the process of admission to all of these types of schools is administered by the local authority.

Primary school age ranges are as follows:

- Key Stage 1 (Infants) 4 to 7 years
- Key Stage 2 (Juniors) 7 to 11 years

Under government legislation, no child in Key Stage 1 can be in a class of more than 30 with one qualified teacher for a normal teaching session.

There are five types of maintained primary school in Tameside: academy, community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided and community special. They all work with the council. The local authority determines the admission arrangements for the community and voluntary controlled primary schools. The voluntary aided primary schools and the academies have their own admissions arrangements. The two community special schools admit pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan where the school is named.

STALYHILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Tameside has one junior school: Stalyhill in Stalybridge. Parents, who wish to be considered for a transfer to Stalyhill Junior School in September 2025, must follow the same process as applying for a place in Reception and complete an online application. The closing date is 15 January 2025. Further information about the admissions arrangements is available on the Tameside Council website at: https://www.tameside.gov.uk/TamesideMBC/media/admissions/Admission-Arrangements-for-Stalyhill-Junior-School_9.pdf

Four lists of schools appear in section 5. Those in List A are community and voluntary-controlled schools. List B is voluntary-aided schools. List C is academies, List D is community special schools.

If you are considering a voluntary-aided school or academy you will need to check details of its admission arrangements. These will be in the relevant school's prospectus. Many voluntary-aided schools require applicants to provide additional information - for example a certificate of baptism for Roman Catholic schools or confirmation of church attendance for Church of England schools – if you wish to be considered under faith-based criteria. This may mean completing a supplementary form.

You must complete the school's supplementary information form (if they have one) and also submit an application online to the council for a school place. You must return the completed supplementary information form directly to the school to enable the governing body to assess your application correctly.

Please note that the supplementary form is not an application form, but it is an important part of the process. You can obtain copies of supplementary information forms direct from the relevant schools.

Partner Primary Schools

In September 2015 the community high schools and some of the academy high schools nominated partner primary schools. Children attending partner primary schools will be given priority in the relevant partner high schools' over subscription criteria however this does not mean a place is guaranteed at the relevant partner high school. Partner primary schools are listed in the tables in sections 9 and 10. High school over subscription criteria can be viewed in full on individual schools' websites and also on the Tameside Council website at:

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions/2025>

How school places are allocated

On submission of the application, each one of your preferences is treated as a separate application regardless of the order you have listed them in. Tameside Admissions will give your child's details to each school/admissions authority. All on time applications will be considered at the same time. Schools will not be told which preference number they are or which other schools you have applied for.

If you have listed a voluntary aided school or academy, we send your application details to the relevant school as the school governors decide who should be offered places. If a school receives more applications than they have places available, the school will use its oversubscription criteria to rank and determine which applicants can receive an offer. This information is then returned to Tameside Admissions and matched against the applicant's list of preferences. All possible offers are shared and exchanged across neighbouring Local Authorities through the Co-ordination Scheme. If you have listed a community school, Tameside Council Admissions will apply the council's oversubscription criteria if there are more applications than available places.

If you have listed a school in a neighbouring authority, the application will be sent to the local authority for processing. If more than one of your preferred schools can offer your child a place, we will offer a place at the one which features highest in your list of preferences. If only one preferred school can offer your child a place, this is the place you will be offered. If a place cannot be offered at any of the preferred schools, a place will be offered the next nearest school with places available. Your child's name is automatically added to the waiting list of the preferred schools higher than the school we have offered. You will receive only one offer of a school place for each child.

Note: Most Tameside primary schools receive more applications than they have places available and use admissions oversubscription criteria to determine who can be offered a school place. All over-subscribed schools will offer places using the criteria listed in section 8. Please refer to the relevant schools' websites for details and complete and return supplementary information forms as required by the deadline stipulated by the school.

Distance measurement

For admission purposes, we measure distance in a straight line from the child's home address using the address point assigned by the National Land and Property Gazetteer, to the main gate to the school property. Measurements will be made using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey. The straight-line measurement is used purely as a tie-breaker; it has no relevance to how you would walk to the school. Distance is not measured using Google or other similar tools.

SECTION 4 – APPLICATION OUTCOME

This section sets out when you will know the outcome of your application and what to do when you find out.

NATIONAL OFFER DAY – 16 APRIL 2025

If you live in Tameside and have applied online, you will be able to access the school admissions website from 12.30am on the morning of 16 April 2025 and see where we have been able to offer your child a school place. Please use the email address and password you used to make your original application to access your online account. Unfortunately the Admissions Team are unable to access your security details, including your secret question. A link is available on your online account to reset forgotten passwords.

Offers are also communicated by email on 16 April 2025 to everyone who applied on time. You may receive your email at some point during offer day due to the high number of emails sent. If your application was submitted after the closing date, notification will be sent by letter. **Please note that decisions will not be given over the telephone.**

If you live outside Tameside, your own local authority will offer you a school place either through their online system and/or by letter.

What happens if I am not happy with the school my child has been offered?

If you are not satisfied with your school allocation, there are two options open to you:

1. You can ask the school admissions team about places at other schools. Please submit your request in writing to the School Admissions Team by letter or by emailing schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk; or
2. You may appeal.

Please note: your child's name will be automatically placed on waiting lists for schools that you have ranked higher than your allocated school. You will retain the place you have been allocated until you secure a place at an alternative school.

SCHOOL PLACE APPEALS

If you are unhappy with the school place your child has been offered, you have a right to appeal to the independent appeals panel.

To appeal for a place at a Tameside school you should complete the online appeal application form, which can be found at

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions/appeals> by 16 May 2025. Any appeals received after this date may be heard after others for that particular school. If you are appealing for a voluntary aided school or academy, your appeal will be forwarded to the relevant school. You can only appeal for a school for which you have expressed a preference and have been refused. **Please note that no places are 'held back' for appeals.** Parents of pupils with an EHCP have the right to appeal to the SEN Tribunal.

You will be sent notification of your appeal hearing, alongside relevant documentation and details of how to access the meeting, at least 10 days in advance of your hearing date. You will also receive a

copy of the school/admission authority's statement outlining their case in advance of the hearing and will have the opportunity to ask any questions in relation to this during your hearing. You are advised to attend the hearing to present the case for your child and you may bring a friend or representative along. At the meeting, a representative from the school or the council will usually present the school's case.

