

Coordinated Scheme 2025/2026

**for admission to primary and secondary
school**

Coordinated scheme for admission to primary and secondary school for 2025/26

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Coordinated scheme for admission to primary school (Reception and Year 3) for 2025/26

Applications

1. Surrey's admissions team will distribute information leaflets on admissions early in September 2024. These will be available in all Surrey primary schools. The leaflet will refer parents to the Surrey County Council website www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions via which parents will be able to access the admissions information and apply online from 4 November 2024. Alternatively, they can obtain a primary school admissions booklet and a paper preference form by ringing the Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 1004.
2. All parents living in Surrey must only complete Surrey's online application form or a Surrey paper form which will be available from 4 November 2024. Parents living outside Surrey must use their home local authority's form to apply for a place at a Surrey school. Parents living in Surrey can apply for a school in another local authority on Surrey's online or paper form. Along with all other local authorities, Surrey operates an equal preference system. Surrey's application form invites parents to express a preference for up to four maintained primary schools or academies (including free schools) within and/or outside of Surrey. This enables Surrey County Council to offer a place at the highest possible ranked school for which the applicant meets the admission criteria.
3. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the order of preference given on the application form will not be revealed to a school within the area of Surrey, **unless a parent exercises their right to appeal and a copy of the application is requested by an own admission authority school to help them demonstrate that the admission arrangements have been correctly and impartially applied.** However, where a parent resident in Surrey expresses a preference for a school in the area of another local authority, the order of preference for that local authority's school will be revealed to that local authority in order that it can determine the highest ranked preference in cases where a child is eligible for a place at more than one school in that local authority's area.
4. The closing date for all applications (either online or paper) will be 15 January 2025. Changes to ranked preferences and applications received after the closing date will not be accepted unless they are covered by paragraphs in this scheme which relate to late applications and changes of preference. If a parent completes more than one application stating different school preferences, Surrey's admissions team will accept the form submitted on the latest date before the closing date. If the date is the same, Surrey's admissions team will contact the parents to ask them to confirm their ranked preferences.
5. Schools that are their own admission authority must not use any other application form but may use a supplementary form if they need to request additional information that is required to apply their admission criteria. Surrey County Council's website and Surrey's primary school admissions booklet will indicate which schools require a supplementary form. Supplementary forms can be accessed via the website or can be obtained from each school. All supplementary forms should be returned to the school by the date specified by the school but, in any case, no later than the national closing date of 15 January 2025. The supplementary form should clearly indicate where it is to be returned. Where supplementary forms are used by admission authorities within Surrey, the admissions team will seek to ensure that these only collect information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria, in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

6. Where a school in Surrey receives a supplementary form, Surrey's admissions team will not consider it to be a valid application unless the parent/carer has also listed the school on their home local authority's common application form.
7. It is recommended that any paper preference forms handed in to schools should be sent to Surrey's admissions team immediately.
8. Surrey's admissions team will confirm the status of any resident child for whom it receives a common application form stating s/he is a looked after or previously looked after child and will provide evidence to the maintaining local authority in respect of a preference for a school in its area by 5 February 2025.
9. Surrey's admissions team will advise a maintaining local authority of the reason for any preference expressed for a school not in its area and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining local authority by 5 February 2025.
10. Surrey's admissions team will advise a maintaining local authority of the reason for any application made in respect of a child resident in Surrey to be admitted outside of their correct age cohort, and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining local authority by 5 February 2025.
11. Surrey County Council participates in the Pan London Coordinated Admission Scheme. Surrey's admissions team will upload application data relating to preferences for schools in other participating local authorities, which have been expressed within the terms of Surrey's scheme, to the Pan London Register by 5 February 2025. Alternative arrangements will be made to forward applications and supporting information to non-participating local authorities.
12. Surrey County Council will participate in the Pan London application data checking exercise scheduled between 14 and 20 February 2025.

