

# CONSULTATION



## **Medway Council Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary Admissions Academic Year 2024/25**

**Incorporating admission to Year R,  
transfer from infant school to junior school  
(Year 3) and  
Primary in-year admissions**

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## **Introduction / Background**

Each year, the Local Authority is required to draw up, consult on and determine:

- Co-ordinated admissions arrangements for all schools/academies in the Local Authority area for entry at the normal time of admission (Year R for infant and primary schools, Year 3 for junior schools, Year 7 for secondary schools).
- and
- The over-subscription criteria/arrangements for entry to those schools for which the Local Authority is the admission authority (community and voluntary controlled schools).

The admission arrangements for academies, foundation, free schools and voluntary aided schools will be available from each school and to view on the Medway Council website at [https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200163/apply\\_for\\_a\\_school\\_place/743/consultations\\_for\\_school\\_admission\\_arrangements](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200163/apply_for_a_school_place/743/consultations_for_school_admission_arrangements) .

## **Section 1 –**

### **Details of the Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary Admissions (Year R) and Transfer from Infant to Junior School (Year 3) 2024/25**

Year R applications are for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020

Year 3 applications are for children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017

The Key Scheme dates are:

<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Scheme Date</b>
Publication of information (composite prospectus, application information, etc.)	By Monday 4 September 2023
Applications open	9am Monday 4 September 2023
Closing date for applications (Online and Reception Common Application Forms (RCAFs)/ Junior Common Application Forms (JCAFs)) National Closing Date	5pm Monday 15 January 2024
Deadline for 'late' school applications for exceptional reasons to be considered as 'on-time'	5pm Friday 26 January 2024
Inter-LA data exchange undertaken	Approx. between 29 January and 9 February 2024
Indication of preference/applicant numbers made available to Medway primary, infant and junior schools	Friday 9 February 2024
Applicant details provided to Medway primary, infant and junior schools for prioritising against over-subscription criteria	Monday 19 February 2024
Finalised ranked list submitted to the Council	No later than 5pm on Friday 1 March 2024
Ranked lists checked and verified in the admissions database	By Wednesday 6 March 2024
Council to run the algorithm to determine the allocation of places	By Monday 11 March 2024
Inter-LA data exchange undertaken for offers	Approx. between 12 and 22 March 2024
Details of pupils being offered provided to Medway primary, infant and junior schools	By Thursday 28 March 2024
Offer details provided to parents/carers National Offer Date	Tuesday 16 April 2024
Schools send out welcome letters	Not before Thursday 18 April 2024
Places must be accepted/refused, waiting list requests and appeal requests must be submitted	By Tuesday 14 May 2024
The Council processes late applications and re-allocates any places that have become available to those who have asked to go on the waiting lists for each school	From w/c Monday 10 June until Tuesday 31 December 2024

In addition this scheme:

- Allows for Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) to be returned directly to schools by the closing date for applications to assist in the ranking of applicants against the school's over-subscription criteria.
- Confirms that after 10 June 2024 the Council considers applicants through the waiting list procedures. Vacant places will be re-allocated (offered), in accordance with the individual school's oversubscription criteria, to late applicants/children who have requested to be placed on the waiting list. Waiting lists will be held by the Council on behalf of the admissions authority for the school(s) until 31 December 2024.

The Council expects that all admissions authorities engaged in the sharing of admissions data will manage personal information in accordance with GDPR requirements.

### **Deferred start:**

Parents/carers are not obliged to start their child at school until the beginning of the term after their child is five.

Parents/carers who have been offered a September place may defer their child's admission until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year without losing the offer of a place.

### **Part-time attendance:**

Parents/carers can also opt for their child to attend part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Similarly, parents can choose that their child starts full time from the start of the academic year, even if the school would prefer phased part-time attendance to begin with.

### **Delayed start to the next academic year:**

Parents/carers of children born between 1 April and 31 August (summer born) may decide to delay their child's entry to school until the September following their fifth birthday.