Every effort will be made to hear appeals before the start of the Autumn Term, but no guarantee can be made that appeals submitted after the deadline will be heard by September.

The Clerk to the Panel will inform you in writing of the Panel's decision in writing and this will be sent out to you within 5 calendar days. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is final and binding on all parties and parents have no further right of appeal for the same school in the same school year, unless there has been a material and significant change in circumstances.

Whilst you are awaiting your appeal, it is important that you consider alternative schools in case your appeal is unsuccessful. Similarly, it is a good idea to accept the place at the school you have been offered, as this will have no effect on the outcome of your appeal and will prevent your child from missing out on a school altogether. If you wish to appeal for a school in another Local Authority area, you should contact the Admissions Team in that LA area for advice. The appeal panel's decision is binding on the council and on parents/carers.

There is a legal limit on the size of infant classes, set at thirty children. Where classes are at maximum capacity an appeal panel can only agree the appeal if it can be shown that the authority has made a mistake in applying its oversubscription criteria or has acted unreasonably.

Full details on the appeals process can be found at
<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions/appeals>

School waiting lists

When all available places have been allocated, a waiting list will be established for each oversubscribed school. Positions on a waiting list must follow the same order as the oversubscription criteria and are not allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. If new or late applications have a higher priority under the oversubscription criteria, they will be ranked higher than those who have been on the waiting list for some time. So it's possible that over time a child's position on a waiting list can change. Let us know immediately if your circumstances change that may affect your position on a waiting list (e.g. if you move house) and provide appropriate supporting evidence.

Waiting lists for Tameside schools (until 31 August 2025)

If we have not been able to allocate you a place at your first preference school, your child will automatically be added to the waiting list of any school you named on your application that was a higher preference than the school where your child was allocated a place. You will retain the place you have been allocated until you secure a place at an alternative school. The waiting lists for the community high schools will be held until the end of the school year. Some academy schools hold their waiting lists until the end of the autumn term only - please check individual school websites for details.

We are unable to discuss your child's position on a waiting list until after 2 May 2025, approximately two weeks after the appeals closing date. The School Admissions Team will contact you if a place becomes available and that place can be allocated to your child. There is no need to telephone to find out your child's position.

OFFERING PLACES FROM THE WAITING LISTS

When a place becomes available it is allocated to the child at the top of the waiting list. The child's lower preference school is re-allocated to another child on that school's waiting list. This is an automatic process.

It is important, therefore, to tell us if you do not wish to remain on the waiting list for higher preference schools if you are now happy to accept a lower preference school.

In year transfer waiting lists (from September 2025)

At the start of the autumn term, the waiting lists will be transferred into our in-year admissions system. Waiting lists will be maintained by the local authority for Tameside community schools and by the individual schools if they are their own admission authority. They will last until the end of the current academic year. If you wish to remain on the school's waiting list for the next academic year you will need to complete a new in-year application form. Waiting lists for academies, faith schools and out of area schools are maintained by the relevant authority responsible for the school or the school themselves. Please refer to their admission arrangements for details of how they are maintained.

When a place becomes available children who have been referred under the local authority's fair access protocol or who is the subject of a direction by the local authority to admit will be given precedence over other children on the waiting list. Then any places will be offered to the highest ranked application received by the date the place becomes available.

A place from the waiting list will only be held for two school days. Tameside Council will use the information provided on the original application to contact parents, it is the responsibility of parents to change their details with the School Admissions Team if they move house or change their phone number. If no response is received from a parent who has been offered a place from the waiting list within the 2 school day limit, it will be offered to the next child on the ranked list and so on until the place is filled.

If a parent is offered a place from the waiting list and rejects it or does not respond to requests by email or answerphone messages to contact the School Admissions Team, they will be removed from that waiting list.

If the appeals process leads to the admission of pupils beyond the published admission number, any places which are given up later will not be offered to those on the waiting list until the number in the year group falls below the Published Admission Number.

Waiting lists for schools in neighbouring local authorities

Parents should check with neighbouring councils for their waiting list arrangements (see section 13 for contact details).

SECTION 5: ALLOCATION STATISTICS

This section shows how places were allocated on offer day in April 2024

LIST A – Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools

The last distance at initial allocation varies year on year.

School Name	Head Teacher	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024	Furthest Distance at Initial allocation (miles) 2024
ASHTON UNDER LYNE					
Hurst Knoll St James' CE Primary Ladbrooke Road OL68JS	Mr J Hobday 330 4049 (N)(VC)	30	196	63	N/A
The Heys Primary Whiteacre Road OL69NS	Ms L Davison 330 1847(N)	30	232	64	N/A
AUDENSHAW					
Audenshaw Primary Ash Street M34 5NG	Mr P Williams 370 2504	30	212	82	0.504
DENTON					
Corrie Primary Cemetery Road M34 6FG	Mrs N Cartledge 336 2242 (N)	60	346	85	N/A
Greswell Primary Percy Road M34 2DH	Mr J Cooper 336 6854	60	445	120	0.905
Russell Scott Primary Clare Street M34 3LQ	Mr S Marland 320 5186 (N)	60	459	129	N/A
St Anne's Primary St Anne's Road M34 3DY	Ms K Rimmer 336 2956	30	212	91	0.556
DROYLSDEN					
Fairfield Road Primary Fairfield Road M43 6AF	Mr A Stephenson 370 3625(N)	60	447	103	N/A
DUKINFIELD					
Broadbent Fold Primary Tennyson Avenue SK16 5DP	Mrs C Parker 303 9411(N)	30	218	47	N/A
Ravensfield Primary Clarendon Street SK16 4JG	Mrs R Dawson 344 2905(N)	60	441	89	N/A
St John's CE Primary Westmorland Avenue SK16 5JA	Mrs V Hewitt-Lee 338 5821 (N)(VC)	45	332	90	N/A

