

Starting School

Oxfordshire County Council's information for parents and carers of children due to start infant or primary school in September 2026.

Apply online at:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Don't Forget! The deadline for applications is 15 January 2026

Contents

| Introduction | 1 |
|---|------------------------------|
| Key Dates | 2 |
| Section 1 – Application Process | 3 |
| Applying | 3 |
| Applying on time | 3 |
| Preferences | 3 |
| Travelling to SchoolApplying for a place at a school in England but outside Ox | |
| Applying for a place at a school in Northern Ireland, Scotla | and or Wales5 |
| Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) | 5 |
| Applying late | 5 |
| The Allocation Process | 6 |
| The Equal Preference System | 6 |
| The Admission Rules | 6 |
| What happens on National Offer Day – 16 April? | 6 |
| The Leaflet - "What to do next" | 7 |
| Responding to an Offer | 7 |
| If a preference cannot be offered | 7 |
| Waiting Lists | 8 |
| Changes of preference | 8 |
| Admission appeals | 8 |
| What happens between 17 April and 30 April 2026? | 11 |
| What happens between 7 May and 5 June 2026? | 11 |
| Second (or Late) Allocation Round on 5 June 2026 | 11 |
| When do children start school? | 12 |
| Delayed entry to school – Admission of summer-born child group | |
| Future implications of admitting a child to Reception group | _ |
| Remaining in nursery provision | 15 |
| Section 2 - Oxfordshire Primary and Infant Schools and Adn | nission Arrangements16 |
| New primary and infant schools in Oxfordshire | 16 |
| Standard Oversubscription Criteria for Reception year gro- Controlled Primary Schools in Oxfordshire | |
| Looked After and Previously Looked After Children | 23 |
| Disabilities – the Equality Act 2010 | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| Catchment areas | 25 |

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| Time of entry | 25 |
|---|-----|
| Addresses | 25 |
| Home address | 25 |
| Change of address | 26 |
| Multiple addresses | 266 |
| Parents who are unable to agree on the schools to be listed as preferences Fraudulent Applications | |
| Measuring Home to School Distances for admissions purposes | 27 |
| Measuring Home to School Distances for admissions purposes for Own Admission Authority Schools (OAA) that use the shortest public designated route distance | 27 |
| Measuring Home to School Distances for transport purposes | 28 |
| Own Admission Authority (OAA) schools in Oxfordshire | 30 |
| Appendix 1 | |
| Schools that have opted out of the In-Year Admissions Scheme for Oxfordshire | 42 |
| Section 3 – Miscellaneous | 44 |
| Definition of a Parent | 44 |
| Definition of a "Baptised Catholic" | 45 |
| Guidance on educational provision for children from overseas | 46 |
| Children with Education, Health and Care Plans | 46 |
| Private Fostering | 47 |
| Charging for school activities | 47 |
| Charging for public examinations | 48 |
| Free School Meals | 48 |
| Independent (Fee-Paying) Schools | 48 |
| School Uniforms | 49 |
| Term dates | 49 |
| Supplementary Information Forms | 49 |

Introduction



Starting primary or infant school is an important time for your child and Oxfordshire County Council wants to make sure that this first step is as smooth as possible. We would also like to ensure that your child is offered a place at one of the schools that you prefer.

Fortunately, we were able to do this for 99% of Oxfordshire children starting the Reception year group in the 2025/26 academic year – a total of 6,849 children. Only 61 children, less than 1% of the cohort, whose parents had applied on time and who live in Oxfordshire were offered an alternative school that had not been requested.

For some schools, we may have more applications than there are places and we have to have a process that will enable admission authorities to decide which children can be offered a place and which children will need to go to other schools. This process must be fair and unbiased and follow the procedures laid down nationally as well as locally.

Most applications are now made online. Applying in this way offers the benefits of being able to start, save, change and complete your application at any time right up to the closing date of 15 January 2026. Those who apply online will also be able to respond online to the offer made on 16 April 2026.

It is a good idea to list four preferences. 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, I would also advise you to read the school prospectuses and admissions arrangements as well as our Home to School Transport Policy. It may also be possible to visit schools.

Please remember that living in the catchment area for a particular school does not mean that your child will receive free transport to that school. Please 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 submit your application by 15 January 2026.

You can apply online at:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Key Dates

| 12 September 2025 | "Starting School" booklet published online. Printed copies available on request from the Local Authority (LA). |
|-------------------|--|
| 4 November 2025 | Online and paper applications accepted from this date. |
| 15 January 2026 | National closing date for on-time applications |
| 30 January 2026 | Last date for confirmation of change of address and for late applications or changes of preference with extenuating circumstances to be considered as on-time |
| 16 April 2026 | Offer letters sent by second-class post where needed and emails sent to those who applied online |
| 30 April 2026 | Last date for responding to an offer and for placing a child's name on a Waiting List in response to offers made on 16 April Last date for late applications and changes of preference to be considered in the second round of the allocation process |
| 5 June 2026 | Second Allocation Day: Offer letters sent by email or second-class post (where necessary) for offers or reoffers |
| 19 June 2026 | Deadline to respond to offers made on 6 June Deadline to apply to join Waiting List |
| September 2026 | Start of academic year for the Reception year group – most children will start school. |
| 30 June 2027 | Waiting List will be discontinued for all schools that are part of the in-year admissions scheme (unless otherwise stated in a school's admission arrangements) |

Section 1 - Application Process

Parents of children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 (inclusive) need to apply for a place at a primary or infant school place for their children.

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2026.

Parents must apply for a school place for their child even if the child attends a nursery class at the school listed as a preference.

Applying

There are two ways to apply:

Online

Parents can apply online for a school place for their child at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Most applications are made online. Over 95% of applications for starting school in the 2025/26 academic year were made online.

Paper

If parents are unable or do not wish to apply online they can apply on paper using the <u>Common Application Form</u>. A copy of this form is available online as well as from all state-funded mainstream primary and infant schools and County Hall.

When applying for a school place, a parent needs to use one method only. Please do not apply both online and on paper as this may delay the processing of the application especially if different preferences are listed on each application.

Applying on time

It is very important to apply on time. This maximises the chances of being offered a place at a preferred school. This means the online or paper application needs to be received by the Admissions Team by 15 January 2026.