Processing

13. By 5 February 2025, Surrey's admissions team will have assessed the level of preferences for each school and will send all admission authority schools a list of their preferences so that they can apply their admission criteria.
14. By 28 February 2025 all schools which are their own admission authority will have applied their admission criteria and will provide Surrey's admissions team with a list of all applicants in rank order. This will enable Surrey to offer places to ensure that under the terms of the coordinated scheme each applicant is offered the highest possible ranked preference. Surrey County Council will expect schools to adhere to their published admission number unless there are exceptional circumstances such as if this would not enable Surrey to fulfil its statutory duty where the demand for places exceeds the number of places available.
15. Surrey's admissions team will carry out all reasonable checks to ensure that pupil rankings are correct for all schools in Surrey before uploading data to the Pan London Register.
16. Between 18 and 26 March 2025 Surrey's admissions team will send and receive electronic files with all coordinating local authorities, in order to achieve a single offer.

Offers

17. Surrey's admissions team will identify the school place to be offered and communicate information as necessary to other local authorities by 26 March 2025. In instances where more than one school could make an offer of a place to a child, Surrey's admissions team will offer a place at the school which the parent had ranked highest on the application form. Where Surrey is unable to offer a place at any of the preferred schools the admissions team will offer a place at an alternative community or voluntary controlled school with places or by arrangement with an academy or foundation, free, trust or voluntary aided school with places.
18. Surrey's admissions team will not make an additional offer between the end of the iterative process and 16 April 2025 which may impact on an offer being made by another participating local authority.
19. Notwithstanding paragraph 16, if an error is identified within the allocation of places at a Surrey school, the admissions team will attempt to manually resolve the allocation to correct the error. Where this impacts on another local authority (either as a home or maintaining local authority) Surrey's admissions team will liaise with that local authority to attempt to resolve the correct offer and any multiple offers which might occur. However, if another local authority is unable to resolve a multiple offer, or if the impact is too far reaching, Surrey's admissions team will accept that the applicant(s) affected might receive a multiple offer.
20. Surrey's admissions team will participate in the Pan London offer data checking exercise scheduled between 27 March and 11 April 2025.
21. Surrey's admissions team will send a file to the E-Admissions portal with outcomes for all resident applicants who have applied online no later than 14 April 2025.
22. By 16 April 2025 lists of children being allocated places will be sent to primary schools for their information.
23. On 16 April 2025 an outcome will be sent by Surrey's admissions team to all parents who have completed a Surrey application form. Where a first preference has not been met a letter will be sent by first class post which will refer parents to Surrey's website or the contact centre for further advice. Parents will be asked to confirm whether or not they wish to accept any school place offered. **Under no circumstances must any school write to or make any other contact with parents to make an offer of a place, or take any action to inform them that a place will or will not be offered before 16 April 2025.**

Late Applications and changes of preference

24. It is recognised that applications will be received after the closing date and that some parents will wish to change their preferences e.g. if a family is new to the area or has moved house. Such applications must still be dealt with and this section deals with applications received in these circumstances.

Applications and changes of preference received after the closing date but before 16 April 2025

25. Some late applications will be treated as late for good reason. These will generally relate to applications from families who are new to the area where it could not reasonably have been expected that an application could have been made by the closing date. Applicants must be able to provide recent proof of ownership or tenancy of a Surrey property (completion or

signed tenancy agreement). Other cases might relate to a single parent family where the parent has been ill or where there has been a recent bereavement of a close relative. These cases will be considered individually on their merits.

26. The latest date that an application can be accepted as late for good reason is 12 February 2025. If an application is deemed late for good reason and all supporting information is received by this date it will be passed to any admission authority named for consideration alongside all applications received on time.
27. Where applications which have been accepted as late for good reason contain preferences for schools in other local authorities the admissions team will forward the details to maintaining local authorities as they are received.
28. Where an applicant lives out of county, Surrey will accept late applications which are considered to be on time within the terms of the home local authority's scheme up to 12 February 2025.
29. The latest date for the upload to the Pan London Register of late applications which are considered to be on time is 13 February 2025.
30. Where an applicant moves from one home local authority to Surrey after submitting an on time application under the terms of the former home local authority's scheme, Surrey will accept the application as on time up to 12 February 2025, on the basis that an on time application already exists within the system.
31. Late applications from parents where it could reasonably have been expected that an application could have been made by the closing date and those received after 12 February 2025 will be considered as late. These applications will not be processed until after all on time applications have been considered.
32. Some parents may wish to change a preference after the closing date due to a change of circumstances. Surrey's admissions team will accept changes to preferences after the closing date only where there is good reason, such as a house move or other significant change of circumstance, which makes the original preference no longer practical. Any such request for a change of preference must be supported by documentary evidence and must be received by 12 February 2025. Any changes of preference received after 12 February 2025 will not be considered until all on time applications have been dealt with.

