



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

Moving On

Information for parents and carers of children due to start Year 7 at secondary school in September 2027.

Apply online at:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Important Date!

31st October 2026

(National Closing Date for applications)

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Introduction



Transferring from primary to secondary school is an important moment for any child. Oxfordshire County Council wants the application process to be as straightforward as we can make it.

Hopefully, the information online and in this booklet will help you make informed decisions about applying for your child to move on to secondary education leading to your child being offered a place at one of the schools that you prefer.

Oxfordshire is a great place for this where applications for more than 6,800 children were processed and 96.4% of those who applied on time and live in Oxfordshire were offered a preferred school. Only 249 children, approximately 3.6%, whose parents had applied on time and who live in Oxfordshire were offered an alternative school that had not been requested.

Some schools receive more applications than there are places available, so they have to have a process that will enable admission authorities to decide which children will be offered a place and which children will need to go to other schools. This process must be fair and unbiased and follow the regulations and processes laid down nationally as well as locally.

Most applications are now made online (over 97% for moving on to secondary school for September 2026). Applying in this way offers the benefits of being able to start, save, change and complete your application at any time right up to 31st October 2026 (National Closing Date). Those who apply online will receive an email on 1st March 2027 (National Offer Day) and will also be able to respond online.

In Oxfordshire it is possible to list up to four preferences and we always recommend parents should request as many as possible. This does not make it less likely that your child will be offered the school you most want (your first preference) but it does make it less likely that a place will be offered at a school you do not want. In order to decide which school you would like your child to attend, we advise you to read information online and produced by the school (school prospectuses and admissions arrangements). It may also be possible to visit schools.

You should also consider how your child will travel to your preferred school(s). Most children are not eligible for free home to school transport. Remember that living in the catchment area for a particular school does not mean that your child will receive free transport to that school. Refer to the information about home to school transport in this booklet or online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schooltransport

Most importantly, I would advise you to apply on time. Applying on time is likely to maximise your chance of your child being offered a place at one of your preferred schools. This means you need to apply by **31st October 2026**.

You can find out more and apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Lisa Lyons

Director of Children's Services, Oxfordshire County Council

Key Dates

11 September 2026	“Moving On” booklet published online. Printed copies available on request from the Local Authority (LA). Opening date for paper and online applications.
31 October 2026	National Closing Date for on-time applications.
16 November 2026	Final date for confirmation of change of address as part of the on-time application process; <u>and</u> Final date for late applications with extenuating reasons to be considered as on-time applications.
1 March 2027	National Offer Day – offers sent by email and by second-class post where needed.
15 March 2027	Response Date for responding to an offer and for requesting to add a child’s name to a waiting list; <u>and</u> Late Closing Date; Last date for late applications and changes of preference to be considered in the second round of the allocation process.
7 May 2027	Offer Day 2 (second allocation day) – offers sent by email and by second-class post where needed.
21 May 2027	Response Date 2; Last date to respond to offers made on Offer Day 2 or to request to add a child’s name to the waiting list.
24 May 2027	Waiting Lists officially start. Re-offers can be made for applications and requests received after Late Closing Date;
September 2027	Start of new school year for Year 7.
1 June 2028	Applications for Year 8 in September 2028 can start to be made for those who have been on waiting lists or want to change school.
21 July 2028	Waiting lists discontinued (unless earlier as stated in a school’s admission arrangements)
September 2029	Start of Year 9. Parents/carers can consider Studio Schools and/or University Technical Colleges (UTCs) for a possible atypical transfer for their child to start Year 10 in September 2030. An application for transfer or to remain at the current secondary school is not compulsory. More information available online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/upperadmissions

Section 1 – Application Process

Parents/carers of children usually born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 (inclusive) need to apply for a secondary school transfer for their child.

National Closing Date

The National Closing Date for applications is **31st October 2026**.

Apply

There are two ways to apply – online or paper. Most applications are online now. Over 97% of applications for moving on to secondary school for September 2026 were online. When applying, parents/carers need to use one method only. Do not apply both online and on paper. This may delay the processing of the application especially if different preferences are listed on each application.

Online

Parents/carers can go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions to find the link to apply online.

Paper

If parents/carers are unable or do not wish to apply online they can apply on paper using the Common Application Form (CAF)

[Secondary Common Application Form \(CAF\)](#)

A copy of the form is available online or a state-funded mainstream primary school can print one or a form can be collected from a County Council building.

Applying on time

It is very important to apply on time. This maximises the chances that your child will be offered a place at a preferred school. This means the online or paper application needs to be received by the Admissions Team by National Closing Date on 31st October 2026.

Preferences

Parents/carers have a preference not a choice. Often these words are used interchangeably but they do not have the same meaning when processing school applications. The law states that parents are entitled to express a preference but this does not guarantee or give parents the right to choose a school for their child and expect their choice will always be met. However, admission authorities must comply with parental preference where possible. They can't comply when there are more applications than there are places available and complying with a parental preference would cause prejudice to the provision of efficient education and/or the efficient use of resources at a

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

school. For this reason, places will not be offered under normal circumstances over a school's published admission number.

For Oxfordshire children, parents/carers can request up to 4 schools on the application. We always recommend parents/carers list 4 schools as preferences in order of preference. This does not make it less likely that your child will be offered the school you most want (your first preference) but it does make it less likely that a place will be offered at a school you do not want at all.

Those who apply on-time are much more likely to get a place at their first preference school. Therefore, it is very important to apply on-time (see above).

Before deciding which school(s) to request you should read the information in this booklet and online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

It is important to know the admission rules for preferred schools in order to assess the likelihood that your child could be offered a place. If a place is not offered at one of the schools requested as a preference it will be because there were other children who had a higher priority for a place using the school's admission rules or live closer than your child. The over-subscription criteria for every state-funded school in Oxfordshire can be found in the "Admissions data" section for each individual school accessible via the [Oxfordshire schools search](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/search) webpage.
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list

Applying for a place at a school in England but outside Oxfordshire

Admissions to state-funded secondary schools in England are coordinated across Local Authority boundaries. This means that, if a child lives in Oxfordshire and the parent/carer wants to apply for a place at a school that is in a different Local Authority, the parent/carer must apply via Oxfordshire County Council. As with applications made for schools within Oxfordshire it is best to apply online. Oxfordshire County Council will liaise with the Local Authority in England where the school is situated on behalf of the parent/carer and child and will be responsible for sending notification of the outcome on behalf of the school / Local Authority on National Offer Day.

Applying for a place at a school in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales

Admissions to state-funded secondary schools in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales are not coordinated. Parents/carers wanting to apply for a place at a school in these areas should contact the school direct to find out how an application should be made.

Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs)

Some schools request extra information in addition to the information gathered for the online application or on the paper form. It is important to remember that submitting a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) does not mean an application has been made. Parents/carers must still apply listing a preference for the school (either online or on paper). However, if a school uses a SIF and the parent does not complete and send the SIF to the school by National Closing Date, it is likely that the preference will be considered in a lower criterion. Therefore, it is in the parents'/carers' and child's interest to complete and return the SIF by National Closing Date in order to maximise the possibility of an offer at that school.

Travelling to school:

When applying for a school place, you need consider how your child will travel to and from school each day. If you choose a school that is further away than your nearest suitable school, your child may not be eligible for free home-to-school travel support. We encourage all families to think carefully about the practicalities of the journey, including travel time, costs, and arrangements, before making a final decision.