Preferences

A parent can list up to 4 schools on the application. These schools should be listed in order of preference and, in order to maximise the chance of obtaining one of the preferred schools, it is very important to apply on time, i.e. by 15 January 2026.

Before deciding which schools to list parents are advised to read through the information given in the <u>"Starting School"</u> section of the website and check school websites and prospectuses. It may also be possible to visit schools.

It is important to understand the admission rules for a particular school in order to assess the likelihood of being able to obtain a place for a child. If a place is not offered at one of the schools listed on the application it will be because there were other children who had a higher priority for a place under the school's admission rules. The admission rules for every state funded school in Oxfordshire can be found on our schools search results webpage.

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.

Primary 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 two miles from their home address for 5-to-7-year olds; and over three miles for older children.

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, 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 selecting a school place.

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 school of your choice.

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

Admissions to state-funded primary and infant schools in England are coordinated across Local Authority boundaries. This means that, if a child lives in Oxfordshire and the parent wants to apply for a place at a school that is in a different Local Authority, the parent 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 English Local Authority where the school is situated on behalf of the parent 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 primary and infant schools in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales are not coordinated. If the parent wants to apply for a place at a school that is in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales, they 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 amount to an application – a parent must still apply listing a preference for the school (either online or on paper). However, if a school uses a SIF, it is in the parent's and child's interest to complete and return it by the date required in order to maximise the possibility of an offer at that school.

Applying late

If an application is received after 15 January 2026, it will be classed as a late application unless there are genuine extenuating reasons.

If a parent does not apply online or on paper by the above date, they should submit an application as soon as possible after this date. It will be possible to submit an application online by going to our Reception web page at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions A paper.application.gov.uk/primaryadmissions A paper.application.gov.uk/primaryadmissions and application form can be submitted in the applicant cannot apply online.

If the parent provides one or more genuine extenuating reasons by 30 January 2026, Oxfordshire County Council will consider these reasons to decide whether the application should be considered as an on-time application.

Letters will be sent for all late applications received between 16 January and 30 January 2026. The letter will explain whether the application will be considered as a late or on-time application.

Applications received after 30 January 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 from submitting the application on time;
- the death of a close family member (child's sibling, parent, grandparent) which prevented the parent/carer from submitting the application on time.

The above list is not exhaustive.

Late applicants are likely to be less successful in obtaining a place at a preferred school because, for many schools, all available places will be offered on National Offer Day and there will be only a limited number of places available to re-offer in the Second Allocation Round (see below) when late applications will be considered. Therefore, any parent submitting an application between 16 January and 30 January 2026 is strongly advised to write to the Admissions Team setting out the reasons why the application could not be made on-time.

The Allocation Process

The 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 lists on the Common Application Form (CAF) is treated as a separate application and the highest possible preference will be offered. The Admission Authority for a school must not discriminate against any application because a parent did not express a first preference for that school on the CAF. Offering places on the basis of "first preferences first" would be unlawful.

Schools are not told which order their school has been ranked in by parents.

The priority for admission is established using the admission rules for the relevant school. Once this information is available the preferences are then considered by the Local Authority acting as the "clearing house". If, at this stage, it was theoretically possible to offer a place at all of the schools listed, the school offered would be the one listed as the highest preference. If a place cannot be offered at any of the schools listed as a preference, the Local Authority will offer a place at the nearest school with an available place. If the Local Authority is not the Admissions Authority the offer of a place will be made on behalf of the Governors/Directors of that school.

The Admission Rules

Places are offered according to the priority of each individual school's admission rules. These are all available online via links on the individual school pages of the Oxfordshire County Council website (see Section 2).

What happens on National Offer Day - 16 April?

For all applications made online, an email is sent between 2am and 11.59pm on 16 April 2026 confirming the outcome of the application. It will also be possible for those who applied online to log in to their online application to view the result and respond.

Where an applicant has secured a place at their first preference school and their child is not eligible for free home to school transport, only an email will be sent and this will not be followed with a letter.

Letters will only be sent where an applicant has applied on paper; or where 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 offer of free home to school transport included. These letters will be sent by second-class post on 16 April 2026.

The Leaflet - "What to do next"

Every letter sent on 16 April 2026 will include a leaflet called "What to do next?". This leaflet explains how to:

- respond to the offer a place;
- place a child's name on one or more Waiting Lists (where relevant);
- respond to the offer of school transport or request school transport as appropriate
- make a school admissions appeal.

Responding to an Offer

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

Where an applicant is sent a letter (see above) a response form will be sent with the letter offering a place. The form should be completed and then returned to the Admissions Team by 30 April 2026.

If a paper response form needs to be completed because it cannot be done online, the form can be scanned or photographed and emailed to: schoolofferresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If a response is not received by the Admissions Team, or a parent rejects the offer of a place and does not provide a reason, Oxfordshire County Council reserves the right to re-offer the place to another applicant in the Second Allocation Round or later.

If this were to happen, this could mean that the child will not have a school offer for the 2026/27 academic year. Therefore, it is very important to accept the place at the offered school even if it is not a preferred school.

The Second Allocation Round process begins on 7 May 2026 and ends on 5 June 2026.

If a preference cannot be offered

It is not always possible to offer a child a place at one or more of the schools listed as a preference. If this happens, parents 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 are able to place their child's name on the Waiting List for schools where a requested place could not be offered.

Children living in Oxfordshire are not automatically placed on the Waiting List for any school. Parents must complete a Waiting List request form if they want their child's name added to a list. This can be done online if the application was submitted online.

If a paper Waiting list form needs to be completed because it cannot be submitted online, the completed form can be scanned or photographed and emailed to: schoolofferresponse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Parents are also advised to read Oxfordshire County Council's arrangements for Waiting Lists before completing and returning their request,

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/continuedinterest so that they understand that an alternative offer may be withdrawn without notice where a place can later be offered at a preferred school where the child was added to the Waiting List.

In addition, in these circumstances, parents are strongly advised to accept the place offered for their child. This ensures that a child will have a school place for the 2026/27 academic year. 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 or change the order of schools already listed in order to try to achieve an offer of a place at a different school at a later date. Parents 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 16 April 2026, the deadline for returning the appeal form is 14 May 2025 (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 the Clerk based at County Hall, who can be contacted on 01865 328215 or at schoolappeals@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The majority of appeals for places in Reception are called Infant Class Size Reviews. This is because the law states that no more than 30 children age 5 to 7 can be taught by one teacher in one classroom, unless a particular child is considered an exception under section 2.16 of the 2021 School Admissions Code.