Applications and changes of preference received between 16 April 2025 and 31 August 2025

33. Applications will continue to be received after 16 April 2025. Only those preferences expressed on the application form will be valid. Where the school is its own admission authority the application data will be sent to them requesting an outcome for the preference within 14 days. Once the outcome is known for each preference Surrey's admissions team will issue the outcome letter to the parent.
34. Where the stated preference is for a school in a neighbouring authority the application form will be passed to that authority requesting an outcome for the preference within 14 days. Once the outcome is known for each preference Surrey's admissions team will issue the outcome letter to the parent.

35. After 16 April 2025 some parents may wish to change a preference or order of preference due to a change of circumstances. Surrey's admissions team will accept changes to preferences or order of preferences after 16 April 2025. Parents may also name additional preferences after the offer day of 16 April 2025.
36. The coordination scheme will end on 31 August 2025. Applications received after 31 August 2025 will be considered in line with Surrey's in year admissions procedures.

Post Offer

37. Surrey's admissions team will request that resident applicants accept or decline the offer of a place by 30 April 2025, or within two weeks of the date of any subsequent offer.
38. If they do not respond by this date Surrey's admissions team will issue a reminder. If the parent still does not respond the admissions team or the school, where it is its own admission authority, will make every reasonable effort to contact the parent to find out whether or not they wish to accept the place. Only where the parent fails to respond and the admissions team or school, where it is its own admission authority, can demonstrate that every reasonable effort has been made to contact the parent, will the offer of a place be withdrawn.
39. Where an applicant resident in Surrey accepts or declines a place in a Surrey school by 30 April 2025, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the school by 7 May 2025.
40. Where an applicant resident in Surrey accepts or declines a place in a school maintained by another local authority by 30 April 2025, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the maintaining local authority by 7 May 2025. Where such information is received from applicants after 30 April 2025, Surrey's admissions team will pass it on to the maintaining local authority as it is received.
41. Where an acceptance or decline is received for a Surrey school in respect of an applicant resident outside Surrey, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the school as it is received.
42. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will inform the home local authority, where different, of an offer that can be made for a maintained school or academy (including a free school) in Surrey, in order that the home local authority can offer the place.
43. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey and the admission authorities within it will not inform an applicant resident in another local authority that a place can be offered.
44. When acting as a home local authority, Surrey will offer a place at a maintained school or academy (including a free school) in the area of another local authority, provided that the school is ranked higher on the common application form than any school already offered.
45. When acting as a home local authority, when Surrey is informed by a maintaining local authority of an offer which can be made to an applicant resident in Surrey which is ranked lower on the common application form than any school already offered, it will inform the maintaining local authority that the offer will not be made.
46. When acting as a home local authority, when Surrey has agreed to a change of preferences or preference order, it will inform any maintaining local authority affected by the change.

47. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will inform the home local authority, where different, of any change to an applicant's offer status as soon as it occurs.
48. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will accept new applications (including additional preferences or preference order changes) from home local authorities for maintained schools and academies (including free schools) in its area.

Waiting Lists

49. Where a child does not receive an offer of their first preference school, their name will be placed on the waiting list for each school in Surrey that is named as a higher preference school to the one they have been offered, in accordance with the policy of each admission authority. Parents will be advised that if they want to go on the waiting list for an out of county preference school that they should contact the school or the maintaining local authority for the school to establish their policy on waiting lists.
50. Details of pupils who have not been offered a higher preference school will be shared with the admission authority for each Surrey school by 16 April 2025.
51. Each admission authority will operate waiting lists so that it is clear which child will be eligible for the next offer of a place should a vacancy arise. The waiting list order will be determined by the admission criteria of the school. However, all offers must be made by the home local authority. Admission authorities are encouraged to share waiting list information confidentially with other local schools to support effective planning of school places.
52. Schools within Surrey will not inform any applicant that a place can be offered in advance of such notification being sent by the home local authority.
53. Waiting lists for each school will be held until at least the end of the Autumn term after which some schools may cancel their waiting lists. Details of how waiting lists for each school will be managed will be set out in the admission arrangements that apply to each school.