Medway Council schools, academies and other own admission authority schools will consider individual requests to defer entry to Reception year to the following academic year on a case-by-case basis. This may be based on academic, medical, social, emotional or behavioural need or if the child is a premature child who would have fallen into a lower year group had they gone to full term. To make a request, parents/carers should submit their request in writing to the head teacher of their preferred school(s).

All requests will be carefully considered but it cannot be guaranteed that such requests will be approved. To be considered parents/carers must follow Medway Council's published protocol for the admission of summer born children

([https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200163/apply\\_for\\_a\\_school\\_place/561/admission\\_of\\_summer\\_born\\_children/1](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200163/apply_for_a_school_place/561/admission_of_summer_born_children/1)).

In accordance with this protocol parents/carers should apply for school places at the correct time for their child's chronological year group at the same time as submitting their request for delayed entry to ensure that they can secure a school place if their request is not granted.

Usually in such cases, if the request is declined and the parent/carer still decides to defer entry until the following year, any place that may have already been offered in the chronological

Reception year cannot be held open until the next academic year. This means that the place offered will be withdrawn and the family will have to re-apply as an in-year admission for the following academic year for Year 1. The child may miss Reception year completely.

Requests for delayed start should be made prior to or at the time parents/carers would normally be applying for school places for the following year.

This is to ensure that parents/carers have the opportunity to apply on-time should their request not be granted.

Parents/carers are not able to defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday.

### **The school application process**

All relevant dates for the following procedures are detailed in the 'Key Scheme Dates' table above

1.

Medway resident parents/carers will have the opportunity to apply for their child's school place either online at <https://admissions.medway.gov.uk/ParentPortal/Website/> or using a paper form known as the Reception Common Application Form (RCAF) and Junior Common Application Form (JCAF), which can be collected from Medway Council's office at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR.

The Council cannot accept multiple applications for the same child. Only one of the above methods can be used, not both.

If more than one application is received from the same parent, School Services will process the application submitted most recently.

2.

The paper RCAF will be used for the purpose of admitting pupils into Year R (the first year of primary education) and the paper JCAF for Year 3 of junior schools only (as listed in section 3 of this document). Online applications cover both scenarios.

3.

The Medway online application or paper RCAF/JCAF will be used by Medway resident parents/carers as a means of expressing between 1 and 6 preferences for their child to be admitted to a school inside or outside the Medway area (including academies, foundation, free schools and voluntary aided schools).

4.

Online applications, paper RCAFs/JCAFs and supporting publications will:

- (a) Allow Medway resident parents/carers to express up to six preferences in priority order. Preferences can be expressed for Medway and non-Medway schools (except special or independent schools). Parents/carers must complete the application for their home Local Authority (i.e. the LA where they live).
- (b) Allow parents/carers to give reasons for each preference, including details of any siblings that attend the school at the time of application and will still be on roll at the preferred school at the time of the applicant child's admission.  
NB: The in-year admission of a sibling will not constitute a sibling link if the older sibling is admitted/put on roll of the school after the closing date for applications under this process.

- (c) Explain that parents/carers will receive the offer of one school place only and that a place will be offered at the highest ranked preference for which they are eligible and where there is a place available, or if a place cannot be offered at a school named on the application, a place will be allocated at the nearest appropriate school with a vacancy.
- (d) Specify the closing date for applications and where paper RCAF/JCAF must be returned to, in accordance with paragraph 9.

5.

The Council will make appropriate arrangements to ensure:

- (a) That the online admissions website is readily accessible to all Medway resident parents/carers who wish to apply using this method.
- (b) The paper RCAF/JCAF are readily available on request from Medway Council.
- (c) A Digital Information Guide (composite prospectus) of all Medway primary, infant and junior schools along with details of how the admission process works is readily available on the Medway Council website to read/print and hardcopies of which will be available upon request for collection from Medway Council's Office at Gun Wharf (see above address).