These appeals can only be successful if:

- 1. The admission of additional children would not breach the infant class-size limit of 30 children to one teacher, at any point during Reception or as they progress through Year 1 and Year 2;
- 2. The co-ordinated admission arrangements did not comply with the admissions law
- 3. the decision to refuse admission was not one which a reasonable Admission Authority would have made in the circumstances of the case, as defined by the narrow legal meaning of the word <u>"reasonable"</u>.

Currently, the following state-funded primary and infant schools in Oxfordshire do not use the Council's Schools Appeals Service:

- · Abbey Woods Academy, Berinsfield;
- Appleton CE Primary School;
- Ashbury with Compton Beauchamp CE Primary School;
- Bampton CE Primary School;
- The Batt CE Primary School, Witney;
- The Blake CE Primary School, Witney;
- Burford Primary School;
- Checkendon CE Primary School;
- Chesterton CE Primary School;
- Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School, Adderbury;
- Dashwood Banbury Academy;
- Deddington CE Primary School;
- Dr Radcliffe's CE Primary School, Steeple Aston;
- Dr South's CE Primary School, Islip;
- Ewelme CE Primary School;
- Goring CE Primary School;
- Great Rollright CE Primary School;
- Grove CE Primary School;
- Harriers Banbury Academy;
- The Hendreds CE Primary School;
- John Henry Newman Academy, Littlemore, Oxford;
- Kidmore End CE Primary School;
- Kirtlington CE Primary School;
- Leafield CE Primary School;
- Little Milton CE Primary School;
- North Hinksey CE Primary School;
- North Leigh CE Primary School;
- Northbourne CE Primary School, Didcot;
- Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Cowley, Oxford;
- St Aloysius' Catholic Primary School, Oxford;
- St Amand's Catholic Primary School, East Hendred;
- St Barnabas' CE Primary School, Oxford;
- St Christopher's CE Primary School, Cowley, Oxford;
- St Christopher's CE Primary School, Langford;

- St Ebbe's CE Primary School, Oxford;
- St Edburg's CE Primary School, Bicester;
- St Edmund's Catholic Primary School, Abingdon;
- St Frideswide Church of England Primary School, Oxford;
- St John's Catholic Primary School, Banbury;
- St John the Evangelist CE Primary School, Carterton;
- St John Fisher Catholic Primary School, Littlemore, Oxford;
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury;
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford;
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Thame;
- St Laurence's CE Primary School, Warborough;
- St Mary & St John CE Primary School, Oxford;
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Bicester;
- St Mary's CE Primary School, Banbury;
- St Mary's CE Primary School, Chipping Norton;
- St Mary's CE Infant School, Witney;
- St Michael's CE Primary School, Oxford;
- St Peter's CE Primary School, Alvescot;
- St Peter's CE Primary School, Cassington;
- St Philip & St James CE Primary School, Oxford;
- St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Kidlington;
- Shellingford CE Primary School;
- Shenington CE Primary School;
- Shiplake CE Primary School;
- South Moreton School;
- Stoke Row CE Primary School;
- Tackley CE Primary School;
- Wheatley CE Primary School Academy;
- Wootton St Peter's CE Primary School;
- Wroxton CE Primary School

The above list is subject to change and a current list will be available online on the <u>School Appeal page</u>.

Appeals are heard by an Independent Panel. A decision by an appeal panel whether or not to offer a school place is binding on the relevant Admissions Authority.

Acceptance of a place at a school does not affect a parent's 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 second half of the summer term.

A parent's 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. Please consider very carefully if you wish to proceed with an appeal.

Further information about the appeals process can be found at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals

What happens between 17 April and 30 April 2026?

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.

What happens between 7 May and 5 June 2026?

After all information has been collated, any places that have arisen are available to re-offer on 5 June 2026 (Second Allocation Round).

The following groups of children are all considered together in the Second Allocation Round:

- late applicants whose applications were submitted after 15 January but by 30 April 2026;
 and
- children added to the Waiting List who could not be offered a place on 16 April 2026 whose parents want them to be re-considered for a place, should one become available (form to be received no later than 30 April 2026); and
- applicants classed as "change of preference", where a place was offered at a school on 16 April 2026 but the parent has changed their preference(s) or added a new preference or preferences by 30 April 2026.

All of the above application types are considered together and are prioritised according to each school's admissions rules. No category of 'late' application takes precedence over another category and applications are not prioritised according to the date when the request was made.

Second Allocation Round on 5 June 2026

For all late applications or changes of preference made online, an email is sent between 2am and 11.59pm on 5 June 2026 confirming the outcome of the application. It will also be possible for those who applied online to login to their online application to view the result and respond.

Where an applicant has secured a place at their first preference school and their child is not eligible for free home to school transport, only an email will be sent and this will not be followed with a letter.

Letters will only be sent where an applicant has applied on paper; or where 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 offer of free home to school transport included. These letters will be sent by second-class post on 5 June 2026.

Please note that we do not contact applicants where they have added their child's name to a Waiting List if no place can be offered from the Waiting List and there has been no 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 16 April 2026 (see above).

When do children start school?

Most children starting the Reception year group for the first time will start at school at the beginning of September 2026 (Autumn Term). Parents can decide if they want to request a part-time or full-time place for their child. Schools will comply with any reasonable request. However, a part-time place is usually morning sessions (child goes home at lunch-time) or afternoon sessions (child arrives at lunch-time) only. Schools are unlikely to offer bespoke provision with some full days and some half days each week. Many children will have spent time in a nursery setting or pre-school provision before they are due to start their Reception year and some families will have made use of the extended 30-hour entitlement. Therefore, it is expected that children will start in the Reception year group with a full-time or part-time place (as requested by their parent) from the beginning of the Autumn Term and will not have a gradual or staggered start into their Reception year.

However, legally children do not have to start full-time education until the term after their fifth birthday, and some parents decide to defer their children's start date at primary or infant school. If a parent wishes to defer their child's admission to school, they should discuss the implications with the school concerned.