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery

School Name	Head Teacher	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024	Furthest Distance at Initial allocation (miles) 2024
HATTERSLEY					
Arundale Primary Lowry Grove, Mottram SK14 5PW	Mr P Hartley 01457 762328 (N)	30	196	21	N/A
Pinfold Primary HattersleyRoadEast SK143NL	Mrs J Hughes 368 3732 (N)	60	400	53	N/A
HYDE					
Gee Cross Holy Trinity CE Primary Higham Lane SK145LX	Ms S Lane 368 2911 (VC)(N)	30	226	70	0.769
LONGDENDALE					
Broadbottom CE Primary Mottram Road, Broadbottom SK14 6BB	Ms J Marrow 01457 62382 (VC)	15	81	14	N/A
Hollingworth Primary MarketStreet, Hollingworth SK148LP	Mrs S Tickle 01457 61588 (N)	30	184	19	N/A
MOSSLEY					
Livingstone Primary Valeside OL5 0AP	Ms R Willard 01457 832495(N)	30	219	61	1.312
Micklehurst All Saints CE Primary The Rowans OL59DR	Ms L Trelfa 01457 832499 or 01457 832128 (N)(VC)	30	214	40	N/A
Milton St John's CE Primary Mill Lane OL50BN	Ms L Gallagher 01457 32572 (N)(VC)	30	216	50	N/A
STALYBRIDGE					
Arlies Primary BroadhillRoad SK151HQ	Ms L Hughes 338 4854 (N)	30	197	42	N/A
Gorse Hall Primary Forrester Drive SK152DP	Miss A Flood 338 4262 (N)	60	430	99	N/A
Millbrook Primary Bank Road, off Huddersfield Road SK153JX	Ms E Turner 01457 834314 (N)	30	229	77	0.848
Stalyhill Infant School Stalyhill Drive SK152TR (Linked to Stalyhill Junior School)	Ms L Lockett 01457 763598	60	178	76	N/A
Stalyhill Junior School Hereford Way, Mottram Old Road SK152TD (Linked to Stalyhill Infant School)	Ms L Lockett (Exec Head) Mrs A Stewart-Milne (Head of School) 338 4290	60	231	58	N/A

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery

LIST B – Voluntary Aided Primary Schools

The last distance at initial allocation varies year on year.

School Name	Head Teacher	Religious Affiliation	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Requests 2024
ASHTON UNDER LYNE					
Canon Burrows CE Primary OldhamRoad OL79ND	Ms SFildes 330 4755(N)	CE	60	438	98
Holy Trinity CE Primary KenyonStreet OL67DU	Mr S Brereton 330 1065(N)	CE	30	238	35
Our Lady of Mount Carmel RC Primary HoldenStreet OL6 9JJ	Mrs HHayes 330 9521(N)	RC	30	219	60
St Christopher's RC Primary StChristopher'sRoad OL69DP	Mr I Noone 330 5880 (N)	RC	30	248	89
St Peter's CE Primary OxfordStreet OL7 0NB	Mr J Wilson 330 1691	CE	30	203	51
AUDENSHAW					
St Anne's RC Primary Clarendon Road M34 5QA	Mrs A Duffy 370 8698 (N)	RC	30	237	50
St Stephen's CE Primary AudenshawRoad M345HD	Mr G Lovgreen 330 3818 (V)	CE	30	204	58
DENTON					
St John Fisher RC Primary ManorRoad, HaughtonGreen M34 7SW	Mrs M Harris 336 5308 (N)	RC	30	246	67
St Mary's RC Primary KynderStreet M342AR	Mr N Price (Acting) 336 3322 (N)	RC	30	226	75
DROYLSDEN					
St Mary's CE Primary ChurchStreet M43 7BR	Mr C Quinn 370 3948(N)	CE	30	226	61
St Stephen's RC Primary ChappellRoad M43 7NA	Mr C Lavin 370 2071 (N)	RC	60	421	73
DUKINFIELD					
St Mary's Catholic Primary Cheetham Hill Road SK165LB	Ms C McManus 368 4824	RC	30	226	77

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery (CE) Church of England (RC) Roman Catholic

School Name	Head Teacher	Religious Affiliation	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024
HATTERSLEY					
St James' Catholic Primary Cheriton Close SK14 3DQ	Mr M Woolley 368 3455 (N)	RC	30	203	29
HYDE					
St Paul's Catholic Primary Turner Lane SK14 4AG	Ms M Flynn 368 2934 (N)	RC	30	215	51
LONGDENDALE					
Mottram CE Primary War Hill, Mottram SK14 6JL	Mrs R Hughes (Acting) 01457 763368	CE	20	130	28
MOSSLEY					
St Joseph's RC Primary Market Street OL50ES	Mrs I Williams 01457 832360 (N)	RC	30	185	33
STALYBRIDGE					
St Peter's Catholic Primary Hough Hill Road SK15 2HB	Ms K Ryan 338 3303 (N)	RC	30	231	74
St Raphael's Catholic Primary Huddersfield Road SK15 3JL	Mrs L Lakner 338 4095 (N)	RC	30	215	51

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery (CE) Church of England (RC) Roman Catholic



LIST C – Academy Primary Schools

The last distance at initial allocation varies year on year.

School Name	Head Teacher	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024	Furthest Distance at Initial allocation (miles) 2024
ASHTON UNDER LYNE					
Ashton West End Primary Williams Street, WestEnd OL7 0BJ	Miss K Pizuti 330 4234 (N)	60	437	66	N/A
Canon Johnson CE Primary Elgin Street OL79DD	Ms K Pollard 330 3169 (N)	30	225	49	N/A
Holden Clough Community Primary Off St. Alban's Avenue OL6 8XN	Mr F Kordemir 330 5248 (N)	30	342	68	0.912
Inspire Academy Mossley Road OL69RU	Ms L Armstrong 339 7822 (N)	60	444	91	N/A
St James CE Primary Romney Street OL69HU	Mr J Rolt 330 2008 (N)	30	229	40	N/A
Oasis Academy Broadoak NormanRoad OL68QG	Mrs F Lomas 330 3105 (N)	60	415	62	N/A
Waterloo Primary WorthingtonStreet OL79NA	Mr D Harris 330 1280 (N)	60	350	55	N/A
Parochial CE Primary KeppelStreet OL66NN	L Thompson 343 6070 (N)(VC)	30	212	36	N/A
Rosehill Methodist Community Primary Rosehill Road OL68YG	Ms G Yapp 343 8485 (N)(VC)	60	392	45	N/A
AUDENSHAW					
Poplar Street Academy Ravenwood Drive M345EF	Mrs H Fletcher 336 4134 (N)	60	456	106	N/A
Aldwyn Primary School Lumb Lane M345SF	Mr C Beaty 370 3626 (N)	60	438	93	N/A
DENTON					
Dane Bank Primary Thornley Lane South SK5 QG	Mrs Lennon 336 5896 (N)	30	235	75	0.546
Denton West End Primary Balmoral Drive M342JX	Mrs S White 336 3409 (N)	60	454	93	N/A
Linden Road Academy Linden Road M346EF	Mr P Greaves 320 0002 (N)	30	223	46	N/A
Manor Green Primary Mancunian Road M34 7NS	Ms V Saville 336 5864 (N)	60	312	28	N/A