Secondary school children are eligible for free home-to-school travel support where:

- they attend their nearest available school (not always their catchment school) and
- the school is over three miles from their home address.

If your child attends their nearest suitable school and the walking distance is less than the above distances, we may still provide travel assistance if we have determined that there is no available walking route.

Please Note

If you choose a school that is further from your home than your nearest suitable school, your child will not be eligible for free home-to-school travel support, even if there is no available walking route. Eligibility for travel assistance is based on the nature of the route to the nearest suitable school only, so it's important to consider this when requesting preferences.

If you are considering free home-to-school travel as part of your school application, it is very important to familiarise yourself with the nearest suitable schools to your home address. Eligibility for travel assistance is based on distance and the nature of the route to the nearest suitable school, not the schools you have listed as preferences if different.

Oxfordshire County Council's home-to-school travel and transport policy can be found online www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schooltransport

Applying late

If an application is received after the National Closing Date for applications (31st October 2026), it will be classed as a late application unless there are genuine extenuating reasons.

If a parent/carer does not apply online or on paper by the above date, then they should apply as soon as possible after this date. It is still possible to apply online after the National Closing Date. Go to our web page for the link to the Parent Portal www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

If it is not possible to apply online or a parent chooses not to a paper application form can be sent instead.

Secondary Common Application Form (CAF)

A copy of the form is available online or a state-funded mainstream primary school can print one or a form can be collected from a County Council building.

Whether the application is online or a paper form, if the parent provides genuine extenuating reasons by the extended closing date (16th November 2026), Oxfordshire County Council will consider these reasons to decide whether the application should be considered as an on-time application. These

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

reasons can be provided within the form or sent separately by email no later than the extended closing date.

After the extended closing date a notification will be sent if Oxfordshire County Council considers the application will be processed on-time. If no notification is received this means the application will continue to be processed as a late application. If parents/carers have a query, they can contact the Admissions Team at schoolofferresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Applications received after the extended closing date (16th November 2026) will, as a matter of course, be considered as late applications regardless of whether genuine extenuating reasons have been provided.

Examples of extenuating reasons are:

- an administrative error by a maintained school in Oxfordshire is responsible for the application being received late;
- an administrative error by Oxfordshire County Council is responsible for the application being late;
- a sudden illness of a close family member which prevented a parent/carers from submitting the application on time;
- the death of a close family member (child's sibling, parent, grandparent) which prevented the parent/carers from submitting the application on time.

The above list is not exhaustive.

Late applications are much less likely to be successful in gaining a place at a preferred school. This is because, for many schools, all available places will be offered on National Offer Day (1st March 2027) and places can only be offered in the second allocation round (Offer Day 2) if places are declined by others after National Offer Day meaning there will be limited places available. Therefore, any parent/carers applying between 1st and 16th November 2026 is strongly advised to provide genuine extenuating reasons to the Admissions Team why the application could not be submitted on-time.

Section 2 – Allocation Process

Equal Preference System

All state-funded mainstream schools in England have to follow the “Equal Preference System”. This is a requirement of the Department for Education’s School Admission Code 2021. This prevents admission authorities giving higher priority to parents who make a particular school their first preference.

Every school that a parent requests on their application is treated as a separate application and will be considered alongside all other preferences for that school and ranked using the over-subscription criteria alone without regard to how it is listed on each child’s application. The Admission Authority for a school must only use their over-subscription criteria to determine which children get places and must not discriminate against any application because a parent did not request it as first preference for that school.

For this reason admission authorities and schools are not told which order their school has been ranked on applications until after the allocation process is complete.

When the allocation process takes place each preference will be either provisionally offered or not offered based on where it is ranked on the school list using the over-subscription criteria and the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school. In this initial process some children could be in line to be offered a place at more than one school while others could be in line to be offered no preferred schools. The process starts to be resolved by taking into account the order of preference on individual applications, which ensures that by National Offer Day children are offered only one school, that this is the highest possible preference that could be offered considering the number of applications received for each school, the relevant oversubscription criteria and admission number.

In situations where it is not possible to offer a child a place at any school listed as a preference, the Admissions Authority will make an offer at the nearest school to the home address that still has an available place. This is called a referral.

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Admission rules / Over-subscription Criteria

Places are offered using each individual school's admission rules / over-subscription criteria. These are all available online.

For Oxfordshire community and voluntary controlled schools they have been available on the Council's public website since March 2026.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/apply-school-place/school-admission-rules-and-policies/admission-rules

For other schools they will be available on school websites. Links to school websites can be found via the [Oxfordshire schools search](#) webpage.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list

National Offer Day (1st March 2027)

For all applications made online or on paper with a valid email address, an email is sent between 12:01am and 9.59am on National Offer Day confirming the outcome of the application. The email may be the formal notification of a school offer. Online applicants can also log in to the Parent Portal to see the result and respond.

A letter will only be sent where one is needed, e.g. where the application was on paper or where the first preference school was not offered. Letters will be posted second-class on National Offer Day and may take between 3 and 5 days to be delivered.

The Leaflet - "What to do next"

Every letter sent on National Offer Day will include a leaflet called "What to do next?". This leaflet explains:

- how to respond to the offer of a place;
- details about how places were offered at each school (published online by midday on National Offer Day)
- more information about the decision about free home-to-school transport and how to respond to or query it;
- how to request to add a child's name to one or more Waiting Lists (where relevant);
- how to request a change of preference;
- information about future opportunities during Years 10 to 13 in secondary school (atypical transfer to Studio School or UTC);
- how to lodge a school admissions appeal (where relevant).

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Responding to an Offer

If the application has been made online, parents/carers can respond online.

Where an applicant applied on paper, they should email their response to:

schoolofferresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If a response is not received by the Admissions Team by the Response Date (15th March 2027), the parent will be sent a further reminder which will tell them their child could have their offer withdrawn if they do not respond.

If a parent declines the offer of a place and provides a reason, the offer will be removed and the record updated to show the reason. This will release the place to be available to be offered to a different child on Offer Day 2 (see below).

If a parent declines the offer of a place and does not provide a reason, Oxfordshire County Council will contact the parent to find out why the place has been declined and what arrangements the parent has made to ensure their child receive an education suitable to age, aptitude and ability.

Oxfordshire County Council always reserves the right to re-offer the place to another applicant on Offer Day 2 or later.

This could mean that the child would not have a secure school offer for September 2027. Therefore, we recommend that the place at the offered school is accepted even if it is not a preferred school.

The second allocation round process begins in March/April 2027 and ends on 7th May 2027.

First preference not offered

It is not always possible to offer a child a place at one or more of the schools requested as a preference. If this happens, parents/carers will have the option to add their child's name to the Waiting List and/or request a change of preference and/or appeal for a school place.

Waiting Lists

Parents/carers are able to request to add their child's name to the Waiting List for schools where a requested place could not be offered if these preferences were higher on the application. This means children offered their first preference school cannot be added to any Waiting List.

Children living in Oxfordshire are not automatically placed on the Waiting List for any school. Parents/carers must request this. This is called the "opt-in" system. Only children for whom a request has been received will be added to the Waiting List. A Waiting List request can be online via the Parent Portal or sent by email to schoolofferresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk including details of the child's name, date of birth and the name of the relevant school(s).