The table below shows dates by when children must start full-time education.

| Children born | Can start school | Must start school |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 September 2021 to 31 December 2021 | September 2026 (part-time or full-time) | January 2027 (full time) |
| 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022 | September 2026 (part-time or full time); or January 2027 (part-time or full-time) | April 2027 full-time) |
| 1 April 2022 to 31 August 2022 | September 2026 (part-time or full time); or January 2027 (part-time or full-time); or April 2027 (part-time or full- time) | September 2027 (full-time) Unless otherwise agreed, if a child of this age starts school in September 2027, it will be in Year 1 and not the Reception year (please see the section below about summer-born |

| | children). The offer of a place will lapse if the child does not |
|--|--|
| | start school by April 2027. In cases of this kind the parent would need to reapply in June 2027 for a place in Year 1 in September 2027. |
| | September 2027. |

Delayed entry to school – Admission of summer-born children outside their normal age group

Summer-born children are defined as those born from the beginning of April to the end of August and who will reach compulsory school age on 31 August 2027.

There is some statistical evidence that summer-born children tend to perform less well in school tests but it is important to remember that teachers are skilled at differentiating the curriculum to meet a diverse range of needs, including those of summer-born children. It would not be accurate to assume that all children born in the summer term will struggle at school.

However, if a parent would like to delay entry to school for their summer-born child until the September after their fifth birthday (September 2027) and request that they enter the Reception group (rather than the Year 1 class), the Admission Authority for that school will need to consider this request on the basis of the circumstances of the case. It would be unlawful for an Admission Authority to have a blanket policy which says that summer-born children who start school in the September after their fifth birthday will always be admitted to Year 1.

Applicants who wish to delay their summer-born child's entry to Reception group may complete a <u>application to delay form</u>, which is available from Oxfordshire County Council's website, and the decision will be made by the Admissions Authority for each of the schools requested.

Factors that may be considered by an Admission Authority are:

- a. the views of the parent; and/or
- b. the needs of the child and the possible impact of entering Year 1 without having first attended the Reception class; and/or
- c. if a child has been born prematurely, the fact that they may have naturally fallen into the lower age group if they had been born on their expected arrival date; and/or
- d. the extent to which a child's delayed social, emotional or physical development is adversely affecting their readiness for school; and/or
- e. any relevant research into the outcomes of summer-born and premature children; and/or
- f. where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of a medical professional.

In all cases the Admissions Authority must take in to account the views of the Headteacher of the school concerned.

The parent of a child who is eligible for admission to school in the 2026/27 academic year but whose child does not have to start full-time education until September 2027, and who wants them to start Reception group in the 2027/28 academic year rather than Year 1, should make their request as early as possible in the 2025/26 academic year.

Requests should be made to Oxfordshire County Council's Admissions Team using the form "Request for the admission of summer born children outside their normal age group" and attaching any evidence that they believe will be helpful. This form is available on Oxfordshire County Council's public website.

Once the relevant form has been received by the Admissions Team, the Admissions Authorities of the schools listed will be contacted to ask whether they are willing to accept an out of year group application in the next academic year. The parent will then be informed of the outcome of their request with the reasons for it.

Where it is agreed that an application can be processed for entry to the Reception group for the September following a child's fifth birthday, no weight will be added to the application owing to the application being delayed. Similarly, no Admissions Authority will give a lower priority for admission on the basis that the child is not of the correct age.

If an Admission Authority refuses a parent's request for a child to be considered for admission to the Reception group a year later than is usual, it is open to the parent to make a complaint using the Admission Authority's formal complaints procedure. All schools have a duty to consider complaints about the school and must have a published complaints procedure in place. Oxfordshire County Council also has a complaints procedure which can be used if the school concerned is a Community or Voluntary Controlled school.

If a child is already of statutory school age and the child's parent requests that the child is admitted to Reception group rather than Year 1, there is no right of appeal if a place has been offered in Year 1. If a place is not available in either year group there would be a right of appeal. However, the appeal would be for the year group that the Admissions Authority had decided was the appropriate year group for the child.

Future implications of admitting a child to Reception group when the child is of Year 1 age

If a child is educated outside of the normal age group while in primary school, the Admission Authority of the secondary school will need to reach a new decision whether to admit the child outside of their normal age group. When making this decision the Admission Authority for the secondary school must make the decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case.

A child ceases to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday in June in the school year in which they have their 16th birthday. If a child is educated outside of their normal age group (i.e. is in Year 10 when this date is reached) the school will continue to receive funding for that child but the child will no longer be of compulsory school age during the school year in which most children take their GCSE examinations. This means that a child educated in Year 10 but who is of Year 11 age could leave school at the end of Year 10. However, the child concerned would need to remain in education in an alternative setting (e.g. college) or

undergo training (e.g. an apprenticeship) until the end of the school year in which they have their 18th birthday.

Remaining in nursery provision

Nursery education is no longer age appropriate once a child reaches statutory school age. Therefore, children who have their fifth birthday between September and December 2026 may only stay in nursery provision until the end of December 2026. They need to be in receipt of full-time age-appropriate education from January 2027. No state funding is available for nursery places for these children after December 2027.

Children who have their fifth birthday between January and March 2027 may only stay in nursery provision until the end of March 2027. They need to be in receipt of full-time age-appropriate education from April 2027. No state funding is available for nursery places for these children after March 2027.

Children who have their fifth birthday between April and August 2027 may stay in nursery provision until the end of the 2026/27 academic year. They need to be in receipt of full-time age-appropriate education from September 2027. No state funding is available for nursery places for these children after July 2027.

Once a child is too old for nursery provision the only alternative to placing a child at school is age-appropriate home education.

Section 2 – Oxfordshire Primary and Infant Schools and Admission Arrangements

New primary schools in Oxfordshire

No new primary schools are opening in Oxfordshire for 2026/27.

Existing Schools in Oxfordshire

Details for every state-funded Oxfordshire school can be found on our schools search results page. On this webpage you can find each school's location, contact details, catchment area (where it has one), admissions rules and information about how places have been offered in previous years.

Standard Oversubscription Criteria for Reception year group at Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools in Oxfordshire

Community and Voluntary Controlled primary schools listed in the table below use the standard oversubscription criteria shown in this section.