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery

School Name	Head Teacher	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024	Furthest Distance at Initial allocation (miles) 2024
DROYLSDEN					
Greenside Primary Greenside Lane M43 7RA	Mrs J Reynolds 370 8496 (N)	60	70	124	0.597
Manchester Road Primary Manchester Road M43 6GD	Mrs J Taylor 370 3079 (N)	60	365	71	N/A
Moorside Primary Market Street M34 7DA	Mr S Ismail 370 3614 (N)	60	430	86	N/A
DUKINFIELD					
Yew Tree Primary Yew Tree Lane SK16 5BJ	Mrs S Lomax 338 3452 (N)	60	364	63	N/A
Lyndhurst Community Primary Hill Street SK16 4JS	Ms G Patterson 330 7220 (N)	30	227	47	N/A
HYDE					
Bradley Green Primary Bradley Green Road SK14 4NA	Mrs V Cameron 368 2166 (N)	30	218	55	N/A
Discovery Academy Porlock Avenue SK14 3LE	Mrs B Oldham 368 5962 (N)	30	225	43	N/A
Dowson Primary Marlborough Road SK14 5HU	Mrs K Thornburn 366 0177 (N)	60	474	127	0.442
Endeavour Academy Walker Lane SK14 5PL	Mrs C Rhodes 368 3366 (N)	45	245	33	N/A
Flowery Field Primary Off Old Road SK14 4SQ	Ms C Silk 368 1466 (N)	90	661	142	N/A
Greenfield Primary Queen Street SK14 1QD	Ms Z Neophitou 368 1898 (N)	30	211	44	N/A
Godley Primary St John's Drive SK14 2QB	Ms S Clawley- Welton 368 3162 (N)	30	230	79	0.332
Oakfield Primary and Moderate Learning Difficulties Resource Base St Mary's Road SK14 4EZ	Ms H Farrell 368 3365 (N)	30	28	71	0.895
St George's CE Primary Henry Street SK14 1JL	Ms N Hewitt 368 2848 (N)	30	227	50	0.232
MOSSLEY					
St George's CE Primary Stamford Street OL5 0HT	Mrs C Divers 01457 832496 (N)	30	130	30	N/A

School Name	Head Teacher	Published Admission Number	Number on roll in Jan 2024	Number of Request 2024	Furthest Distance at Initial allocation (miles) 2024
STALYBRIDGE					
Buckton Vale Primary Swallow Lane, Carrbrook SK15 3NU	Mrs K Quinn 01457 833102	30	240	55	N/A
Silver Springs Primary Academy School Crescent SK15 1EA	Ms D Mason 338 2475 (N)	60	402	62	N/A
St Paul's CE Primary Huddersfield Road SK15 2PT	Mr S Wright 338 2060 (VC)	30	215	68	1.586
Wild Bank Community Demesne Drive SK15 2PG	Mrs J Postlethwaite 303 7404 (N)	30	141	20	N/A

(V) Voluntary Controlled (N) Nursery

LIST D – SPECIAL SCHOOLS

School Name	Head Teacher	School designated to meet the needs of pupils with:
Oakdale School, Cheetham Hill Road Dukinfield SK16 5LD	Ms T Tray 367 9299	Severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties
Thomas Ashton School Bennett Street Hyde SK14 4SS	Mr R Elms 368 6208	Behavioural, emotional and social difficulties
Hawthorns School Lumb Lane Audenshaw M34 5SF	Mr P Coiffait 370 1312	Moderate learning difficulties

- Only children with an EHCP will be placed in one of these schools
- Children will only be placed at a school designated to meet their primary special educational need
- Placement at a special school is not dependent upon admissions numbers, number of pupils on roll or religious affiliation

SECTION 6: SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND PUPILS

Assistance with travel

Tameside has an overall vision for sustainable travel that is outlined in its Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy – Promoting Sustainable School Travel.

The strategy encourages sustainable travel choices on the journey to and from school which will help in fostering a long term change in the travel habits of children, parents, teachers and hopefully the wider community, so that they are more likely to take up walking, cycling and public transport.

The strategy's overall aim is to reduce car use for travel to school, improve safety and security on the school journey, improve the health of school children by encouraging use of active modes, and to contribute to the improvement of the local environment through reduced emissions.

The strategy also contains information on a host of associated initiatives including school travel plans, current school bus services, information on pedestrian and cycle training and most importantly an action plan setting out a series of initiatives to take forward the plan over the longer period.

Bus pass application

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) / carer(s) of a pupil to see that their child attends school. However, the council may provide assistance with transport to school for some pupils who live within the Tameside area. The full home to school transport policy is available on the council's website <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/education/transport/5-16policy>.

Bus passes will be issued to pupils meeting one of the following eligibility criteria:

Group 1: Pupils whose nearest qualifying school is outside 'walking distance'. 'Walking distance' is more than:

- Two miles for children under the age of 8
- Three miles for children aged 8-16

Group 2: Primary pupils from low income families travelling to:

- One of the nearest three qualifying schools where they live more than two miles but less than six miles from that school
- The nearest school preferred by reason of a parent's faith or belief, where the school is more than two miles but less than 15 miles from the child's home.

The distance between home and school is measured by the nearest available walking route by an officer of the council using the School Admissions software. Distance will be measured using the same method as used to allocate places as defined in section 7.

The law defines a qualifying school as a school with places available that provides education appropriate to the age, ability and aptitude of the child.

A cycle allowance of £30 per year is payable instead of a bus pass, if requested. Pupils not resident in Tameside will need to check with their home authority to see if they are eligible for a zero fare bus pass.