Other local authorities may offer an "opt-out" system where children refused a place are automatically added to the Waiting List for the school. Parents/carers must instead inform the local authority if they do not want their child to be considered for a place at that school any more via the Waiting List. Parents/carers of Oxfordshire children with preferences for schools outside Oxfordshire are still advised to notify Oxfordshire County Council that they want their child to be considered via the Waiting List for a school outside Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire County Council will pass this information on to other local authorities schools.

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Children outside Oxfordshire with a preference for an Oxfordshire school that was rejected where it is known that the child's home local authority operates an "opt-out" system will be added automatically to Waiting Lists for Oxfordshire schools.

Parents/carers should read Oxfordshire County Council's arrangements for waiting lists before requesting to add their child's name: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/continuedinterest
It is important to understand that a place may be offered at a preferred school via the Waiting List without notice and the original offer would be automatically withdrawn and available to offer to a different child.

In addition, in these circumstances, parents/carers are strongly advised to accept the place offered for their child. This ensures that a child will have a secondary school place for September 2027. However, they may also wish to submit a change of preference (see below).

Changes of preference

It is possible to request a change of preference to

- list new schools on an application; and/or
- change the order of schools already listed

A change of preference request is in order to try to gain an offer at a different preferred school at a later date. Parents/carers should read Oxfordshire County Council's arrangements for how changes of preference will be handled: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissionschange

Admission appeals

Parents have a statutory right to appeal for a place at any school where a place was not offered. For notifications sent on National Offer Day, the deadline for submitting an appeal is 29th March 2027 (20 school days after National Offer Day).

Anyone who has an application for a place at a school turned down (for the years Reception to Year 13) has the right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. For most but not all schools, appeals are organised by Oxfordshire County Council sometimes on behalf of schools.

The Oxfordshire appeals team publishes online a list of schools where appeals are not organised by Oxfordshire County Council at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals

The Oxfordshire Appeals Team can be contacted on 01865 328215 or schoolappeals@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Appeals are heard by an Independent Appeal Panel (IAP). The IAP is made up of volunteers who have no connection to the schools concerned. They will either be persons of experience (previous experience of day-to-day management in a school) or lay persons. The decision by the IAP whether or not to uphold (offer a place) or dismiss (not offer a place) the appeal is binding on the relevant Admission Authority.

Acceptance of a place at a school does not affect a parents'/carers' right to appeal for a place for their child at another school. However, if a parent decides to appeal for any of the listed preferences, it is wise to secure a place for a child at an alternative school in case the appeal is unsuccessful. This is because appeals are normally heard during the summer term.

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

A parents'/carers' statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied will not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group. In addition, if the request to be admitted to a different year group has not been accepted and a parent then appeals for a place for their child, any appeal that is heard would relate to the child's normal age group, i.e. the appeal would not be for admission to the requested year group.

Please note that appeals are very costly for schools, and additional children joining schools through successful appeals will have a detrimental impact on the delivery of education and the efficient use of school resources. Parents/carers should consider very carefully if they wish to proceed with an appeal.

Further information about the appeals process can be found at:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals

The Department for Education (DfE) publishes a School Admissions Appeals Code online

www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-appeals-code

After National Offer Day

2nd March to 15th March 2027

No offers will be made at any school between these dates. During this time, responses to school offers, requests for children to be added to Waiting Lists and requests for changes of preference will be collected and collated.

March to Offer Day 2 (7th May 2027)

After all information has been collated, any places that have arisen are available to re-offer on the second allocation round or Offer Day 2 on 7th May 2027.

The following groups of children are all considered together in the second allocation round:

- late applications received after National Closing Date (31st October 2026) but by Response Date (15th March 2027); and
- children who could not be offered a place on National Offer Day whose parents have requested to add their child's name to the Waiting List to be re-considered for a place, should one become available by Response Date (15th March 2027); and
- those classed as "change of preference", where a place was offered at a school on National Offer Day but the parent has changed preference(s) or added new preference(s) by Response Date (15th March 2027).

All of the above application types are considered together and are prioritised using each school's over-subscription criteria. No category of 'late' application takes precedence over another category and applications are not prioritised according to the date when the request was received.

Second allocation round / Offer Day 2 on 7th May 2027

For all late applications or changes of preference made online, an email is sent between 12:01am and 9.59am on Offer Day 2 (7th May 2027) confirming the outcome of the application. The email

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

may be the formal notification of a school offer. Online applicants can also log in to the Parent Portal to see the result and respond.

A letter will only be sent where one is needed, e.g. where the application was on paper or where the first preference school was not offered. Letters will be posted second-class on Offer Day 2 and may take between 3 and 5 days to be delivered.

Letters will be sent by second-class post where:

- an applicant has applied on paper; or
- an applicant applied online and was not offered a place at their first preference school; or
- where the first preference has been offered with the Oxfordshire County Council has determined that the child will be offered free home-to-school-transport as well (a second email will be sent in this instance).

Please note that we do not contact applicants where they have requested to add their child's name to a Waiting List if no place can be offered via that Waiting List and the original offer on National Offer Day remains and there has been no other change to the application.

A leaflet - "What to do next" is sent with every letter and this contains the same information as that communicated in letters sent on National Offer Day ([see above](#)).

After Offer Day 2

8th May to 20th May 2027

No offers will be made at any school between these dates. During this time, responses to school offers, requests for children to be added to Waiting Lists and requests for changes of preference will be collected and collated.

21st May onwards

Waiting Lists officially start. If a place is released at an over-subscribed school, it will be re-offered to the child with the highest priority at that time among all those being considered (late applications not yet processed, Waiting List, changes of preference not yet processed).

Start date in secondary school

All children will be due to start at the beginning of the Autumn Term in Year 7 in September 2027.

Delayed transfer to secondary school for children educated outside normal age range

The School Admissions Code 2021 allows children to be admitted outside their normal age range in some circumstances. Decisions must be made by the Admission Authority for the preferred secondary school(s) and considered based on the individual circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child.

Children who have been educated outside their normal age range throughout primary school will reach the usual age for secondary transfer while they are in Year 5. In these circumstances, parents/carers will need to make a new request to each preferred secondary school for their child to continue to be educated outside their normal age range.

Parents/carers of children who will reach the normal age for Year 6 while they are in Year 5 are encouraged to contact their preferred secondary school(s) as early as possible. This will allow Admission Authorities to consider, in principle, whether they would be willing to process an application for admission outside the normal age range when the child transfers to secondary school.

A previous decision to educate a child outside their normal age range at primary school does not automatically mean the request will be agreed for secondary school. Each Admission Authority must consider the request individually and make a decision based on the child's circumstances and best interests.

Future implications of admitting a child to secondary school outside normal age range

A child ceases to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday in June in the school year in which they reach the age of 16 even if their birthday is in July or August. If a child continues to be educated outside their normal age range, they may reach this date whilst they are in Year 10 rather than Year 11. Although the school will continue to receive funding for the child, the child will no longer be of compulsory school age during the school year in which most pupils take their GCSE examinations.

This means that a child who is in Year 10 but is of normal Year 11 age could choose to leave school at the end of Year 10. However, the child would still be required to participate in education or training until they reach the age of 18. This could include continuing in education in another setting, such as a college, or undertaking training through an apprenticeship or other approved education or training programme.

Section 3 – Oxfordshire Secondary Schools and Admission Arrangements

New secondary schools in Oxfordshire

No new secondary schools are scheduled to open in Oxfordshire in the 2027/28 school year.