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3120 | 25 |
| Aston Rowant Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3180 | 15 |
| Barley Hill Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2463 | 60 |
| Bladon Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3146 | 15 |
| Brookside Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2202 | 45 |
| Bure Park Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2610 | 60 |
| Caldecott Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2605 | 60 |
| Carswell Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2595 | 30 |
| Chadlington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3043 | 15 |
| Charlton-on-Otmoor Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3081 | 15 |
| Chilton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2555 | 45 |
| Church Cowley St James Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3210 | 60 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Clanfield Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3100 | 15 |
| Clifton Hampden Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3183 | 15 |
| Combe Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3142 | 15 |
| Crowmarsh Gifford Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3200 | 30 |
| Cumnor Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3223 | 30 |
| Dorchester St Birinus Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3186 | 15 |
| Drayton Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2560 | 30 |
| Dry Sandford Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2565 | 20 |
| Ducklington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3122 | 30 |
| Dunmore Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3861 | 60 |
| East Oxford Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2525 | 45 |
| Enstone Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2103 | 15 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Five Acres Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2200 | 60 |
| Fringford Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3083 | 15 |
| Gateway Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2254 | 45 |
| The Grange Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2058 | 45 |
| Great Milton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3187 | 30 |
| Great Tew Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2104 | 15 |
| Hailey Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3123 | 15 |
| Harwell Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2563 | 30 |
| Hook Norton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3044 | 45 |
| John Hampden Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2591 | 60 |
| Kingham Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2106 | 30 |
| King's Meadow Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2210 | 60 |
| Langford Village Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2608 | 60 |
| Launton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3085 | 20 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Lewknor Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3184 | 15 |
| Long Furlong Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2602 | 30 |
| Longfields Primary School and Nursery | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2207 | 45 |
| Longworth Undenominational Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3234 | 15 |
| Marcham Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3235 | 30 |
| Marsh Baldon Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3188 | 12 |
| Mill Lane Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2465 | 30 |
| Nettlebed Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2504 | 20 |
| New Hinksey Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3213 | 15 |
| North Kidlington Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2357 | 45 |
| Orchard Fields Community School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2055 | 60 |
| Peppard Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3205 | 15 |
| Queensway School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2057 | 60 |
| Radley Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3238 | 30 |
| The Ridgeway Church of England Primary School, Childrey | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3231 | 14 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Royal Air Force Benson Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2450 | 45 |
| Sonning Common Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2506 | 60 |
| South Stoke Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2507 | 7 |
| St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Chinnor | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3182 | 60 |
| St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3211 | 30 |
| St Blaise Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3260 | 30 |
| St Kenelm's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3125 | 20 |
| St Leonard's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3262 | 45 |
| St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2352 | 60 |
| St Nicolas' Church of England Primary School, Abingdon | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3247 | 60 |
| St Swithun's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3258 | 60 |
| Stanford-in-the-Vale Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3240 | 30 |
| Stockham Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2583 | 30 |
| Stonesfield Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2353 | 20 |

| Sunningwell Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3242 | 15 |
|--|--|----|
| Tetsworth Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2456 | 8 |
| Thomas Reade Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2587 | 30 |
| Trinity Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3254 | 45 |
| Uffington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3251 | 15 |
| Valley Road School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2512 | 30 |
| | | |
| Whitchurch Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2208 | 20 |
| William Fletcher Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2354 | 30 |
| Windmill Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2527 | 90 |
| Wood Farm Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2589 | 60 |
| Woodcote Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2510 | 30 |
| Woodstock Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3145 | 60 |
| Wychwood Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3257 | 45 |

Over-subscription Criteria for entry to the Reception year group in Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

In accordance with legal requirements children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school will be admitted to that school.

- 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 Admissions 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 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.
- 4. 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.
- 5. All other children who do not live in the catchment area 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 categories 2 to 5 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).

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 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 states that previously looked 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 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 previously in state care outside England

Guidance was issued by the school's minister in 2018 asking Admission Authorities to consider prioritising children who were previously in state care outside England. When reaching a decision whether to offer a place under Criterion 2, the Admissions Authority will use the guidance to determine whether a child should be considered under this Criterion, requesting evidence from the applicant and taking a pragmatic approach to the decision-making process where evidence is lacking.

Disabilities – the Equality Act 2010

A number of academies give a high priority for admission to disabled children who need to be admitted to a school on the grounds of physical accessibility. The definition of disability is that contained within the Equality Act 2010 which is available online at:

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents

If a child has a disability as identified in the Act then the child's parent should provide details where permitted online or on paper. In addition, evidence of a child's disability must be submitted in writing by a medical professional.

An unsupported statement that a child is disabled and needs to be admitted to a school on the grounds of physical accessibility will not be accepted.

Catchment areas

Many, but not all schools have catchment areas which are part of the admission arrangements and help establish the priority for a school place. Our <u>schools search results</u> page has details of a school's location and catchment area, (where it has one).

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 the child concerned is entitled to free home to school transport (see Section 3).

Time of entry

The admission arrangements 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 entry to Reception year group if they have a brother or sister in Year 6.

Addresses

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 be made in November 2025 until National Offer Day on 16 April 2026.

Sometimes an application is made based on an address at the time the application is written and the address then changes after the application has been submitted. It is important to tell the 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, the Local Authority will consider the application to have been made on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading address. This will normally result in the offer of a school place being withdrawn (see Fraudulent Applications).

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

Change of address

Changes of address which occur after 15 January 2026 can be taken into account if proof of this change is provided no later than 30 January 2026.

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
- a copy of a tenancy agreement (if the property is to be rented) but if this tenancy agreement comes to an end before September 2022 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 (CAF); 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.

Please note that a parent may also be asked to provide proof of address from correspondence they have received from HM Revenue & Customs, Child Benefit Division or Tax Credits Division.

Any correspondence from HM Revenue & Customs, Child Benefit Division or Tax Credits Division must pre-date the application made by the parent.

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 and transport purposes or they will be required to have this determined legally via a Court Order.

Parents who are unable to agree on the schools to be listed as preferences

If agreement cannot be reached in a timely manner and this would risk no application being processed and the child being without a school place, the Local Authority will process the application from the parent with address 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. If they cannot agree or a parent is unhappy with a decision made by the Local Authority their recourse would be to seek an order from the Court.

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.

Measuring Home to School Distances for admissions purposes

For admissions purposes for all schools where Oxfordshire County Council is the Admissions Authority for the school, and any Own Admission Authority schools that have adopted the LA's measuring system, the route from home to school will be measured using a straight line.