6.

Only preferences expressed on a submitted online application or on a paper RCAF/JCAF are valid applications.

7.

A school/academy can ask parents/carers, who wish to express it as a preference, to provide additional information on a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) only where the additional information is required to apply its over-subscription criteria to the application.

Where a SIF is required it must be requested direct from the school/academy or will be available via the Council's website as part of the relevant schools/academies published admission arrangements.

SIFs must be returned to the relevant school/academy by the closing date for applications.

All schools/academies that use SIFs must include the proposed form in their consultation document with other admissions authorities, including the Council, and in their published admission arrangements.

8.

Completion of a school/academy's Supplementary Information Form only does not constitute a valid application.

The school/academy must be named on the parent/carer's school application through their home local authority.

9.

Applications must be submitted online and paper RCAF/JCAF returned to Medway Council by the closing date.

NB: After the closing date no changes of preference can be permitted, except in exceptional circumstances.

10.

The Council will co-ordinate the allocation of places and work in partnership with all schools, including own admission authority schools/academies, to determine which applicants are to be offered a place at their school/academy.

The Council will only make the final decision about the offer or refusal of a place at a named preference on the online application or paper RCAF/JCAF where:

- (a) it is acting in its separate capacity as an admission authority
- (b) an applicant can be offered a place at more than one preference
- (c) an applicant cannot be offered a place at any named preference and therefore has to be allocated a place at the nearest appropriate school to the home address.

Medway operate an 'Equal Preference' scheme. This means that all preferences are considered equally and the order of preference is between parents/carers and the Council. The Council will look to offer a place at the highest named preference for which the child is eligible and where a place is available.

The Council will allocate places in accordance with paragraph 14.

#### **Crown Servants:**

For children of crown service personnel the usual protocols, processes and oversubscription criteria will apply, but a future address will be accepted and a place sought in advance of residency, as long as the application is accompanied by confirmation of the posting, future address and date of posting (as defined in the School Admissions Code). If no future address is available at the time of application the quartering/barracks address can be used.

#### **The school allocation/offer process**

All relevant dates for the following procedures are detailed in the 'Key Scheme Dates' table above

11.

The Council will provide all Medway primary, infant and junior schools/academies of an indication of the number of preferences expressed for them (these figures may not be the final preferences). Any necessary inter-LA data exchange will have been completed prior to provision of this data.

Schools/academies will only be advised the total number of applications by preference (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) and not any pupil specific data.

12.

The Council will advise all Medway primary, infant and junior schools/academies of the full details of all valid applications for their schools to enable them to undertake the relevant checks (sibling links, etc.) and to consider against their over-subscription criteria. This list is known as 'the ranking list'.

This data will not include which preference the school/academy has been named, as this is not relevant to the application of oversubscription criteria.

The Council will have already undertaken distancing for all applicants to all schools. Any issues arising from these checks must be reported to School Services no later than 5pm on Friday 1 March 2024.

Only children who appear on the ranking list can be considered for places on the relevant offer day. No other child can be added by the school for any reason.

Ranking lists will be made available to schools/academies via secure means to comply with data protection and information governance procedures.

13.

All schools/academies **must** submit completed ranking lists, ranked in priority order in accordance with their over-subscription criteria, to the Council by the date specified above for consideration in the allocation process. For Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, the Council will act as the admission authority and have the final decision on the ranking of applicants.

Completed ranking list must be submitted securely to comply with data protection and information governance procedures.

14.

The Council will check and verify all ranked lists to the admissions database and run the algorithm to determine the allocation of places:

- Where the child is eligible for a place at only one of the named schools, that school will be offered
- Where the child is eligible for a place at two or more of the named schools, they will be allocated a place at whichever of these is the highest ranked preference
- Where a child who resides in Medway is not eligible for a place at any of the named schools, the child will be allocated a place at the nearest appropriate school with a vacancy

15.