Applications on the web

You will need to complete an application form for assistance with travel. This can be found on the Tameside Council website at www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/buspasses

Assistance with uniform costs

If you think you might have difficulty in providing uniform for your children, you may wish to consider the following options:

- contact your child's school and discuss it with them
- check that you are getting all the benefits you are entitled to
- consider purchasing items from high street supermarkets where they are often cheaper

A small amount of money has been set aside for families facing exceptional circumstances which will only be available through a professional referral. The circumstances that might qualify are families fleeing domestic violence where they are forced to change school or have to leave uniform items behind, families who have belongings including uniform destroyed in a fire or flood. Parents' carers of children who have an enforced change of school e.g. children with EHCPs where a new school is identified on the plan or excluded pupils moving back into mainstream school. Also, asylum seekers who are moved at short notice resulting in an enforced change of school.

More information is available at: educationwelfare referrals@tameside.gov.uk

Free school meals

Free School Meals can be claimed by Parents or Guardians of pupil's who are on a low income. All claims will be processed by your child's school. Eligible income includes:

- Universal Credit, provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



If you need any further information, please speak to a member of school staff. You can also visit the free school meal website: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

SECTION 7: SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

The determined admission arrangements for a school are the full set of arrangements which set out how a school will admit pupils. This includes the published admission number (the maximum number of pupils intended to be admitted to the relevant year group), the oversubscription criteria and information on waiting lists. You are advised to read the full arrangements for all your preferred schools before you complete your application. The full admission arrangements can be found on the relevant school website or at: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions/2025>

Definitions for admission arrangements

Unless stated otherwise in the admission arrangements the following definitions will apply.

Distance - Distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's home address, using the address point assigned by the National Land and Property Gazetteer, to the main gate to the school property. Measurements will be made using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey.

Home Address - The address from which distance will be measured is the permanent residential address at the time of application of the parent with whom the child normally lives. Where parents have shared responsibility – the child lives with each for part of the week – the home address will be taken as that of the parent who receives the child benefit. See section 11 for more information on moving house and proof of address.

Tie-Breaker - If a school is oversubscribed within any of the criteria, priority will be given to those children living nearest to the school. In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applicants where this distance would be the last place/s to be allocated, the place will be allocated to the pupil that is nearer using walking distance as measured using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software.

Parent - Throughout this guide the term 'parent' includes:

- All natural parents, whether they are married or not
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

Admission arrangements for new academy status schools

Admission Arrangements are set approximately 18 months in advance. Therefore, the first opportunity for schools having attained academy status during the admission year 2025 - 2026 to consult on changing their admission arrangements is between 1st October 2023 and 31st January 2024. The new arrangements will commence in September 2025.

Schools having recently attained academy status should continue to use the current admission arrangements and associated oversubscription criteria until they have consulted upon and subsequently adopted their relevant academy admission arrangements.

SECTION 8: OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR TAMESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOLS

A list of all Tameside community high schools, with their respective Published Admission Numbers, can be found here: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions/2025>

Apply online: www.tameside.gov.uk

Admissions Team: 0161 342 4004

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTARY AIDED AND ACADEMY SCHOOLS

The admission arrangements for Tameside voluntary-aided and academy primary schools are available on the individual school web-sites and also in the “Starting Out 2025: Admissions Arrangements for Voluntary Aided and Academy Primary Schools 2025” booklet which accompanies this document. The booklet is available on the Tameside website at the following link:

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions>

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS

Where applications for admission to any Tameside Community and Voluntary Controlled primary school exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan where the school is named will be allocated places before the oversubscription criteria are applied. The criteria for oversubscription for community and voluntary controlled primary schools are:

- 1. Cared for (Looked after) children and all previously cared for (Looked after) children, including those 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. Previously cared for (Looked after) children are children who were cared for (looked after) but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.**

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

2. Children and families with exceptional medical or social needs

Written evidence must be provided by a suitably qualified professional – e.g. a GP or consultant for medical needs, or a social worker for social needs – the information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child. A panel of officers from Tameside MBC will make a decision as to whether to admit a child under this criterion, using the evidence provided. Parents/carers are responsible for providing all information in support of an application by the closing date, officers of the council will not ask for additional information. All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence.

3. Sibling

This will apply where there are brothers or sisters attending the school or the linked junior school as at the closing date for applications, who will still be attending at the time of admission, i.e. in the September when a pupil is admitted to Reception. Preference will be given to pupils living nearest to the school.

The sibling criterion includes natural sisters/brothers; half-sisters/brothers; step sisters/brothers; adopted sisters/brothers; sisters/brothers of fostered children; children of the parent/carer's partner, and in each case living at the same address. This allows for the admittance of children whose siblings will still be attending the preferred school.

4. All other applications on distance

Preference will be given to pupils living nearest to the school.

Distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's home address, using the address point assigned by the National Land and Property Gazetteer, to the main gate to the school property. Measurements will be made using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey.

Where oversubscription occurs in applying either criteria 1, 2 or 3, priority will be given to those pupils living nearest the school, measured as a straight line (as above).

The address from which distance will be measured will be the permanent residential address, as at the closing date for applications, of the parent with whom the child is normally resident. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address is the address from which the child travels to school for the majority of school days per week.

In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applications where this distance would be the last place/s to be allocated, the place will be allocated to the pupil that is nearer using walking distance as measured using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software.

In the event of two or more applications with distances, which are exactly the same competing for a final place, e.g. blocks of flats, the place will be decided by drawing lots, the first name drawn will be offered the place.

An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'child arrangement order' is as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

In cases where twins, triplets, or other multiple birth siblings are split when allocations take place, they will be allocated a place over the Published Admission Number and will remain excepted pupils for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit.