The straight-line distance used to determine proximity of the home to the school will be measured on behalf of schools by the LA. The start point of the measurement will be the geographical placement of the address (address point using the Easting/Northing British Coordinate system) as available to Oxfordshire County Council from information compiled from Royal Mail and/or district or city councils. This placement is accurate to 10 centimetres. The end point of the measurement will be determined by the Admissions Authority of the school and provided to the LA. 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.

Measuring the shortest designated public access route

A number of schools still use the shortest designated public access route to measure home to school distances. The method to calculate distance in this way is set out below.

This route is defined on the LA's Geographic Information System.

The start point of a measurement is the "seed point" of the home address. The "seed point" is provided by Ordnance Survey from information compiled from Royal Mail and/or district or city councils. The seed point normally falls within the bounds of a property. The accuracy of

seed points is to the nearest ten centimetres. It is possible to move the location of an individual seed point, but this is not necessary for most addresses. 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 seed point the route firstly connects to the nearest point of the digitised network. The positioning of front doors, driveways and back gates is not relevant to the route or the measurement and they are not programmed to be used by the measuring system.

The digitised network is constructed from road data supplied by Ordnance Survey called the Integrated Transport Network (ITN). The Integrated Transport Network has been accurately digitised to measure along the centre of roads and takes corners at right angles. This is the same underlying information as 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 ITN has been augmented by the** LA to take into account other available public routes (e.g. alleyways, public footpaths, bridleways, etc). The augmented ITN 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 is the nearest open gate of the school first arrived at from the direction of travel from the seed point 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 LA. The LA consults with each individual school annually to ensure accurate placement of the gate and its availability for use.

The shortest designated route is established using an algorithm within the bespoke software used by the LA. This software is called RouteFinder and is produced by Higher Mapping Solutions (www.highermappingsolutions.com). This programme integrates with the LA's database (ONE) which is supplied by Capita Children's Services (www.capita-cs.co.uk).

RouteFinder measures in kilometres and the measurement is converted into miles accurate to three decimal places, which gives an accurate reading up to 1.609344 metres.

The shortest designated route 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 the UK and Europe, we use Google Maps (www.google.co.uk) which allows measuring by

shortest routes when set to 'walking' mode. For addresses outside Europe we measure a straight line distance using longitude and latitude. Firstly, we derive a start point (the home address) using itouchmap.com/latlong.html We then measure the straight line distance in statute miles from this start point to the end point (the school gate) using www.nhc.noaa.gov/gccalc.shtml

A small number of 'Own Admissions Authority' schools measure using a straight-line distance from home to school. The LA also calculates these distances for those particular schools.

Measuring Home to School Distances for transport purposes

The shortest safe route is defined on the LA's Geographic Information System.

This is measured using the same software and the same algorithm as for the shortest designated route (see above). However, in this mode of calculation, certain parts of the network of roads and/or paths have been specified as unsafe and the route will use an alternative direction which will be longer. This longer distance will be used to determine whether a child is eligible for free home to school transport.

Own Admission Authority (OAA) schools in Oxfordshire

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

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Abbey Woods Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2007 | 30 |
| All Saints Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3859 | 60 |
| Appleton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3850 | 28 |
| Ashbury with Compton Beauchamp Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3851 | 15 |
| Aureus Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2011 | 60 |
| Badgemore Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2513 | 30 |
| Bampton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3131 | 30 |
| Barton Park Primary School | https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2034 | 30 |
| The Batt Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3605 | 30 |
| Bayards Hill Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2015 | 30 |
| Beckley Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3256 | 20 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Benson Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3181 | 45 |
| Bishop Carpenter Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3302 | 16 |
| Bishop Loveday Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3351 | 60 |
| The Blake Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3600 | 60 |
| Bletchingdon Parochial Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3141 | 15 |
| Blewbury Endowed Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2031 | 25 |
| Botley School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2032 | 30 |
| Brightwell-cum- Sotwell Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3221 | 30 |
| Brize Norton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2250 | 20 |
| Buckland Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3222 | 15 |
| Burford Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2251 | 20 |
| Carterton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2252 | 45 |

| Chalgrove Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2452 | 30 |
|---|--|----|
| Charlbury Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2100 | 30 |
| Charlton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2573 | 60 |
| Checkendon Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3801 | 15 |
| Cherry Fields Primary School | https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2036 | 30 |
| Chesterton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3082 | 30 |
| Cholsey Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2596 | 60 |
| Christopher Rawlins Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3453 | 30 |
| Cropredy Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3000 | 30 |
| Cutteslowe Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2004 | 45 |
| Dashwood Banbury Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2003 | 60 |
| Deddington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3452 | 30 |
| Didcot Primary Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2012 | 60 |
| Dr Radcliffe's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3828 | 30 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Dr South's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3655 | 15 |
| Edith Moorhouse Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2255 | 45 |
| Edward Feild Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2590 | 45 |
| The Elms Primary School | https://faringdonlearningtrust.org/ | 30 |
| Europa School UK | <pre>www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/4002</pre> | 90 |
| Ewelme Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3752 | 13 |
| Eynsham Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2013 | 60 |
| Finmere Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3090 | 7 |
| Finstock Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3040 | 15 |
| Folly Primary School | https://faringdonlearningtrust.org/ | 60 |
| Freeland Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3208 | 22 |
| Fritwell Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3065 | 30 |
| Gagle Brook Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2014 | 30 |
| Garsington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3167 | 30 |
| Glory Farm School (Bicester Learning Academy) | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2211 | 60 |