Existing Schools in Oxfordshire

Details for every state-funded Oxfordshire school can be found via the [Oxfordshire schools search](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/search) webpage: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list

On this webpage you can find each school's location, contact details, website and details of how places have been offered in previous years (in the "Admissions data" section).

Sometimes schools change their over-subscription criteria, so check school websites for the latest admission arrangements policy for the 2027/28 school year.

From the Oxfordshire County Council home page you can use the 'Find services near you' option to view school locations on a map.

[/experience.arcgis.com/experience/fce7371ebaa042a494db58318621da62](http://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fce7371ebaa042a494db58318621da62)

Community schools in Oxfordshire

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details	Published Admission Number
Carterton	Carterton Community College	Upavon Way, Carterton, OX18 1BU www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4041	140

Oversubscription Criteria for entry to Year 7 at Carterton Community College

Community schools (listed in the table above) use the standard oversubscription criteria shown in this section.

In accordance with legal requirements, children who have an Education, Health & Care (EHC) Plan in which the school is named in Section I must always be admitted. This is not an over-subscription criterion but these children must be admitted first before the application of the over-subscription criteria below which will effectively reduce the number of places available to offer to other children.

The oversubscription criteria below will be followed in descending order of priority.

1. Children who are "looked after" (LAC) by a Local Authority within the meaning of Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of their application, and all "previously looked

after” children (PLAC), including those who appear to this Admission Authority to have been in state care outside England (IAPLAC) and ceased to be in state care having been adopted. Evidence of the previously looked after status and/or the adoption will be requested.

2. Children who attend one of the designated feeder schools in the partnership and live in the catchment area and have a brother or sister on roll at the time of application who will still be attending at the time of entry.
3. Children who live in the catchment area and have a brother or sister on roll at the time of application who will still be attending at the time of entry.
4. Children who attend one of the designated feeder schools in the partnership and live in the catchment area.
5. Children who live in the catchment area.
6. Children who attend one of the designated feeder schools in the partnership and have a brother or sister on roll at the time of application who will still be attending at the time of entry but live outside the catchment area.
7. Children who have a brother or sister on roll at the time of application who will still be attending at the time of entry but live outside the catchment area.
8. Children who attend one of the designated feeder schools in the partnership.
9. All other children who do not live in the catchment area and also do not attend a designated feeder school in the partnership and also do not have a brother or sister on roll at the time of application who will still be attending at the time of entry.

In all categories above, priority will be given to children who are eligible for Service Pupil Premium and then to children who live closest to the school by the straight-line distance as calculated by Oxfordshire County Council.

Looked After and Previously Looked After Children

Looked After Children

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 at the time of making an application to a school (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

In Oxfordshire these children are also known as 'Children We Care For' (CWCF).

Previously looked after children

The School Admissions Code 2012 introduced a requirement for all admission authorities to broaden the existing priority for 'looked after' children or children in care (defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) to also include 'previously looked after' children. Children who were 'previously looked after' were defined for admissions purposes as those who, immediately after being in care, became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.

A revised School Admissions Code came into force on 19 December 2014, and this stated that 'previously looked after' children include those who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 - Adoption Orders) and not simply those children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 - Adoption Orders). In addition, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders. Those who previously received a residence order are now deemed to have a child arrangement order.

If applying on behalf of a "previously looked after" child, who was previously in state care in England, the parent will need to provide the following evidence:

- an Adoption Order under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002; or
- an Adoption Order under the Adoption Act 1976; or
- a Child Arrangements Order; or
- a Residence 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; or
- a Special Guardianship Order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian(s), under section 14A of the Children Act 1989.

It is important that the evidence is provided since without it there is no basis for considering a child as being "Previously Looked After". Therefore failing to provide the necessary evidence could have a significant impact on whether a place is offered at the school listed as the first preference.

Children who appear to this Admission Authority to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be in state care after being adopted ("internationally adopted previously looked after children") (IAPLAC)

A further revised School Admissions Code was agreed in July 2021, and this came into force on 1 September 2021. The new Code further broadens the existing priority for 'looked after' children and 'previously looked after' children to include those children who appear to an Admission Authority to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. In the School Admissions Code 2021 they are referred to as "internationally adopted previously looked after children" (IAPLAC).

The Code regards a child as having been in state care outside 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.

Responsibility for determining whether a child is eligible to be considered as an IAPLAC rests with the Admission Authority. Subject to ministerial approval, the Department for Education plans to publish non-statutory guidance on the admission of IAPLAC. This guidance will aim to assist and support admission authorities in assessing evidence provided by parents. If there is doubt about the acceptability of evidence provided by the parent, advice will be sought from the Head of Oxfordshire's Virtual School. This Admission Authority will take a pragmatic approach to the decision-making process where evidence is lacking.

Designated feeder schools for Carterton Community College

Carterton Primary School

Edith Moorhouse Primary School

Gateway Primary School

St John the Evangelist Church of England Primary School

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Carterton

Catchment area for Carterton Community College

Carterton Community College operates a catchment area. This can be viewed online.
oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4041

Living within the catchment area gives a high priority for admission but there is no guarantee that a place will always be made available. There is also no guarantee that free home-to-school transport will be provided if it is not the closest or nearest available school.

Brothers and sisters (siblings)

For admissions purposes, a brother or sister is defined as one of the following:

- A brother or sister (both parents the same) living at the same home address; or
- A half-brother or half-sister (one parent the same) living at the same home address; or
- A stepbrother or stepsister (sharing a parent who is married or in a civil partnership) living at the same home address; or
- An adopted child who, by reason of the adoption, now shares one or more parents with a child living at the same home address.

Time of entry (siblings)

The admission rules give some priority to those with a brother or sister attending the relevant school at the applicant's "time of entry." This means that, in the normal admissions round, there will be **no sibling connection**, for admission purposes for the following:

- applicants for entry to Year 7 if the only sibling already at the school is a brother or sister in Year 13; or
- applicants for entry to Year 7 if the only sibling already at the school is a brother or sister in Year 11 and the sibling is due to leave for post-16 provision elsewhere; or

Children eligible for Service Pupil Premium

Central Government defines online which children are eligible for Service Pupil Premium (SPP) at:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-service-pupil-premium/service-pupil-premium-what-you-need-to-know

Parents will need to provide evidence of eligibility when they apply for school (for example, a copy of the military ID of the parent who makes the school application or a letter from a commanding officer confirming status).

Measuring straight line distances from home to school for Carterton Community College (the straight-line distance calculated by Oxfordshire County Council)

The straight-line distance from home to school will be calculated as set out below.

The start point of the measurement is the "**seed point**" of the home address. The "seed point" is provided by Ordnance Survey from information compiled from Royal Mail and Councils via National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). The seed point normally falls within the bounds of a property.

The accuracy of seed points is to the nearest metre and uses the British (all-numeric) Co-ordinate System (Easting/Northing). It is not possible to verify the individual location of every seed point prior to measuring due to the number of addresses in Oxfordshire and surrounding areas.

The end point is the nearest open gate of the school first arrived at from the direction of travel that is officially available for use by students for entry and exit to the school site at the start and end of the school day. The table above has details. The LA consults with each individual school annually to ensure accurate placement of gates and their availability for use.

The calculation of the distance will be made in metres using a Pythagoras calculation. This calculation will be converted into miles by dividing the distance by 1609.344 to achieve a distance in miles accurate to three decimal places.