SECTION 9: PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR TAMESIDE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOLS

ALDER COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	HYDE HIGH SCHOOL
Arundale Bradley Green Broadbottom CE Discovery Academy Dowson Endeavour Gee Cross Holy Trinity Godley Greenfield Mottram CE Pinfold St George's CE Hyde St James' RC Hyde St Paul's RC Hyde Stalyhill Junior St Anne's, Denton St John Fisher RC	Arundale Bradley Green Broadbent Fold Discovery Academy Dowson Endeavour Flowery Field Gee Cross Holy Trinity Godley Greenfield Linden Road Oakfield Pinfold St George's CE Hyde St Paul's RC Hyde
MOSSLEY HOLLINS HIGH SCHOOL	DENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Buckton Vale Livingstone Micklehurst Millbrook Milton St John's CE St George's CE St Joseph's RC St Raphael's RC	Audenshaw Corrie Dane Bank Denton West End Greswell Linden Road Manor Green Poplar Street Russell Scott St Anne's, Denton St Stephen's CE

SECTION 10: PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR TAMESIDE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOLS

RAYNER STEPHENS HIGH SCHOOL

Ashton West End Bradley Green Broadbent Fold Canon Burrows Canon Johnson Dowson Endeavour Flowery Field Gee Cross Holy Trinity Godley Gorse Hall Greenfield Holden Clough	Holy Trinity CE Hurst Knoll Inspire Lyndhurst Millbrook Oakfield Oasis Broadoak Our Lady of Mount Carmel RC Parochial Ravensfield Rosehill Silver Springs	St Christopher's RC St Georges CE Hyde St James' CE St John's CE St Mary's RC Dukinfield St Paul's RC St Paul's CE St Peter's CE Stalyhill Junior The Heys Waterloo Wildbank Yew Tree
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LONGDENDALE HIGH SCHOOL

Arlies Arundale Bradley Green Broadbottom Discovery Dowson Endeavour Flowery Field Gee Cross Holy Trinity	Godley Gorse Hall Greenfield Hollingworth Millbrook Mottram Oakfield Pinfold Russell Scott	Silver Springs St Georges CE Hyde St James' RC St Mary's RC Denton St Paul's RC St Paul's CE St Peter's RC Stalybridge Stalyhill Junior Wildbank
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FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Aldwyn Ashton West End Audenshaw Corrie Dane Bank Denton West End Fairfield Road Greenside	Greswell Holy Trinity Ashton Linden Road Manchester Road Manor Green Moorside Parochial CE Poplar Street	Russell Scott St Anne's Denton St Anne's R.C. St Mary's CE Droylsden St Peter's CE St Stephen's RC St Stephen's CE Waterloo
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GREAT ACADEMY ASHTON	DROYLSDEN ACADEMY	COPLEY ACADEMY
<p>Arlies Ashton West End Oasis Broadoak Canon Burrows CE Canon Johnson CE Holden Clough Holy Trinity CE Hurst Knoll Inspire Academy Parochial CE Rosehill Methodist Silver Springs Academy St James' CE Ashton St Peter's CE The Heys Waterloo</p>	<p>Aldwyn Audenshaw Fairfield Road Greenside Manchester Road Moorside Poplar Street St Anne's RC Audenshaw St Mary's CE St Stephen's CE St Stephen's RC</p>	<p>Arlies Buckton Vale Gorse Hall Millbrook Silver Springs St Paul's CE Stalybridge Stalyhill Junior Wild Bank St Raphael's St Peter's RC</p>



SECTION 11: MOVING HOUSE AND PROOF OF ADDRESS

If you are in the process of moving house or recently changed address, you must still apply by the closing date (to us if you are moving within Tameside or to your home local authority if you are currently living outside Tameside). You must state your child's current address at the time of application in order for your application to be considered.

In order for your new address to be used in the allocation, you must be residing at the property by 23 January 2025 and be able to provide the necessary proof of address set out later in this section.

We will be able to use your new address to process your application providing we receive the proof of address by 23 January 2025.

You will also be able to change the schools you have listed on your application form up to this date if a material change in circumstances has taken place. We may ask at a later stage that you support previous evidence by sending us further evidence, for example a utility bill. If you cannot provide this evidence until after 23 January 2025, we will not be able to take your new address into account during our initial allocations. This is because after 23 January 2025 we are unable to make any further changes to our computer systems. However, we will be able to use your new address for any waiting list application you make.

Please note: If your proposed house move falls through, then you must inform us so that the correct address can be used for the allocation. Failure to do so may result in an offer being withdrawn.

Proof of address

As part of the school admission process, you may be asked to provide proof of address to the council or the Admission Authority of the school your child has been offered. To ensure that offers of school places are made fairly, Tameside Council is committed to following strict address verification procedures.

Where there is any doubt, the council / Admission Authority may require the following proof:

1. Proof of where you (the parent/carer) live
2. Proof that the child lives with you (the parent / carer)
3. Proof of the child's date of birth

Proof of where you live

Please provide any two of the following:

- A copy of a current tenancy agreement signed by all parties and arranged through a letting / estate agency.
- Current private tenancy agreement (not arranged through a letting/estate agency) must be supported with three copies of utility bills.
- A copy of your council Tax bill for the current year
- A copy of a recent utility bill for your home address, showing usage - Gas, Electricity, Water, Telephone (not mobile phones)
- A copy of your driving licence
- A copy of your rent book for a current council tenancy
- A copy of a letter from a Housing Association confirming that you and the child are living at the address

- A copy of your house insurance dated within the last 12 months
- HMRC Tax notification documentation
- Credit Card Statements dated within the last three months
- Bank / Building Society / Statement dated within the last three months
- TV Licence (valid for the current year) with the name and address
- Letter from National Asylum Support Service (NASS) OR UK Border Force (UKBA) confirming placement at the address
- A photocopy of the Child Benefit statement, showing parent's name, the child's name and the home address
- A photocopy of the child's medical card, showing the home address
- Home Office paperwork (including child's name and date of birth)

Recently moved house?

If you have recently moved house and your present address is different from the address on your application, you must provide a closing council tax bill or closing utility bill for gas, water or electricity for your previous address to prove that you were living at the address at the time of application. You will also need proof of your new address. If you do not provide the above proofs, we will assume your child does not live at the address you have provided. Even if you prove that you live at the address yourself, we still need proof that your child lives there as well.

Please be aware that irrespective of the proof you provide, the council may ask you to supply further evidence to verify your address or prove a sibling link.

Proof that the child lives with you

The council may also require proof that the child that has been offered a school place lives with you. Therefore, please provide:

- A photocopy of your most recent child benefit statement OR
- A photocopy of your family tax credit letter which clearly states your child's name and address

If you do not receive child benefit or family tax credit, please provide at least two alternative documents to prove that your child lives with you. For example; a letter from your child's GP, dentist, hospital, optician; NHS Medical Card; child trust fund document; letter from social services or housing department confirming child's placement at address.

