

# Coronavirus (Covid-19): UPDATE TO SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

## STARTING SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2020

National Offer Day is the 16 April 2020, the day that all parents/guardians who have made an application will be informed of the outcome of their applications.

On the 16 April 2020:

- email notifications will be sent to all applicants that submitted their school application online;
- families living in other local authority areas, due to receive offers in a Hampshire school, will be notified by their home authority;
- letters will be posted by second class mail to all applicants who submitted their school application on a paper application form.

## IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

The aim is to have the in-year applications processed within the 10 day timeframe, but please be aware there may be a slight delay especially if the applications are to be sent to schools that are their own admissions authority.

Children of Key workers and the most vulnerable should be admitted as quickly as possible. Please mark in the 'Other information I think is relevant' on the in year application form if you are a Key Worker, to enable us to give your application priority if you are moving to the Island and do not currently have a school place in an Island school.

For all other applications, where a place is offered, the child must be placed on roll and the parents/child provided with access and guidance to using the school's home learning package, keeping them informed of changes as they develop, as a new member of the school community.

## TRANSPORT ELIGIBILITY

All applications in relation to transport eligibility will continue to be processed and you will be contacted if additional information is required.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All applications for free school meals eligibility will continue to be processed and you will be contacted if additional information is required.

## ADMISSION APPEALS

Latest advice from the DfE states:

'A number of schools and local authorities have contacted us on this matter, we therefore know a lot of you are concerned about how to manage admission appeals over the coming weeks. This is understandable and it is clear we need to agree a way forward which takes into consideration the requirements around administration of admission appeals and adopts a consistency of approach but also considers the current situation on Covid-19.

Under current restrictions we do not consider it sensible to go ahead, right now, with admission appeals.

As I am sure you know, the requirements around how appeals are carried out are very detailed and failure to comply can result in maladministration complaints. That is why we need to ensure that any alternative arrangements are suitable but also flexible enough to allow appeals to go ahead if possible. Therefore, we are now working at pace with our lawyers to identify whether we can introduce emergency regulations and guidance.

Further information will be provided by the Democratic Services team, who administer Admissions Appeals. For the link to their website, please click [here](#).

## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SERVICE DELIVERY

Most of the admissions team are working remotely from home as we continue to deliver the usual level of service to schools and parents. Schools, parents / guardians and outside callers are advised to email us

via the 'Contact Us' tab at the top of this page with any queries they may have in relation to the service and a member of the team will respond to your request either via email or with a call back, as necessary. We will endeavour to respond promptly.

Thank you for all your support. We will continue to keep up to date with government guidance and will notify you of any developments.

Stay safe.

*The School Admissions and Transport Team*