| Goring Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3803 | 30 |
|--|--|----|
| Great Rollright Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3408 | 15 |
| Grove Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3228 | 30 |
| Hagbourne Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3249 | 30 |
| Hanborough Manor Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3147 | 45 |
| Hanwell Fields Community School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3837 | 60 |
| Hardwick Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2060 | 30 |
| Harriers Banbury Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2053 | 60 |
| The Hendreds Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3250 | 18 |
| Heyford Park School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/4018 | 60 |
| Hill View Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2056 | 60 |
| Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3420 | 30 |
| Hornton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2001 | 15 |
| Horspath Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3161 | 20 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| John Blandy Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3230 | 45 |
| John Henry Newman Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2000 | 60 |
| Kidmore End Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3807 | 30 |
| Kirtlington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3500 | 15 |
| Ladygrove Park Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2609 | 60 |
| Larkrise Primary School | https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/list/2027 | 60 |
| Leafield Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3124 | 15 |
| Little Milton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3755 | 14 |
| Longcot & Fernham Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3232 | 20 |
| Longford Park Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2017 | 30 |
| Long Wittenham Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3233 | 15 |
| Madley Brook Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2002 | 30 |
| Manor School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2597 | 30 |
| Middle Barton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2151 | 15 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Millbrook Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2016 | 60 |
| New Marston Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2020 | 30 |
| North Hinksey Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3237 | 30 |
| North Leigh Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3128 | 30 |
| Northbourne Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3852 | 45 |
| Orchard Meadow Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2024 | 30 |
| Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Witney | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3822 | 30 |
| | 5 111 1/2006 | 1 |
| Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3836 | 45 |
| Pegasus Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2593 | 60 |
| Queen Emma's Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2304 | 45 |
| Rose Hill Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2023 | 30 |
| Rush Common School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2574 | 60 |
| Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Henley-on- Thames | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3820 | 30 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| St Aloysius' Catholic Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3842 | 30 |
| St Amand's Catholic Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3855 | 28 |
| St Barnabas' Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3832 | 30 |
| St Christopher's Church of England Primary School, Cowley, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2010 | 60 |
| St Christopher's Church of England Primary School, Langford, Lechlade | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3555 | 22 |
| St Ebbe's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3833 | 30 |
| St Edburg's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3505 | 90 |
| St Edmund's Catholic Primary School and Foundation Stage Unit, Abingdon | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3856 | 30 |
| St Francis' Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3253 | 30 |
| St Frideswide Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2037 | 60 |
| St James' Church of England Primary School, East Hanney | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3225 | 30 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| St John the Evangelist Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2613 | 60 |
| St John Fisher Catholic Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3839 | 30 |
| St John's Catholic Primary School, Banbury | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3350 | 30 |
| St John's Primary School, Grove | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2567 | 30 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3825 | 30 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Carterton | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3556 | 30 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3838 | 60 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Thame | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3826 | 30 |
| St Laurence Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3760 | 15 |
| St Mary & St John Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3834 | 60 |
| St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Banbury | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3022 | 30 |
| St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Bicester | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3824 | 45 |
| St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chipping Norton | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3858 | 45 |

| St Mary's Church of England Infant School, Witney | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3207 | 30 |
|---|--|----|
| St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Oxford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3216 | 30 |
| St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Steventon | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3241 | 30 |
| St Nicholas' Church of England Infants' School and Foundation Stage Unit, Wallingford | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3244 | 60 |
| St Nicholas' Church of England Primary School, East Challow | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3224 | 15 |
| St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Cassington | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3651 | 15 |
| St Peter's Primary School, Alvescot | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3550 | 14 |
| St Philip & St James' Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3835 | 60 |
| St Thomas More Catholic Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3823 | 30 |
| Sandhills Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2022 | 30 |
| Shellingford Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3853 | 15 |
| Shenington Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/5200 | 15 |

| School | More details online including how places have been offered and catchment area map | Published Admission Number |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Shiplake Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3810 | 28 |
| Shrivenham Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3239 | 45 |
| Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3005 | 15 |
| South Moreton School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2566 | 25 |
| Southwold Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2607 | 45 |
| Stadhampton Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2455 | 15 |
| Standlake Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3127 | 24 |
| Stanton Harcourt Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3130 | 15 |
| Stoke Row Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3206 | 15 |
| Stephen Freeman Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2594 | 60 |
| Sutton Courtenay Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3243 | 30 |
| Tackley Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3144 | 15 |
| Thameside Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2598 | 30 |
| Tower Hill School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2303 | 30 |
| Tyndale Community School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2008 | 60 |

| Wantage Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3246 | 60 |
|---|--|----|
| Wantage Primary Academy | https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2033 | 60 |
| Watchfield Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2572 | 45 |
| Watlington Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2459 | 30 |
| West Kidlington Primary School and Nursery | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2021 | 30 |
| West Witney Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2601 | 60 |
| Wheatley Church of England Primary School Academy | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2009 | 60 |
| William Morris Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2019 | 30 |
| Willowcroft Community School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3912 | 60 |
| Windale Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2025 | 30 |
| Windrush Church of England Primary School | <pre>www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/ list/2038</pre> | 30 |
| Witney Community Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2302 | 30 |
| Wolvercote Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/2534 | 45 |
| Wootton St Peter's Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3854 | 16 |
| Wroxton Church of England Primary School | www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/school/3004 | 15 |

APPENDIX 1

Schools that have opted out of the In-Year Admissions Scheme for Oxfordshire

This information was correct at the time this policy was published. An up-to-date list is available online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schooltransfer

1. The following secondary age academy has opted out of the Scheme:

| Wykham Park Academy (formerly Banbury Academy) https://wykhampark-aspirations.org/ 01295 251451 |
|--|
|--|

The main point of entry for this academy is Year 7.

2. The following all age academy has opted out of the Scheme:

| Heyford Park Free School | http://heyfordparkschool.org/ |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | 01869 232203 |

The main points of entry for this academy are Reception and Year 7.

The following studio school and university technical college have opted out of the Scheme:

| Futures Institute Banbury | https://www.futuresbanbury.org/ 01295 257942 |
|---------------------------|---|
| UTC Oxfordshire | https://www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk 01235 391587 |

The main point of entry for Futures Institute and UTC Oxfordshire is Year 10.

4. The following primary age schools and academies have opted out of the Scheme:

| Ashbury with Compton Beauchamp Church of England Primary School | https://www.ashburyprimary.org.uk/ 01793 710259 |
|---|--|
| Bampton Church of England | http://www.bamptonprimaryschool.org.uk/ |
| Primary School | 01993 850371 |

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

| The Blake Church of England Primary School, Witney | http://www.blake.oxon.sch.uk/website 01993 702840 |
|--|--|
| Brize Norton Primary School | http://www.brizeprimary.org/ 01993 842488 |
| Dr South's Primary School | http://dr-souths.co.uk/ 01865 372323 |

| Goring Church of England | http://www.goring.oxon.sch.uk/ |
|---|---|
| Primary School | 01491 872289 |
| John Henry Newman Academy, Oxford | http://www.jhnacademy.co.uk/website 01865 772495 |
| North Leigh Church of England Primary School | https://www.northleighprimaryschool.org.uk/01993 881525 |
| Our Lady's Catholic Primary | https://www.our-ladys.oxon.sch.uk/ |
| School, Oxford | 01865 779176 |
| St Christopher's Church of England Primary School, Langford | http://www.st-christophers.oxon.sch.uk/ 01367 860318 |
| St Christopher's Church of England Primary School, Oxford | http://www.st-christophers-pri.oxon.sch.uk/ 01865 779772 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary | http://www.st-josephs.oxon.sch.uk/ |
| School, Thame | 01844 214278 |
| St Mary & St John Church of England Primary School, Oxford | http://www.ssmj.oxon.sch.uk 01865 245768 |
| St Peter's Church of England | http://www.stpeters.oxon.sch.uk/ |
| Primary School, Alvescot | 01993 842535 |
| Tyndale Community School, | https://www.tyndalecommunityschool.co.uk |
| Oxford | 01865 454000 |

The main point of entry for these schools and academies is Reception.