The Council will inform all Medway primary, infant and junior schools/academies of the pupils to be offered places at their school. Infant schools will also be advised of the destinations of their Year 2 pupils.

Medway Council will have completed any data exchange with other local authorities prior to providing offer lists to schools, to cover situations where a Medway resident has named a school outside Medway, or a parent living outside Medway has named a Medway school.

Offer and destination detail will be sent via secure means to comply with data protection and information governance procedures.

16.

On the offer day determined above, the Council will notify details of the school/academy being offered to all Medway resident parents/carers. The offer details will include the name of the school offered, the basic reasons why any other school named was refused and will extend the right of appeal to any named school that was not offered.

Medway Council will also make available all the information regarding the next steps for parents/carers (including acceptance/refusal of the place offered, waiting list and appeal request).

Schools/academies can send out their welcome letters no earlier than the date shown above. This is to ensure that parents/carers have received their formal offer from the Council ahead of receiving any letters from the relevant school/academy.



## **The appeal and waiting list/reallocation processes**

All relevant dates for the following procedures are detailed in the 'Key Scheme Dates' table above.

17.

### **Acceptance/Refusal:**

By the deadline date for acceptance/refusal of places, parents/carers must inform the school offered whether they wish to accept or refuse the place offered on offer day.

Parents/carers will be notified the process for how to do this at the time of the school offer.

18.

### **Waiting Lists:**

Parents/carers must also submit requests to be included on a school's waiting list by this date.

Requests must be submitted to the Council for all schools/academies and parents/carers can ask to be considered on the waiting list for any Medway school/academy. Waiting list requests are not limited to those originally named on the application form, so parents/carers can add new schools to their applications via the waiting list request form.

Parents/carers will be notified the process for how to do this at the time of the school offer.

From the date specified in the above table and up until the final date specified, the Council will undertake the reallocation of any vacant places for all schools/academies.

Only children who have requested to be placed on the waiting list for a school/academy can be considered for vacant places during reallocation.

All waiting list requests will be treated equally against the schools over-subscription criteria, regardless of whether the school was originally named as a preference.

Parents/carers may ask for their child's name to be kept on a waiting list should places become available for the duration of the reallocation period.

- If a place can be offered from the waiting lists, any other offer held will be withdrawn.
- If a school requested on the waiting list form for the first time is unable to offer place at reallocation, the parents/carers will also have the right of appeal for that school.
- Also after the 'Council waiting list' has closed, parents/carers must re-apply for places under the in-year admission procedures.
- Waiting lists will be held in accordance with the published over-subscription criteria for the school and not according to how long the child's name has been on the list.
- Any place that becomes available must be offered to the next child on the waiting list, who has the highest eligibility under the published oversubscription criteria.

19.

### **Appeals:**

Parents/carers must also submit any appeal request by this date. At this stage parents/carers can only appeal for schools that they originally named on their application form.

Parents/carers will be notified the process for how to do this at the time of the school offer.

Appeal requests must be made in writing and lodged with Medway Council (for Community and VC schools) and for Academies, Foundation and VA schools must be lodged with the Clerk to the Independent Appeal Panel c/o the relevant school/academy.

## The handling of late applications

20.

As far as reasonably practicable, applications for places in the normal admissions round that are received late for a good reason will be accepted to be processed on time, provided they are received by the Council by 5pm on Friday 26 January 2024.

Such applications must be accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons for late submission. Only exceptional circumstances (good reason), which may include serious illness, bereavement or a late move to the area, can be considered.

Late applications received from families that have just moved into the area must be accompanied by sufficient proof of move. This can be a copy of a signed tenancy agreement, exchange of contracts or completion documents.

The decision on whether a reason for late application is acceptable will be at the discretion of School Services.

For situations where it is decided that the reason for late submission is not exceptional and for all applications received after 26 January 2024, the application will be held until after national offer day and will be processed as part of the ongoing reallocation of vacant places as defined above, starting from 10 June 2024.