For addresses outside the British Coordinate System an internet mapping solution will be used to determine a start point using longitude and latitude via getlatlong.net/ A straight line distance will then be calculated to the end point at the school in statute miles using www.nhc.noaa.gov/gccalc.shtml

Home address

The address on the application **should be the child's address at the time of application**. This is the address at which the child spends the majority of term-time school nights (Sunday night to Thursday night).

The **time of application** is the entire time period from the point when applications can start to be made in the September when the application process opens until 1st March (or next working day) the following calendar year.

Changes of address

Sometimes an application is made based on an address at the time of application and the address then changes after the application has been submitted. It is important to tell the Admission Authority (and/or Local Authority) about changes of address so that places can be offered fairly, and so notification can be sent by post to the correct home address.

If the application address is found to have subsequently changed after the application was submitted, and this information could have been provided when the application was first made or before places were offered, Oxfordshire County Council will consider the application to have been made on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading address (see below). This may result in the offer of a school place being withdrawn.

If an application is made on the basis of a new address or intention to move to an area, information about the new address will need to be provided in order for it to be taken into account.

Changes of address which occur after the National Closing Date for applications (31st October) can be considered if proof of this change is provided no later than the extended deadline date (16th November).

To confirm the new address we need one of the following:

- a solicitor's letter advising contracts have been exchanged (if the property is being purchased); or

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

- a copy of a tenancy agreement (if the property is to be rented) but if this tenancy agreement comes to an end before September 2027 we may not accept the address for admissions purposes; or
- a copy of the Council Tax Bill showing the same name(s) on the school place application; or
- a letter from a new employer (e.g. University college) where accommodation is being provided by them and is tied to the new post/job giving details of this new address; or
- new Quarter information if this is an accompanied military posting; or
- an Assignment Order if this is an accompanied military posting but details of the new quarter have not yet been given to the family. In this case the base address will be used for admissions purposes.

Multiple addresses

Where children spend time with parents at more than one address then the address given on the form should be the one that they live at (i.e., sleep at) for the majority of term-time school nights (Sunday night to Thursday night).

If children spend time at more than one address the address used for admissions purposes will be the one registered and confirmed as the main address by the nursery/school. If it is not possible to establish the main address from the nursery/school records and the parents state that the child spends 50% of time with each parent, the parents will be asked to agree which address will be used as the main address for admissions purposes or they will be required to have this determined legally via a Court Order.

Full details of the over-subscription criteria including further explanatory notes are available online. www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/apply-school-place/school-admission-rules-and-policies/admission-rules

Own Admission Authority (OAA) schools in Oxfordshire

Own Admission Authority (OAA) schools are academies and free schools and are responsible for consulting on and determining their own admission rules and over-subscription criteria in compliance with the School Admissions Code 2021. These schools are listed in the table below and their admissions rules and over-subscription criteria will be available online.

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details (for how places have been offered in previous years)	Published Admission Number
Abingdon	Fitzharrys School	Northcourt Road, Abingdon, OX14 1NP oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4127 Abingdon Learning Trust Measure: Straight Line	180
Abingdon	John Mason School	Wootton Road, Abingdon, OX14 1JB oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4126 Abingdon Learning Trust (ALT) Measure: Straight Line	180

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details (for how places have been offered in previous years)	Published Admission Number
Abingdon	Larkmead School	Faringdon Road, Abingdon, OX14 1RF oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4125 Cambrian Learning Trust (CLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
Banbury	Blessed George Napier Catholic School	Addison Road, Banbury, OX16 9DG oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4600 The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	180
Banbury	North Oxfordshire Academy	Drayton Road, Banbury, OX16 0UD oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/6905 United Learning Trust (ULT) Measure: Straight Line	180
Banbury	Wykham Park	Ruskin Road, Banbury, OX16 9HY oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4000 Aspiration Academies Trust (AAT) Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	150
Banbury / Bloxham	The Warriner School	Bloxham, Banbury, OX15 4LJ oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4007 The Warriner Multi Academy Trust (WMAT) Measure: Straight Line	284
Bicester	Heyford Park School *	Camp Road, Upper Heyford, Bicester, OX25 5HD oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4018 EPA Trust Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	30
Bicester	The Bicester School	Queens Avenue, Bicester, OX26 2NS oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4011 Activate Learning Education Trust (ALET) Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	240
Bicester	The Cooper School	Churchill Road, Bicester, OX26 4RS oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4032 Acer Trust Measure: Straight Line	220
Bicester	Whitelands Academy	Hexham Road, Bicester, OX26 1AY oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4017 The White Horse Federation (WHF) Measure: Straight Line	120
Burford	Burford School	Cheltenham Road, Burford, OX18 4PL oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4040 Measure: Straight Line	200 + 18 boarders

* It is expected that there may be more than 30 places available at Heyford Park School because the Year 6 children in the school have an automatic right of transfer to Year 7 and will not need to make a secondary school transfer application. Where the number of Year 6 children is fewer than 60, Heyford Park School may breach PAN and offer additional places so that the total number of Year 7 children will reach 90.

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details (for how places have been offered in previous years)	Published Admission Number
Chipping Norton	Chipping Norton School	Burford Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5DY oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4010 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
Didcot	Aureus School	Candytuft Way, Didcot, OX11 6FF oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4004 GLF Schools Measure: Straight Line	120
Didcot	Didcot Girls' School	Manor Crescent, Didcot, OX11 7AJ oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4139 Ridgeway Education Trust (RET) Measure: Straight Line	270
Didcot	St Birinus School (boys)	Mereland Road, Didcot, OX11 8AZ oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4129 Ridgeway Education Trust (RET) Measure: Straight Line	240
Eynsham (Witney)	Bartholomew School	Witney Road, Eynsham, Witney, OX29 4AP oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4054 EPA Trust Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	217
Faringdon	Faringdon Community College	Fernham Road, Faringdon, SN7 7LB oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4141 Cambrian Learning Trust (CLT) Measure: Straight Line	270
Kidlington	Gosford Hill School	Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 2NT oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4060 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	150
Oxford	Cheney School	Cheney Lane, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7QH oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4120 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	270
Oxford	The Cherwell School	South Site (Years 7-9): Marston Ferry Road, Oxford OX2 7EF North Site (Years 10-13): Marston Ferry Road, Oxford OX2 7EE oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4116 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	270
Oxford	Greyfriars Catholic School	Cricket Road, Oxford, OX4 3DR oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4014 The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	150

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details (for how places have been offered in previous years)	Published Admission Number
Oxford	The Oxford Academy	Sandy Lane West, Littlemore, Oxford OX4 6JZ oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4019 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
Oxford	Oxford Spires Academy	Glanville Road, Oxford, OX4 2AU oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/6907 Anthem Schools Trust Measure: Straight Line	220
Oxford	The Swan School	Marston Ferry Road, Oxford, OX2 7WP oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4016 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
Oxford / Cumnor	Matthew Arnold School	Arnolds Way, Cumnor, Oxford, OX2 9JE oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4128 Acer Trust Measure: Straight Line	210
Oxford / Wheatley	Wheatley Park School	Holton, Oxford, OX33 1QH oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4077 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
South-East Oxon (Henley-on-Thames)	Gillotts School	Gillotts Lane, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 1PS oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4055 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180
South-East Oxon (Sonning Common)	Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge	Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9LN oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4013 Maiden Erlegh Trust (MET) Measure: Straight Line	120
South-East Oxon (Woodcote)	Langtree School	Reading Road, Woodcote, Reading, RG8 ORA oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4094 The Langtree School Academy Trust Company Measure: Straight Line	120
Thame	Lord Williams's School	Lower School (Years 7-9): Towersey Road, Thame, OX9 3NW Upper School (Years 10-13): Oxford Road, Thame, OX9 2AQ oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4580 Thame Partnership Academy Trust (TPAT) Measure: Straight Line	350