Section 3 - 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

Definition of a "Baptised Catholic"

A "Baptised Catholic" is one who:

- Has been baptised into full communion (Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (i.e. Latin Rite, Byzantine Rite, Coptic, Syriac, etc, Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1203). Written evidence of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. Code of Canon Law, 877 & 878).
- Has been validly baptised in a separated ecclesial community and subsequently received into full communion with the Catholic Church by the Rite of Reception of Baptised Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. Written evidence of their baptism and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church can be obtained by recourse to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases, a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the Rite of Reception took place (Cf. Rite of Christian Initiation, 399).

Written evidence of baptism

The Governing bodies, Academy Committees and Boards of Directors of Catholic schools and academies will require written evidence in the form of a Certificate of Baptism or Certificate of Reception before applications for school places can be considered for categories of "Baptised Catholics". A Certificate of Baptism or Reception is to include: the full name, date of birth, date of Baptism or Reception, and parent(s) name(s). The Certificate must also show that it is copied from the records kept by the place of Baptism or Reception.

Those who would have difficulty obtaining written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception for a good reason, may still be considered as Baptised Catholics but only after they have been referred to their parish priest who, after consulting the Vicar General, will decide how the question of Baptism/Reception is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.

Those who would be considered to have good reason for not obtaining written evidence would include those who cannot contact the place of Baptism/Reception due to persecution or fear, the destruction of the church and the original records, or where Baptism/Reception was administered validly but not in the Parish church where records are kept.

Governors, Committee Representatives and Boards of Directors may request extra supporting evidence when the written documents that are produced do not clarify the fact that a person was baptised or received into the Catholic Church, (i.e. where the name and address of the Church is not on the certificate.

Guidance on educational provision for children from overseas

Admission authorities must treat applications for children from overseas in accordance 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 dependant of a foreign national who has settled status in the UK, as a dependant of their parent(s) who are in the UK on a <u>work visa</u> or <u>Student visa</u>, or who are part of a family entering or residing in the UK under the <u>immigration</u> route for British National (Overseas) citizens and their dependants.

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, it is up to the Home Office to 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 Plans

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

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 transport may not be automatically provided to a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan to attend a mainstream school that is not the nearest or nearest available school

Private Fostering

There is a legal requirement to notify the Local Authority of private fostering arrangements.

A privately fostered child is a child under 16 years of age (or 18 years of age if disabled) who lives away from their birth parents for longer than 28 days with a person who is not:

- a parent of the child;
- someone who has parental responsibility for the child;
- a close relative of the child.

The Children Act 1989(Section 105) defines a relative as a grandparent, brother, sister uncle or aunt (whether of the full blood or half blood or by affinity) or step parent (Section 10(5) a) refers to a step parent being someone who is, or has been, a party to a marriage).

Those who need to notify Oxfordshire County Council of a private fostering arrangement should contact:

Pratishtha Srivastava
Private Fostering Senior Practitioner
City Fostering Team
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

Email: Pratishtha.srivastava@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Charging for school activities

No charge may be made for school activities by the Local Authority or the Directors / School Governors unless it is already provided for in a statement of policy on charging and the remission of charges. Such statements will also usually cover arrangements for the financing of school activities by means of voluntary contributions.

Charging for public examinations

No charge will generally be made for public examinations for which pupils are prepared by the school. However, the fee may be recovered if the pupil fails, without good reason, to complete the examination requirements, or if the pupil is required to re-sit an examination or a request is made for an examination paper to be remarked.

Free School Meals

All state-funded schools in Oxfordshire deal with the administration of Free School Meals for pupils who attend. In order for a pupil to qualify for Free School Meals parents must be in receipt one of the following entitled benefits:

- Income Support letter from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)/Jobcentre
 Plus dated within one month of application showing breakdown of income support
 payment.
- Income Based Employment & Support Allowance letter from DWP/Jobcentre Plus dated within one month of application.
- Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit and 'annual income as assessed by the Inland Revenue' of below the threshold figure for the year) All pages of the TC602 Inland Revenue tax credit award notice for the current tax year.
- State pension credit Pension Credit M1000 Award Notice.

Asylum seekers will need to provide a National Asylum and Support Service (NASS) support notice or IS96 document including details of authority providing support under part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. You will be required to supply:

- NASS reference number
- Port reference number
- · Name of authority

Note: Children of those in receipt of Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment ceases, or after starting to work less than 16 hours per week, are entitled to Free School Meals. Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also entitled to receive Free School Meals. Qualification is determined by the school not Oxfordshire County Council and parents/carers should contact their child's current or future school (once a place has been offered) for further information and/or an application form.

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). This process cannot be used to obtain a place at an independent (fee-paying) school. 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 travel to an independent (fee-paying) school.

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 academic year. In addition, 4 days are set aside locally for INSET days for teachers. The term dates for 2025/26 are:

| Term | Dates |
|--------|---|
| Autumn | 2 September 2026 to 18 December 2026 |
| | Half Term: 26 October 2026 to 30 October 2026 |
| | Christmas Holiday: 21 December 2026 to 31 December 2026 |
| Spring | 4 January 2027 to 25 March 2027 |
| | Half Term: 15 February 2027 to 19 February 2027 |
| | Easter Holiday: 30 March 2027 to 9 April 2027 |
| Summer | 12 April 2027 to 21 July 2027 |
| | Half Term: 1 June 2027 to 4 June 2027 |
| | Summer Holiday: 22 July 2027 to 1 September 2027 |

Supplementary Information Forms

Some schools have Supplementary Information Forms which parents/carers are also encouraged to complete. There is no requirement to complete a Supplementary Information Form 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 Supplementary Information Form is not provided to the school. If a Supplementary Information Form 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 Supplementary Information Form as well.