## **Section 2 –** **Over-subscription Criteria of Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.**

The over-subscription criteria detailed in this section and published admission numbers detailed in section 3 relate to those schools for which Medway Council is the admissions authority and are correct at the time of going to print.

Some schools may be in the process of converting to or will be converted to academies by the start of the relevant academic year for this scheme. Where this is the case arrangements determined through this consultation will transfer to the academy and if it then chooses to amend admissions arrangements in the future it will be through its own consultation on changes for future admissions years.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

If the number of preferences for a Community or Voluntary Controlled primary, infant or junior school is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

1. Children in public care/looked after children and previously looked after children - (see note 1)
2. Attendance at a paired infant school - (see note 2)
3. Sibling (a brother or sister attending the named schools at the time of application and who will still be attending in September 2024) – (see note 3)
4. Denominational preference (for Voluntary Controlled church schools only) – A supplementary information form is also required (see note 4)
5. Medical, health and special access reasons – (see note 5)
6. Children eligible for the service premium – (see note 6)
7. Children of teaching staff – (see note 7)
8. Nearness of children's home – (see note 8)

Please note for children of multiple birth –

In the event of a school being oversubscribed where the parent/carer for the final qualifying place(s) available is the parent/carer of twins, triplets or other multiple birth, the Council will give multiple birth applications a higher priority for place than other applications with the exception of children in public care.

Parents/carers/carers must tick the appropriate box on the application to indicate the children are of multiple birth.

Tiebreaker –

In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

## Definitions and Notes

### 1.

A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order\* including those who appear to Medway Council to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

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).

\*An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is 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 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. 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).

*Medway Council may require a copy of the adoption order / child arrangements order / special guardianship order to validate the application of this criterion.*

### 2.

This criterion applies to applications for Year 3 in junior schools only.

Where admission links (pairing) have been established between the infant and junior school concerned, children attending the infant school are given a higher priority for admission to the junior school.

### 3.

We give priority to children who have a sibling at the named school. Sibling means children who live as brother/sister in the same house and includes natural siblings, adopted siblings, foster siblings and step siblings. Extended family, for example cousins, living in the same house do not qualify as siblings.

The sibling link also applies across 'paired' schools. This means if parents/carers are applying for Year R in the infant school and have an older sibling in the 'paired' junior school the sibling link will be considered and also if the parent is applying for Year 3 in the junior school and has a younger sibling in the 'paired' infant school the sibling link will apply.

If the older sibling is in Year 6 at the time of application, the link cannot be considered, as they will not be in the school when the younger child would start in September.

### 4.

When a parent/carer applies for a place at a Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England School on the grounds of denomination, such application must be supported by evidence that either the child or at least one parent/carer is a regular worshipper (the level of attendance should be at least once a month) at a church affiliated to, or represented at "Churches Together in England" or the "Evangelical Alliance" and has been for at least 12 months prior to the application being made.

Parents/carers must ensure that they have also completed the supplementary information form

(SIF) for Medway Voluntary Controlled church schools. A copy of the SIF is attached in appendix 1.

The SIF is available from and returnable to the school's listed below and is also available on the Council's website ([www.medway.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.medway.gov.uk/admissions)).

The SIF does not constitute an application for the school and parents/carers must complete their home Local Authority application as well (either online or paper). The SIF on its own will not be processed unless there is also a valid application for the school.

The SIF must be returned to the relevant school by the closing date for applications.

Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England Schools:

St Helen's CE Primary School	St Nicholas CEVC Primary School
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**5.**

Medical, health and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010, as follows:

- For children whose mental or physical impairment means that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school, or
- For children whose parent/carers mental or physical impairment means that they have a demonstrable and significant need for their child to attend a particular school.