Proof of the child's date of birth

- The child's birth certificate / adoption certificate OR
- The child's passport (this must be valid)

Proof of Parental Responsibility

Where there is any doubt about parental responsibility, the council / admission authority will ask you to provide proof of parental responsibility. In such cases, whatever you choose to provide will be entirely up to you. However, it must indicate that you have parental responsibility. In law having "Parental Responsibility" (PR) means all the rights, duties, powers, responsibility and authority that a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property. For example; having the right to make important decisions about the child's life, in areas like medical treatment and education. People other than a child's natural parents can acquire parental responsibility through:

- being granted a child arrangement order
- being appointed a guardian

According to current law, a natural mother always has parental responsibility for her child. However, a father has this responsibility if he is on the birth certificate for a child born after 1st December 2003 or if he is married to the child's mother or has acquired legal responsibility for the child.

Changes in the Adoption and Children Act 2002 mean that from 30 December 2005, unmarried and same-sex couples that have jointly adopted a child will also have equal rights with regard to parental responsibility.

Others can also acquire parental responsibility by holding a Child Arrangement Order, Special Guardianship Order, or the Local Authority via a Care Order.

Examples of documents that denote parental responsibility include:

- The child's Birth Certificate;
- Marriage Certificate;
- Parental Responsibility Agreement entered into by birth parents;
- Copy of a Court Order giving father parental responsibility
- Child Arrangement Order in respect of the child
- Adoption Order
- Upon taking office as a formally appointed guardian of the child

Please note: It is an offence to give a false address. If we offered your child a school place based on information which then turns out to be false or misleading, we reserve the right to withdraw the offer and your application will be re-considered based on the correct facts.



SECTION 12: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

School transfers

Tameside Council believes that it is detrimental to a child's education to transfer schools other than going into Reception at a new primary school. It is generally in a child's best interest to remain at the same school for the whole primary phase and should only transfer at the end of Year 6, when they move up to secondary school.

Studies show that many children experience difficulties settling into a new school and, in the majority of cases, attainment dips when a pupil transfers to another school. For example it can be difficult to join established friendship groups, the curriculum may be organised differently so they may find they are repeating some units of work and have missed others, and they will have to get used to new routines and timetables. In addition, it can often be the case that problems experienced in one school will recur in another.

If your child is experiencing difficulties, please try to work through these with the school staff. If you are still considering a move, please make an appointment with the head teacher to discuss any concerns you may have, and try to resolve them in conjunction with the school.

A decision to move your child from one school to another should not be taken lightly and, in view of the upheaval it is likely to cause to your child's education, should only be considered as a last resort.

We do realise that, in certain circumstances, it may be necessary to transfer your child to another school, for example if you are moving house on a permanent basis and the distance would make it impossible to attend their current school. In these circumstances, however, we cannot guarantee a place will be available at a particular school.

If you wish to proceed with a transfer further details of how to do so can be found at www.tameside.gov.uk/schools/admissions. You will need to complete an online transfer form on the Tameside website. You should discuss the impending transfer with your child's current or previous school.

In Year Fair Access Protocol

All local authorities have a fair access protocol for in year transfers. It ensures the speedy admission and fair distribution of pupils with agreed additional needs. With specific short-term exceptions, all Tameside's schools participate in the protocol, which may result in schools admitting pupils over their published admission number. Further information is available on the Tameside website.

Out of school provision

Head Teachers can supply details of any out-of-hours clubs based at their school or operating in the area. Alternatively, parents can contact the council's Families Information Service on **0161 342 5434** for information about children's activities and childcare provision before and after school and during the holidays.

Remember . . . You can get further information about a school by reading its prospectus (available from the Head Teacher). You can view Ofsted reports on the Ofsted website www.ofsted.gov.uk

SECTION 13: USEFUL CONTACTS

ORGANISATION	EMAIL / WEBSITE	TELEPHONE
TAMESIDE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS Tameside Council PO Box 317 Ashton OL6 0GS	schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk	0161 342 4004
TAMESIDE APPEALS SERVICE Democratic Services Tameside One PO Box 317 Ashton OL6 0GS	schoolappeals@tameside.gov.uk	0161 342 2316
TAMESIDE SEN TEAM Tameside One PO Box 317 Ashton OL6 0GS	www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer	0161 342 4433
SENDIASS Remote Service see website for more information	tamesidesendiass@togethertrust.org.uk	0161 359 8005
DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL School Admissions & Transport Team, School Road, off Sheffield Road Chesterfield S41 8LJ	admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk	01629 537479
MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL Integrated Admissions PO Box 532 Town Hall Extension Manchester M60 2LA	school.admissions@manchester.gov.uk	Admissions: 0161 245 7166 Appeals: 0161 234 3038
OLDHAM MBC School Admissions, Civic Centre, West St Oldham OL1 1UT	ecs.pupils@oldham.gov.uk schoolappeals@oldham.gov.uk	Admissions: 0161 770 4213 Appeals: 0161 770 4213 In-Year Transfers: 0161 770 4213
STOCKPORT MBC School Admissions Education Division Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE	admissions.support@stockport.gov.uk admission.appeals@stockport.gov.uk	Admissions: 0161 217 6022 Appeals: 0161 474 3216

SECTION 14: SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES FORM

The Exceptional Medical or Social Needs admission rule is designed to give priority for a school place to children who may have exceptional reasons to attend a particular school. Most, but not all, schools include this rule as part of their admissions criteria.

You must let the Admissions Team know you want your child to be considered under this rule when you apply for a school place. In the application you should give details of why you are applying under this rule. You must also provide independent professional evidence for example, a doctor, psychologist, health visitor, education welfare officer or social worker in support of those reasons. The evidence must detail why the school is the only school that can meet the child's needs, and ideally should also set out the reasons why other schools would not be able to meet this need.

You can send your evidence using the Special Circumstances form on the next page.