Area	School	School address Oxfordshire web details (for how places have been offered in previous years)	Published Admission Number
Wallingford	Wallingford School	St George's Road, Wallingford, OX10 8HH oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4140 The Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust (MTOAT) Ltd Measure: Straight Line	243
Wantage	King Alfred's	West Site (Years 7 & 8): Challow Road, Wantage, OX12 9DU Central Site (Years 9-13): Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BY oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4142 Cambrian Learning Trust (CLT) Measure: Straight Line	290
Wantage / Grove	St John's CofE Academy	Douglas Drive, Grove, Wantage OX12 0GW oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4022 Cambrian Learning Trust (CLT) Measure: Straight Line	120
Watlington	Icknield Community College	Love Lane, Watlington, OX49 5RB oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4082 Acer Trust Measure: Straight Line	140
Witney	The Henry Box School	Church Green, Witney, OX28 4AX oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4050 The MILL Academy Measure: Shortest Routed Distance	240
Witney	Wood Green School	Woodstock Road, Witney, OX28 1DX oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4052 Acer Trust Measure: Straight Line	240
Woodstock	The Marlborough Church of England School	Shipton Road, Woodstock, OX20 1LP oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/list/4560 River Learning Trust (RLT) Measure: Straight Line	180

Catchment areas for OAA schools

Some of the schools listed in the table above operate catchment areas, which are part of the admission arrangements and help establish the priority for those being offered a school place. Catchment areas (where they exist) can usually be found online.

Living within a particular school's catchment area, where it has one and where it uses this in its over-subscription criteria, gives a high priority for admission but there is no guarantee that a place will always be offered.

Please note that attending the catchment area school does not mean that a child will be eligible for free home-to-school transport if the catchment school is not the closest or nearest available school.

Measuring straight line distances from home to school for OAA schools (the straight-line distance calculated by Oxfordshire County Council)

The straight-line distance from home to school will be calculated as set out below.

The start point of the measurement is the “**seed point**” of the home address. The “seed point” is provided by Ordnance Survey from information compiled from Royal Mail and Councils via National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). The seed point normally falls within the bounds of a property. The accuracy of seed points is to the nearest metre and uses the British (all-numeric) Co-ordinate System (Easting/Northing). It is not possible to verify the individual location of every seed point prior to measuring due to the number of addresses in Oxfordshire and surrounding areas.

The end point of the route has been set by the Admission Authority for each school. School admission policies will contain information about the end point that will be used. Where school admission policies do not contain this information, the end point of the route will be the nearest open gate of the school first arrived at from the direction of travel that is officially available for use by students for entry and exit to the school site at the start and end of the school day. The location of these gates has been set by the Admission Authority. The LA consults with each individual school annually to ensure accurate placement of gates and their availability for use.

The calculation of the distance will be made in metres using a Pythagoras calculation. This calculation will be converted into miles by dividing the distance by 1609.344 to achieve a distance in miles accurate to three decimal places.

For addresses outside the British Coordinate System an internet mapping solution will be used to determine a start point using longitude and latitude via getlatlong.net/. A straight line distance will then be calculated to the end point at the school in statute miles using www.nhc.noaa.gov/gccalc.shtml

Measuring shortest routed distances from home to school for OAA schools (the shortest routed distance measured by Oxfordshire County Council also sometimes called the shortest designated route)

The start point of the measurement is the “**seed point**” of the home address. The “seed point” is provided by Ordnance Survey from information compiled from Royal Mail and Councils via Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). The seed point normally falls within the bounds of a property. The accuracy of seed points is to the nearest ten centimetres and uses the British all-numeric Co-ordinate System (Easting/Northing). It is not possible to verify the individual location of every seed point prior to measuring due to the number of addresses in Oxfordshire and surrounding areas.

From the start point the route firstly connects to the nearest point of the digitised network.

The digitised network is constructed from road data supplied by Ordnance Survey. This has been accurately digitised to measure along the centre of roads and takes corners at right angles. This is the same underlying information used by internet-based mapping solutions (e.g. Google Maps). However, the LA has a more accurate start point than internet-based mapping solutions and the network has been augmented by the LA to take into account other available public routes (e.g. alleyways, public footpaths, bridleways, etc). The augmented network used by the LA is accurate to at least 1 metre.

All 548,000 kilometres of roads in Great Britain are accurately mapped in a consistent and logical

network. The network does not include routes that are not defined as public; these include crossing parks with no paths where the park is not open and available all the time, “short-cuts” across patches of open land without paths, or footpaths across private land which are not defined by Ordnance Survey as public routes.

The end point of the route has been set by the Admission Authority for each school. School admission policies will contain information about the end point that will be used. Where school admission policies do not contain this information, the end point of the route will be the nearest open gate of the school first arrived at from the direction of travel that is officially available for use by students for entry and exit to the school site at the start and end of the school day. The location of these gates has been set by the Admission Authority. The LA consults with each individual school annually to ensure accurate placement of gates and their availability for use.

The measurement is calculated using an algorithm within the bespoke software used by the LA. This software is called EYES (Early Years and Education System) which is supplied by System-C / Liquid Logic (systemc.com/). EYES measures in metres to two decimal places, which is then converted to miles accurate to three decimal places using the conversion rate of 1609.344 metres per mile.

The shortest routed distance is not necessarily a driving route because it may use, in whole or in part, a non-driveable route (e.g. footpaths). The shortest designated route is also not necessarily a walking route because, for example, where the measurement uses a road, the route is along the centre of the road not along the edge (pavement or equivalent) of the road.

Other measuring systems may give a different measurement, but the LA cannot take a measurement from another measuring system into account because this would lead to inconsistency in the method used to measure the shortest designated route and would constitute maladministration of the admissions process.

For addresses which are outside the digitised network (approximately 6 miles outside Oxfordshire’s county boundary) an internet mapping solution will be used. For addresses in Europe, ‘Directions’ in google.co.uk/maps will be used. For addresses outside Europe the straight line distance using the same websites and method set out above will be used.

Section 4 – Secondary Schools in Other Areas

Oxfordshire residents must apply via Oxfordshire County Council for secondary school transfer to any state-funded secondary school in England. Some secondary schools in other areas are close to Oxfordshire. Historically, some Oxfordshire children have transferred to schools in other areas.