Such claims must be clearly identified on the application and need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a specific connection between the needs of the child or parent/carer and the particular school. All evidence must be sent to the school(s) being applied for with a covering letter by the closing date for applications.

**6.**

A child can be considered under this criterion if the parent/carer is eligible to receive service premium as at the closing date for applications. Evidence of eligibility must be provided at the time of application. All evidence must be sent to School Services by the closing date for applications and must quote the child's name and date of birth.

**7.**

A child can be considered under this criterion where a member of teaching staff has been employed at the school requested for two or more years at the time the application is made. 'Teaching staff' means staff employed and salaried as teachers or teaching assistants (proof of employment must be provided with the application) but does not include voluntary staff.

**8.**

All distances and routes calculated are for the purposes of prioritising the application for admissions only and there is no expectation that a child should use this to walk to school.

Distances and routes calculated will represent the shortest route to school from the child's home address using roads and paths that are known to the graphical information software (GIS) utilised by School Services.

The start point:

The centre point of the nearest road or footpath known to the GIS system to the seed point of the child's home (as defined by Ordnance Survey).

This may not always be the postal address road, in circumstances where an alternative road or footpath is nearer to the seed point of the property.

Where a child's home is situated on a new road the distance calculation will begin from the nearest available known road plotted in the GIS. New property developments may be subject to this.

The end point:

This will be either a pre-defined point within the school site or the centre point of the road adjacent the school site.

The same end point is used for all distance calculations to the school concerned.

Routes/Footpaths:

The distance calculated is the shortest available route known to the Medway GIS (using the centre point of the streets and other available routes).

Not all footpaths, cut-throughs, shortcuts and new roads are known to the GIS system. Where a route is not known to the GIS system an alternative route will be used.

### **Section 3 – Published Admission Numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.**

Every school must have an admission number for each 'relevant age group' (this is defined in law as 'an age group in which pupils are normally admitted').

The expectation is that the published admission number (PAN) at the point of entry for the school will then follow that year group of children throughout each subsequent year in the school.

**The proposed published admission numbers (PANs) for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools are shown below:**

<b>School Name (Community and Voluntary Controlled schools only)</b>	<b>Published Admission Number (PAN) 2024</b>
Balfour Infant School (paired with Balfour Junior Academy)	<b>90</b>
Burnt Oak Primary School	<b>60</b>
Crest Infant School (paired with Delce Academy)	<b>60</b>
Fairview Primary School	<b>90</b>
Greenvale Primary School	<b>30</b>
Hempstead Schools Federation – Infants (paired with Hempstead Schools Federation – Juniors)	<b>90</b>
Hempstead Schools Federation – Juniors (paired with Hempstead Schools Federation – Infants)	<b>90</b>
Horsted School-Infants (paired with Horsted School-Juniors)	<b>60</b>
Horsted School-Juniors (paired with Horsted School-Infants)	<b>62</b>
Luton Primary School	<b>90</b>
New Road Primary School	<b>45</b>
Park Wood Primary School	<b>60</b>
St Helen's CE Primary School	<b>30</b>
St Nicholas CEVC Primary School	<b>30</b>
St Peter's Infant School (paired with Delce Academy)	<b>40</b>
Swingate Primary School	<b>90</b>

## **Section 4 – Information regarding Primary In-Year Admissions and Fair Access Protocols**

An in-year admission is either a new applicant who is moving to Medway or an existing resident attending a Medway school who wishes to transfer to a different Medway school. Entry is to year groups R-11 during the academic year and outside of the co-ordinated admissions process.

Under the provisions of the School Admissions Code (September 2021), paragraph 2.23 there is no requirement for local authorities to co-ordinate in-year admissions.

If a parent/carer wishes to apply for a Medway school as an in-year admission they must apply direct to the relevant school using the In-Year Application Form (IYAF).

Details of the in-year admissions processes for Medway schools and academies will be published on the Medway Council website ([www.medway.gov.uk/inyearadmissions](http://www.medway.gov.uk/inyearadmissions)) for each academic year by 31 August.