Coordinated scheme for admission to secondary school (Year 7 and Year 10) for 2025/26

Applications

1. Surrey's admissions team will distribute information leaflets on admissions early in September 2024. These will be distributed to all children in Year 6 in Surrey maintained schools who are resident in Surrey. The leaflet will refer parents to the Surrey County Council website www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions via which parents will be able to access the admissions information and apply online from 1 September 2024. Alternatively, they can obtain a secondary school admissions booklet and a paper preference form by ringing the Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 1004.
2. All parents living in Surrey must only complete Surrey's online application form or a Surrey paper form which will be available from 2 September 2024. Parents living outside Surrey must use their home local authority's form to apply for a place at a Surrey school. Parents living in Surrey can apply for a school in another local authority on Surrey's online or paper form. Along with all other local authorities, Surrey operates an equal preference system. Surrey's application form for Year 7 invites parents to express a preference for up to six maintained secondary schools or academies (including free schools) within and/or outside of Surrey (and any city technology college that has agreed to participate in their local authority's qualifying scheme). Surrey's application form for Year 10 invites parents to express a preference for up to three university technical colleges or studio schools. These enable Surrey County Council to offer a place at the highest possible ranked school for which the applicant meets the admission criteria.
3. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the order of preference given on the application form will not be revealed to a school within the area of Surrey, **unless a parent exercises their right to appeal and a copy of the application is requested by an own admission authority school to help them demonstrate that the admission arrangements have been correctly and impartially applied.** However, where a parent resident in Surrey expresses a preference for a school in the area of another local authority, the order of preference for that local authority's school will be revealed to that local authority in order that it can determine the highest ranked preference in cases where a child is eligible for a place at more than one school in that local authority's area.
4. The closing date for all applications (either online or paper) will be 31 October 2024. Changes to ranked preferences and applications received after the closing date will not be accepted unless they are covered by the paragraphs in this scheme which relate to late applications and changes of preference. If a parent completes more than one application stating different school preferences, Surrey's admissions team will accept the form submitted on the latest date before the closing date. If the date is the same, Surrey's admissions team will contact the parents to ask them to confirm their ranked preferences.
5. Schools that are their own admission authority must not use any other application form but may use a supplementary form if they need to request additional information that is required to apply their admission criteria. Surrey County Council's website and the secondary school admissions booklet will indicate which schools require a supplementary form. Supplementary forms can be accessed via the website or can be obtained from each school. All supplementary forms should be returned to the school by the date specified by the school but, in any case, no later than the national closing date of 31 October 2024. The supplementary form should clearly indicate where it is to be returned. Where supplementary

forms are used by admission authorities within Surrey, the admissions team will seek to ensure that these only collect additional information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

6. Where a school in Surrey receives a supplementary form, Surrey's admissions team will not consider it to be a valid application unless the parent/carer has also listed the school on their home local authority's common application form.
7. Surrey's admissions team will confirm the status of any resident child for whom it receives a common application form stating s/he is a looked after or previously looked after child and will provide evidence to the maintaining local authority in respect of a preference for a school in its area by 14 November 2024.
8. Surrey's admissions team will advise a maintaining local authority of the reason for any preference expressed for a school not in its area and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining local authority by 14 November 2024.
9. Surrey's admissions team will advise a maintaining local authority of the reason for any application made in respect of a child resident in Surrey to be admitted outside of their correct age cohort, and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining local authority by 14 November 2024.
10. Surrey County Council participates in the Pan London Coordinated Admission Scheme. Surrey's admissions team will upload application data relating to preferences for schools in other participating local authorities, which have been expressed within the terms of Surrey's scheme, to the Pan London Register by 14 November 2024. Alternative arrangements will be made to forward applications and supporting information to non-participating local authorities.
11. Surrey County Council will participate in the Pan London application data checking exercise scheduled between 17 December 2024 and 2 January 2025.

Processing

12. By 29 November 2024, Surrey's admissions team will have assessed the level of preferences for each school and will send all admission authority schools a list of their preferences so that they can apply their admission criteria.
13. By 8 January 2025 all schools which are their own admission authority will have applied their admission criteria and will provide Surrey's admissions team with a list of all applicants in rank order. This will enable Surrey to offer places to ensure that under the terms of the coordinated scheme each applicant is offered the highest possible ranked preference. Surrey County Council will expect schools to adhere to their published admission number unless there are exceptional circumstances such as if this would not enable the local authority to fulfil its statutory duty where the demand for places exceeds the number of places available.
14. Surrey's admissions team will carry out all reasonable checks to ensure that pupil rankings are correct for all schools in Surrey before uploading data to the Pan London Register.
15. Between 31 January and 13 February 2025 Surrey's admissions team will send and receive electronic files with all coordinating local authorities, in order to achieve a single offer. Where a management decision is made that additional iterations are necessary, these will continue no later than 17 February 2025.