Schools in Buckinghamshire

Email: admissions@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Web: buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/

Listed below are details of some state funded Buckinghamshire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Aylesbury Grammar School (boys only)	Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7RP ags.bucks.sch.uk/
Aylesbury High School (girls only)	Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7SX ahs.bucks.sch.uk/
The Buckingham School	London Road, Buckingham, MK18 1AT buckinghamschool.org/
Great Marlow School	Bobmore Lane, Marlow, SL7 1JE gms.bucks.sch.uk/
John Colet School	Wharf Road, Wendover, Aylesbury, HP22 6HF johncolet.co.uk/
John Hampden Grammar School	Marlow Hill, High Wycombe, HP11 1SZ jhgs.bucks.sch.uk/
The Mandeville School	Ellen Road, Aylesbury, HP21 8ES mandeville.bucks.sch.uk
The Misbourne School	Misbourne Drive, Great Missenden, HP16 0BN themisbourne.co.uk/
Princes Risborough School	Merton Road, Princes Risborough, HP27 0DR princesrisborough.bucks.sch.uk/
The Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe (boys only)	Amersham Road, High Wycombe, HP13 6QT rgshw.com/

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

School	School address Web details
Royal Latin School	Chandos Road, Buckingham, MK18 1AX royallatin.org/
St Michael's Catholic School	High Wycombe Site: Daws Hill Lane, High Wycombe, HP11 1PW Aylesbury Site: Bierton Road, Aylesbury, HP20 1EE stmichaels.bucks.sch.uk/
Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School	Oxford Road, Aylesbury, HP21 8PE sirhenryfloyd.co.uk/
Sir Thomas Fremantle School	Buckingham Road, Winslow, Buckingham, MK18 3GH sirthomasfremantle.org/
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School	West Street, Marlow, SL7 2BR swbgs.com
Waddesdon Church of England School	Baker Street, Waddesdon, Aylesbury, HP18 0LQ waddesdonschool.com/
Wycombe High School (girls only)	Marlow Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1TB whs.bucks.sch.uk/

Schools in Gloucestershire

Tel: 01452 425407

Email: school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Web: gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions/

Listed below are details of some state funded Gloucestershire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Chipping Campden School	Cider Mill Lane, Chipping Campden, GL55 6HU campden.school/
The Cotswold School	The Avenue, Bourton-on-the-Water, Cheltenham, GL54 2BD cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/
The Crypt School	Podsmead, Gloucester, GL2 5AE cryptschool.org/
Denmark Road High School (girls only)	Denmark Road, Gloucester, GL1 3JN denmarkroad.org/

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

School	School address Web details
Farmor's School	The Park, Fairford, GL7 4JQ farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/
Marling School (boys only)	Cainscross Road, Stroud, GL5 4HE marling.gloucs.sch.uk/
Pate's Grammar School	Princess Elizabeth Way, Cheltenham, GL51 0HG patesgs.org/

Schools in Reading

Tel: 0118 937 3777

Email: schooladmissions@reading.gov.uk

Web: brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/secondary-admissions/

Listed below are details of some state funded Reading secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School	Fawley Road, Reading, RG30 3EP hughfaringdon.org/
Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre	Surley Row, Caversham, Reading, RG4 8LR highdown.reading.sch.uk/
Kendrick School (girls only)	London Road, Reading, RG1 5BN kendrick.reading.sch.uk/
Maiden Erlegh School in Reading	81 Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 4SL maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk/
Reading School (boys only)	Erleigh Road, Reading, RG1 5LW reading-school.co.uk/
River Academy	7 Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ river-academy.co.uk/

Schools in Swindon

Tel: 01793 445500

Email: schooladmissions@swindon.gov.uk

Web: swindon.gov.uk/secondaryschoolplaces

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Listed below are details of some state funded Swindon secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Abbey Park School	Redhouse Way, Swindon, SN25 2ND abbeyparkschool.org.uk/
The Commonweal School	The Mall, Swindon, SN1 4JE commonweal.co.uk/
The Deanery CofE Academy	Peglars Way, Swindon, SN1 7DA dcea.org.uk/
The Dorcan Academy	St Paul's Drive, Dorcan, Swindon, SN3 5DA dorcan.co.uk/
Great Western Academy	William Morris Way, Tadpole Garden Village, Swindon, SN25 2PP gwacademy.co.uk/
Highworth Warneford School	Shrivenham Road, Highworth, Swindon, SN6 7BZ warnefordschool.org/
Kingsdown School	Hyde Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, SN2 7SH kingsdownschool.co.uk/
Lawn Manor Academy	Salcombe Grove, Swindon, SN3 1ER lawnmanor.org/
Lydiard Park Academy	Grange Park Way, Grange Park, Swindon, SN5 6HN lydiardparkacademy.org.uk/
The Ridgeway School & Sixth Form College	Inverary Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9DJ ridgewayschool.com/
St Joseph's Catholic College	Ocotol Way, Swindon, SN3 3LR stjosephscollege.net/

Schools in Warwickshire

Tel: 01926 414143

Email: admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk

Web: warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/422/applying-for-a-secondary-school-place

Listed below are details of some state funded Warwickshire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Alcester Grammar School	Birmingham Road, Alcester, B49 5ED alcestergs.co.uk/
Ashlawn School	Ashlawn Road, Rugby, CV22 5ET ashlawn.org.uk/
Kineton High School	Banbury Road, Kineton, Warwick, CV35 0JX kinetonhighschool.org.uk/
King Edward VI School (boys only)	Chapel Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BE kes.net/
Lawrence Sheriff School (boys only)	Clifton Road, Rugby, CV21 3AG lawrencesherriffschool.net/
Rugby High School (girls only)	Longrood Road, Rugby, CV22 7RE rugbyhighschool.co.uk/
Shipston High School	Darlingscote Road, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4DY shipstonhigh.co.uk/
Southam College	Welsh Road West, Southam, CV47 0JW southamcollege.com/
Stratford Girls' Grammar School	Shottery Village, Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 9HA sggs.org.uk/
Stratford Upon Avon School & Sixth Form	Alcester Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 9DH stratforduponavonschool.com/

Schools in West Berkshire

Tel: 01635 55111

Email: admissions@westberks.gov.uk

Web: westberks.gov.uk/secondary-school-admissions

Listed below are details of some state funded West Berkshire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Denefield School	Long Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 6XY denefield.org.uk/

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

School	School address Web details
The Downs School & Sixth Form	Manor Crescent, Compton, Newbury, RG20 6AD thedownsschool.org.uk/
Little Heath School	Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5TY littleheath.org.uk/
Theale Green School	Church Street, Reading, RG7 5DA thealegreen.w-berks.sch.uk/

Schools in West Northamptonshire

Tel: 0300 126 7000

Email: admissions@westnorthants.gov.uk

Web: westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions-and-appeals

Listed below are details of some state funded Northamptonshire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Chenderit School	Archery Road, Middleton Cheney, Banbury, OX17 2QR chenderit.northants.sch.uk/
Elizabeth Woodville School	(North) Stratford Road, Roade, Northampton, NN7 2LP (South) Stratford Road, Deanshanger, Milton Keynes, MK19 6HN ewsacademy.org.uk/
Magdalen College School	Waynflete Avenue, Brackley, NN13 6FB 1 High Street, Brackley, NN13 7DW magdalen.northants.sch.uk/
Sponne School	Brackley Road, Towcester, NN12 6DJ sponne.org.uk/

Schools in Wiltshire

Tel: 01225 713010

Email: admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk

Web: wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-online

Apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Listed below are details of some state funded Wiltshire secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Royal Wootton Bassett Academy	Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett, Swindon, SN4 7HG rwba.org.uk/
St John's Marlborough	Granham Hill, Marlborough, SN8 4AX stjohns.excalibur.org.uk/

Schools in Wokingham

Email: schooladmissions@wokingham.gov.uk

Web: wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/starting-and-applying-secondary-school-age-11

Listed below are details of some state funded Wokingham secondary schools where Oxfordshire residents have applied for places previously. This list is not exhaustive and more information will be available at the website above:

School	School address Web details
Maiden Erlegh School	Silverdale Road, Earley, Reading, RG6 7HS maidenerleghschool.co.uk/
The Piggott School	Twyford Road, Wargrave, Reading, RG10 8DS piggottschool.org/
Waingels College	Waingels Road, Woodley, Reading, RG5 4RF waingels.wokingham.sch.uk/

Section 5 – Miscellaneous

Definition of a Parent

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as:

- 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 (having care of a child or young person means that a person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child, is considered to be a parent in education law).