Places for in-year admissions must be offered in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria for the relevant school/academy.

Parents/carers must be advised of their right of appeal if a school named on the application cannot offer a place.

### **Fair Access Protocols:**

Medway Council administer the locally agreed Fair Access Protocols for children who meet the relevant criteria on behalf of and in partnership with all Medway primary, infant and junior schools and academies.

The Council will ensure that there is a fair distribution across all Medway schools/academies of pupils who are identified as having challenging behaviour under the agreed Fair Access Protocols.

Full details of the agreed Medway Fair Access Protocols will be published on the Medway Council website ([www.medway.gov.uk/inyearadmissions](http://www.medway.gov.uk/inyearadmissions)).

**Supplementary Information Form  
for all Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England Schools**

**Completed forms must be returned directly to the school named by 15 January 2024**

When a parent/carer applies for a place at a Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England School, such application must be supported by evidence that the child or at least one parent/carer is a regular worshipper (the level of attendance should be at least once a month) at a church affiliated to, or represented at “Churches Together in England” or the “Evangelical Alliance” and has been for at least 12 months prior to the application being made.

The Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England Schools are St Helen’s CE Primary School and St Nicholas CEVC Primary School

**Section A – to be completed by parents/carers**

**Notes for parents/carers:**

- 1. This form is not an application for the school. You must also complete the Medway Council application (either online or paper), which will be your formal application for the school.**
2. You must complete a separate Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for each of the above schools you are applying for.
3. Please complete Section A with the details requested. Please note that the details given must be those of the person whose attendance at church is being verified in Section B. This can be the child or the parent/carer.
4. \* If you have attended your current church for less than 12 months please provide details of your previous church, as these will need to be verified.
- 5. Once all sections have been completed, please return the form to the named school direct. It is your responsibility to ensure this form is submitted to the school by the above closing date.**

<b>School being applied for</b>	
<b>Child’s full name</b>	
<b>Child DOB</b>	
<b>Parent/Carer full name</b>	
<b>Home Address</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>Church currently attended</b>	
<b>Length of time you or your child has attended this church</b>	



<b>Church previously attended*</b>	
<b>Length of time you or your child has attended this church</b>	
<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

Please hand this form to your vicar/minister to complete section B

**Section B – to be completed by Clergy**

Notes for Clergy:

1. You have been asked to complete this form to validate the denominational claim being made to support the application for a place at the named Medway Voluntary Controlled Church of England School.
2. Please note that you are being asked to verify either **the child's or the parent/carers** attendance and commitment to the church.
3. Please check the details in Section A (completed by the parent/carer) and verify they are correct.
4. Please verify the length of time **the child or parent/carer** has been a regular worshipper at your church and, if less than 12 months, that they were a regular worshipper at the previous church named. If you are unable to verify this, please provide your comments on the denominational claim.
6. Once you have completed this section, please return the form to the parent/carer so that they can submit it to the school named. **It is the parent/carers responsibility to ensure this form is submitted to the school by the relevant closing date.**

Church for which you are the incumbent / pastor	
Your name, role/responsibility	

**Please tick the appropriate box and/or provide any comments below**

I hereby confirm that the child or parent/carer named overleaf is a regular worshipper of this church and has been for at least 12 months.	
I hereby confirm that the child or parent/carer named overleaf is a regular worshipper of this church but has not been so for at least 12 months. **	
**If the child or parent/carer has not been a regular worshipper at the church for at least 12 months, please contact the previous church named to verify their claim. <i>If you are unable to do so, please provide your comments below.</i>	
I hereby confirm that I have contacted the previous church named and that I have verified the parent/carer claim.	
The child or parent/carer named overleaf is <u>not</u> a regular worshipper of this church and therefore I do not verify their claim.	

**General Comments:**

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<b>Signed by the incumbent / pastor</b>		<b>Date</b>	
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