Offers

16. Surrey's admissions team will identify the school place to be offered and communicate information as necessary to other local authorities by 17 February 2025. In instances where more than one school could make an offer of a place to a child, Surrey's admissions team will offer a place at the school which the parent had ranked highest on the application form. Where Surrey is unable to offer a place at any of the preferred schools the admissions team will offer a place at an alternative community or voluntary controlled school with places or by arrangement with an academy or foundation, free, trust or voluntary aided school with places.
17. Surrey's admissions team will not make an additional offer between the end of the iterative process and 3 March 2025 which may impact on an offer being made by another participating local authority.
18. Notwithstanding paragraph 15, if an error is identified within the allocation of places at a Surrey school, the admissions team will attempt to manually resolve the allocation to correct the error. Where this impacts on another local authority (either as a home or maintaining local authority) Surrey's admissions team will liaise with that local authority to attempt to resolve the correct offer and any multiple offers which might occur. However, if another local authority is unable to resolve a multiple offer, or if the impact is too far reaching, Surrey's admissions team will accept that the applicant(s) affected might receive a multiple offer.
19. Surrey's admissions team will participate in the Pan London offer data checking exercise scheduled between 18 and 26 February 2025.
20. Surrey's admissions team will send a file to the E-Admissions portal with outcomes for all resident applicants who have applied online no later than 27 February 2025.
21. By 3 March 2025, lists of children being allocated places will be sent to secondary schools for their information.
22. On 3 March 2025 an outcome will be sent by Surrey's admissions team to all parents who have completed a Surrey application form. Where a first preference has not been met a letter will be sent by first class post which will refer parents to Surrey's website or the Contact Centre for further advice. Parents will be asked to confirm whether or not they wish to accept any school place offered. **Under no circumstances must any school write to or make any other contact with parents to make an offer of a place, or take any action to inform them that a place will or will not be offered before 3 March 2025.**

Late Applications and changes of preference

23. It is recognised that applications will be received after the closing date and that some parents will wish to change their preference e.g. if a family is new to the area or has moved house. Such applications must still be dealt with and this section deals with applications received in these circumstances.

Applications and changes of preference received after the closing date but before 3 March 2025

24. Some late applications will be treated as late for good reason. These will generally relate to applications from families who are new to the area where it could not reasonably have been expected that an application could have been made by the closing date. Applicants must be able to provide recent proof of ownership or tenancy of a Surrey property (completion or signed tenancy agreement). Other cases might relate to a single parent family where the

parent has been ill or where there has been a recent bereavement of a close relative. These cases will be considered individually on their merits.

25. The latest date that an application can be accepted as late for good reason is 12 December 2024. If an application is deemed late for good reason and all supporting information is received by this date it will be passed to any admission authority named for consideration alongside all applications received on time.
26. Where applications which have been accepted as late for good reason contain preferences for schools in other local authorities the admissions team will forward the details to maintaining local authorities as they are received.
27. Where an applicant lives out of county, Surrey will accept late applications which are considered to be on time within the terms of the home local authority's scheme.
28. The latest date for the upload to the Pan London Register of late applications which are considered to be on time is 17 December 2024.
29. Where an applicant moves from one participating home local authority to another after submitting an on time application under the terms of the former home local authority's scheme, the new home local authority will accept the application as on time up to 12 December 2024, on the basis that an on time application already exists within the Pan London system. Applicants moving to or from non-participating Pan London local authorities will be managed on a case by case basis.
30. Late applications from parents where it could reasonably have been expected that an application could have been made by the closing date and those received after 12 December 2024 will be considered as late. These applications will not be processed until after all on time applications have been considered.
31. Some parents may wish to change a preference after the closing date due to a change of circumstances. Surrey's admissions team will accept changes to preferences after the closing date only where there is good reason, such as a house move or other significant change of circumstance, which makes the original preference no longer practical. Any such request for a change of preference must be supported by documentary evidence and must be received by 12 December 2024. Any changes of preference received after 12 December 2024 will not be considered until all on time applications have been dealt with.