CRITERION 2 – Exceptional Medical or Social Needs

Please use this form to give details of any exceptional medical or social needs that mean admission to a particular school is essential. The School Admissions Code says that the admission authority **MUST NOT** consider giving a higher priority to an application if supporting evidence has not been provided so you **MUST** also provide supporting evidence from a suitably qualified professional, for example a consultant or social worker. The admission authority may contact professionals involved with your child for further information. Any information provided will be treated in strict confidence and will not prejudice any school application.

Complete and return the form by 15 January 2025 to School Admissions, PO Box 317 Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 0GS or schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk

Exceptional Circumstances Panel

A panel of officers from Children's Services or School Governors if relevant will meet to consider the evidence provided for each individual case.

You should not normally apply for more than one school under this rule. However, in the very small number of cases, parents would need to make this clear on their application, and separate independent professional evidence relevant to the individual schools should be provided.

These will normally only be considered by the Panel once during the process. It would only be appropriate to reconsider a case if there is significant new evidence.

Parents whose cases are heard before the main allocation will be notified of the outcome in writing at the same time as they find out which school their child has been offered. Parents who apply under this rule after the main allocation round will be notified of the outcome in writing once the decision has been made.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES FORM		
1. CHILD'S DETAILS		
First Name:	Surname:	
Date of Birth:	Gender:	
Address (this must be the child's permanent place of residence):		
2. PARENT / CARER'S DETAILS		
First Name:	Surname:	
Relationship to child:		
Address:		
Telephone:		
Email:		
3. REQUESTED SCHOOL		
School Name:		
Do you already have another child attending the requested school?	YES	NO
If 'YES' please provide their details:		
Full Name:	Date of Birth:	
4. EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL / SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES		
Provide your reasons for requesting this school. Include details of your exceptional circumstances. Attach supporting evidence that is less than 3 months old (unless this is a long-term condition). Appointment cards or appointment letters cannot be accepted in place of a medical diagnosis.		
Continue on separate sheets as necessary and label all documents with your child's name.		
5. PARENT / CARER DECLARATION		
I certify that I have parental responsibility for the child named in section 1 and that all persons with parental responsibility have agreed to this. I can confirm that the information given on this form is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that giving false or deliberately misleading information may result in the withdrawal of the offer of a school place.		
Signature of parent / carer:		Date:

SECTION 15: REQUEST FOR OUT OF YEAR ADMISSION (including summer born children)

The Council believes that in general children should be educated within their correct chronological year group, with the curriculum differentiated as necessary to meet the needs of individual children, and that they should only be placed outside their normal age group in very limited circumstances. However, parents may apply for out-of-year admission, either in a higher or lower year group. This may be appropriate, for example, if the child is gifted and talented, has previously been educated outside their age group or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Parents of **summer-born children** however can choose to delay their child's entry to school until the following year when the child reaches statutory school age and may request that their child be admitted to Reception rather than Year 1 at that time.

To apply for delayed entry to a Reception class in 2026 you must:

1. Submit an online application for a Reception 2025 school place by 15 January 2025.
2. Complete the Request for Out-of-Year Admission Form below and send it with your supporting information to School Admissions by 15 January 2025.

To apply for out-of-year admission to any other year group you must:

Submit an application for the correct year group (full details of how to apply are on our website at www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions). Complete and submit the form below and provide supporting evidence (this must include the views of the current school).

Before completing this form, please read the guidance on delayed entry and out-of-year admission on our website at www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions

Parents should fully consider the impact of their child being educated with children of a different age, both within primary school and at transition to secondary school when out-of-year admission cannot be guaranteed and another request for admission outside the normal age group will be required, i.e. for admission to Year 7 rather than Year 8.

For Tameside community primary schools, all requests will be considered by the Council's Admissions Panel and relevant Head Teacher. For all other schools (including academies, free schools and faith schools) the decision will be made by the governing body for the school. Requests for delayed admission to a Reception class at a school outside Tameside will be forwarded to the relevant local authority. Decisions will be reached based on the individual circumstances of the child. In reaching a decision the following factors will be taken into account:

- the parent's views
- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development
- in the case of summer-born children, whether developmental delay is adversely affecting their readiness for school
- the child's medical history, where relevant, and the views of a medical professional
- whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal year group
- whether the child would have naturally fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- the needs of the child and the possible impact of then entering Year 1 without first having attended the Reception class. The views of the relevant head teacher will be an important part of this consideration.

TAMESIDE MBC - REQUEST FOR OUT OF YEAR ADMISSION APPLICATION FORM

You are required to submit an online application prior to completing this form. Use your child's correct date of birth and state you are requesting an out of year admission in the 'Additional Information' section. Then complete this form and email it to schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk. This form and your supporting evidence will be sent to the preferred schools listed on your online application for their consideration. School Admissions will inform you of their individual decisions.

APPLICATION DETAILS

This is a request for:

(a) **Admission outside the normal age group** (including delayed/accelerated Y6 to Y7 and delayed/accelerated infant to junior school). Year group requested?

Year

(b) **Summer-born child** to enter a Reception class in September 2026.

CHILD'S DETAILS

First Name:

Gender:

Surname:

Date of Birth:

Child's Address:

Is the child currently receiving nursery provision?

YES

NO

Early Years Provider:

PARENT / CARER'S DETAILS

First Name:

Telephone:

Surname:

Mobile:

Address

Email:

REASON FOR REQUEST

State your reasons for applying for out-of-year admission/delayed entry to Reception. This may include:

- Information about child's academic, social and emotional development
- Relevant medical history and views of a medical professional
- Previous experience of education outside of the child's normal age group
- Premature children who would be in a lower age group if not born prematurely.

Write your reasons here and continue on separate sheet as necessary:

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE - List any documents you have attached (continue on separate as necessary)

DECLARATION: I confirm that the information provided on this form is true and accurate. I have read the guidance provided by Tameside Council and consent to this form being shared with the relevant decision makers.

PARENT SIGNATURE:

DATE:

Have you done all you need to do?



Read the Starting Out information online.

Listed 6 schools in preference order on the application.

Included the name(s) of any siblings who will still be attending any of your preferred schools from September 2025.



Ticked the exceptional medical or social needs box and included details if relevant.

Ticked the Cared for Child box and provided proof by 15/01/25 if relevant.



Submitted additional information required by any of your preferred schools by 15/01/25.

Completed the online application form by 15th January 2025.

 **Tameside**
Metropolitan Borough