Having parental responsibility means assuming all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority that a parent of a child has by law. People other than a child's natural parents can acquire parental responsibility through:

- being granted a residence order;
- being appointed a guardian;
- being named in an emergency protection order (although parental responsibility in such a case is limited to taking reasonable steps to safeguard or promote the child's welfare);
- adopting a child (in the case of step-parents) in agreement with the child's mother (and other parent if that person also has parental responsibility for the child) or as the result of a court order.

Where a child's parents are not married to each other, the child's father can gain parental responsibility by:

- registering the child's birth jointly with the mother;
- through a 'parental responsibility agreement' between him and the child's mother;
- as the result of a court order.

In addition, a Local Authority can acquire parental responsibility if it is named in the care order for a child

Guidance for UK nationals returning to the UK

Parents/carers of UK nationals returning to the UK can apply normally in line with the arrangements in this booklet. If the preferred school(s) is/are in Oxfordshire and/or the expected new address is in Oxfordshire, the school application should be made via Oxfordshire County Council in the same way as for a current Oxfordshire resident.

Parents/carers should provide their current overseas address at the time of application. They can also provide details of the address they will be moving / returning to together with confirmation of same.

Guidance on educational provision for children from overseas

Admission authorities must treat applications for children from overseas in line with Home Office rules for non-UK nationals. In most cases, children arriving from overseas have the right to attend state-funded schools in England.

Children aged under 18 can enter the UK

- as a dependent of a foreign national who has settled status in the UK; or
- as a dependent of their parent(s) who are in the UK on a [work visa](#) or [Student visa](#); or
- as part of a family entering or residing in the UK under the [immigration route for British National \(Overseas\) citizens and their dependents](#).

Foreign nationals cannot use the 6-month Standard Visitor visa, or 11-month Short-term Study (English language) visa, to enter the UK to enroll as a pupil at a state-funded school, although some exchange programmes may be possible on the Visit route.

If a school or Local Authority is concerned that a child may not have a right to enter the country to access a state-funded school, they will not deny them a place. However, the Home Office's school referrals team will be alerted so that they can investigate further.

It is up to the school or Local Authority whether or not the child's parents or carers are informed of the referral to the Home Office.

If the Home Office finds that a child is not entitled to state-funded education, the Home Office will take any further action they consider appropriate. A child should not be denied a place on the basis of the Home Office's findings.

The email address for the Home Office school referrals team is:
schoolreferrals@homeoffice.gov.uk

Children with Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans

Discussions about children with EHC Plans joining primary or infant schools should have started when the child is three years old. Parent/carers of a child with an EHC Plan should discuss any queries, concerns or requests for a particular primary or infant school with their child's relevant SEN Caseworker at Oxfordshire County Council and/or the SENCO at their child's current setting.

Parents/carers are encouraged to apply for state-funded mainstream school places in the normal way even where their child has an EHC Plan. The Council's Admissions Team will liaise with the Council SEN Team about these preferences. Parents/carers cannot apply for a place at a special school or resource unit through the admissions process outlined in this booklet.

Parents/carers should be aware that free home-to-school transport may not be automatically provided for a child with an EHC Plan to attend a state-funded mainstream school if it is not the nearest suitable school.

Independent (Fee-Paying) Schools

Parents/carers seeking places for their child at an independent (fee-paying) school must apply direct to the relevant school(s). The processes outlined in this booklet are for applications to state-funded mainstream school only. If a child is offered a place at an independent (fee-paying) school it is the

responsibility of the parent/carer to inform Oxfordshire County Council that a place is no longer needed at a state-funded primary or infant school so that the available place can be offered to another child. Oxfordshire County Council will not normally accept responsibility for funding a place at an independent (fee-paying) school or funding home-to-school transport to an independent (fee-paying) school.

School Leaving Age and Education Participation Age

The law states that a young person is of compulsory school age until the last school day in June in the year in which their 16th birthday falls between 1st September of the previous year and 31st August of that year. A young person cannot leave school until after that date.

However, the [Education and Skills Act 2008](#) raised the education participation age to 18 effective from 1st September 2015. This does not mean that a young person must remain at school after the last day of compulsory school age (see above), but a choice must be made how to participate in education. The options are:

- stay on in full time education in a school or college; or
- take an apprenticeship; or
- undertake part-time training if he/she is working or volunteering for more than 20 hours per week.

For further details on Post-16 employment, education and training, please visit: www.oxme.info/register

Fraudulent applications

If a place has been obtained on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application (for example, a false claim to residence in a catchment area) and this results in the denial of a place to a child with a higher priority for that place, the admission authority for the school may withdraw the offer of that place. This follows the guidance in paragraphs 2.13 and 2.14 of the School Admissions Code 2021 published by the Department for Education:

2.13 An admission authority **must not** withdraw an offer unless it has been offered in error, a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time, or it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. Where the parent has not responded to the offer, the admission authority **must** give the parent a further opportunity to respond and explain that the offer may be withdrawn if they do not. Where an offer is withdrawn on the basis of misleading information, the application **must** be considered afresh, and a right of appeal offered if an offer is refused.

2.14 A school **must not** withdraw a place once a child has started at the school, except where that place was fraudulently obtained. In deciding whether to withdraw the place, the length of time that the child has been at the school **must** be taken into account. For example, it might be considered appropriate to withdraw the place if the child has been at the school for less than one term.

School Uniforms

Many schools have a school uniform. Oxfordshire County Council does not offer financial support for parents/carers to buy school uniform. Individual schools may provide financial support or have information about local organisations that offer financial assistance. The school may also have second-hand uniform available for loan or purchase. Parents/carers should contact their child's future school (after a place has been offered) for information about school uniforms.

Term dates

There are 190 pupil days in each school year. In addition, four days are set aside locally for INSET days for teachers. The term dates for 2027/28 are:

Term	Dates
Autumn	6th September 2027 to 21st December 2027 Half Term: 25th October 2027 to 29th October 2027 Christmas Holiday: 22nd December 2027 to 31st December 2027
Spring	5th January 2028 to 7th April 2028 Half Term: 14th February 2028 to 18th February 2028 Easter Holiday: 10th April 2028 to 21st April 2028
Summer	24th April 2028 to 21st July 2028 Half Term: 30th May 2028 to 2nd June 2028 Summer Holiday: 24th July 2028 to 2nd September 2028

Supplementary Information Forms (SIF)

Some schools have Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) which parents/carers are also encouraged to complete. There is no requirement to complete a SIF but it is likely that the criterion used to decide whether a school place can be offered to a child will be affected if a SIF is not completed and returned to the school by the National Closing Date. If a SIF is completed but the school is not listed as a preference on the child's application, a preference for that school will not be considered. Therefore, it is important to request the school as a preference and to complete and send in the SIF as well.

SIFs will be attached to individual OAA school admissions policies and/or available on school websites.