Applications and changes of preference received between 3 March 2025 and 31 August 2025

32. Applications will continue to be received after 3 March 2025. Only those preferences expressed on the application form will be valid. Where the school is its own admission authority the application data will be sent to them requesting an outcome for the preference within 14 days. Once the outcome is known for each preference Surrey's admissions team will issue the outcome letter to the parent.
33. Where the stated preference is for a school in a neighbouring authority the application form will be passed to that authority requesting an outcome for the preference within 14 days. Once the outcome is known for each preference Surrey's admissions team will issue the outcome letter to the parent.

34. After 3 March 2025 some parents may wish to change a preference or order of preferences due to a change of circumstances. Surrey's admissions team will accept changes to preferences or order of preferences after 3 March 2025. Parents may also name additional preferences after the offer day of 3 March 2025.
35. The coordination scheme will end on 31 August 2025. Applications received after 31 August 2025 will be considered in line with Surrey's in year admissions procedures.

Post Offer

36. Surrey's admissions team will request that resident applicants accept or decline the offer of a place by 17 March 2025, or within two weeks of the date of any subsequent offer.
37. If they do not respond by this date Surrey's admissions team will issue a reminder. If the parent still does not respond the admissions team or the school, where it is its own admission authority, will make every reasonable effort to contact the parent to find out whether or not they wish to accept the place. Only where the parent fails to respond and the admissions team or school, where it is its own admission authority, can demonstrate that every reasonable effort has been made to contact the parent, will the offer of a place be withdrawn.
38. Where an applicant resident in Surrey accepts or declines a place in a Surrey school by 17 March 2025, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the school by 24 March 2025.
39. Where an applicant resident in Surrey accepts or declines a place in a school maintained by another local authority by 17 March 2025, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the maintaining local authority by 24 March 2025. Where such information is received from applicants after 17 March 2025, Surrey's admissions team will pass it on to the maintaining local authority as it is received.
40. Where an acceptance or decline is received for a Surrey school in respect of an applicant resident outside Surrey, Surrey's admissions team will forward the information to the school as it is received.
41. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will inform the home local authority, where different, of an offer that can be made for a maintained school or academy (including a free school) in Surrey, in order that the home local authority can offer the place.
42. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey and the admission authorities within it will not inform an applicant resident in another local authority that a place can be offered.
43. When acting as a home local authority, Surrey will offer a place at a maintained school or academy (including a free school) in the area of another local authority, provided that the school is ranked higher on the common application form than any school already offered.
44. When acting as a home local authority, when Surrey is informed by a maintaining local authority of an offer which can be made to an applicant resident in Surrey which is ranked lower on the common application form than any school already offered, it will inform the maintaining local authority that the offer will not be made.
45. When acting as a home local authority, when Surrey has agreed to a change of preferences or preference order, it will inform any maintaining local authority affected by the change.

46. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will inform the home local authority, where different, of any change to an applicant's offer status as soon as it occurs.
47. When acting as a maintaining local authority, Surrey will accept new applications (including additional preferences or preference order changes) from home local authorities for maintained schools and academies (including free schools) in its area.

Waiting Lists

48. Where a child does not receive an offer of their first preference school, their name will be placed on the waiting list for Surrey schools that are named as a higher preference school to the one they have been offered, in accordance with the policy of each admission authority. Parents will be advised that if they want to go on the waiting list for any out of county preference school that they should contact the school or the maintaining local authority for the school to establish their policy on waiting lists.
49. Details of pupils who have not been offered a higher preference school will be shared with the admission authority of each Surrey school by 3 March 2025.
50. Each admission authority will operate waiting lists so that it is clear which child will be eligible for the next offer of a place should a vacancy arise. The waiting list order will be determined by the admission criteria of the school. However, all offers must be made by the home local authority. Admission authorities are encouraged to share waiting list information confidentially with other local schools to support effective planning of school places.
51. Schools within Surrey will not inform any applicant that a place can be offered from a waiting list in advance of such notification being sent by the home local authority.
52. Waiting lists for each school will be held until at least the end of the Autumn term after which some schools may cancel their waiting lists. Details of how waiting lists for each school will be managed will be set out in the admission arrangements that apply to each school.