

Transferring to Secondary school in September 2021

APPLY
before 31 October 2020
to ensure your
application is on-time

This flyer serves as a reminder for admission to state mainstream schools. Details include a reminder to apply by the deadline 31 October 2020; key dates; and additional school data that was not available when the secondary booklet was published in June.

What are the important dates in the admission process?

Date	Event
19 th May – 1 st July 2020 & 30 September 2020	Original registration period for those wishing to take the selection test (11+) organised by the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE). UPDATED: a further period of registration for this round has been opened for children that did not register in the initial period. Parents can register during September using the manual registration process. You will need to complete the SIF found in the CSSE guide which can be downloaded from www.csse.org.uk
1 September 2020	Closing date for parents to register for their child to take either the Sports or Performing Arts aptitude tests at The Eastwood Academy. Complete the Academy SIF form
Sept – Oct 2020	Secondary school open evenings, days & information events. Details advised below and it is recommended that parents/carers also check on school websites
9 September (PA) 14, 19, and 20 September (S)	Sports (S) and Performing Arts (PA) aptitude tests to be taken at The Eastwood Academy by those pupils whose parents have registered for them to take the tests.
7 th and 9 th November 2020	UPDATED: Selection test (11+) to be taken by those pupils whose parents have registered for them to take the test with the CSSE – the CSSE to advise
3 rd December 2020	UPDATED: Those pupils who took the selection test (11+) will be advised of the outcome by CSSE – pending CSSE advise
Before 31 October (exact date TBC)	Those pupils who took either the Sports or Performing Arts aptitude tests at The Eastwood Academy will be advised of the outcome by the school.
31 October 2020	Closing date for Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) to be returned to St Bernard's High School and St Thomas More High School.
Admission timeline	
1 Sept 2020	Admissions round for transfer to year 7 opens . Applications can be submitted to the Local Authority.
31 Oct 2020	Admissions round for transfer to year 7 closes . You cannot make changes to your admission preferences after this date.
1 March 2021	National offer day
1 March – 22 Aug 2021	Waiting lists are maintained by the Council for all schools in the Borough

Key points for the 2021 application round:

- You can put forward up to 6 preferences, you have an additional preference for 2021.
- If your child is sitting the 11+ with the CSSE, you will not know the outcome of the selection test when making your application. This is unique to this round due to the recommendations from central government.
- As always, we recommend one of your preferences is your catchment school to ensure your child has priority at least at one school.
- You can have a mixture of schools in the borough and outside the borough.
- On time applications must be submitted by midnight 31st October 2020. You cannot amend your preferences after the 31 October 2020.

Key points regarding the CSSE selection test (11+)

- Access entry information, special arrangements, guidelines and notification forms, request practice material and free familiarisation papers via the CSSE website; www.csse.org.uk
- You do not need to tell Southend-on-Sea the result your child received. The Admissions Team do not record the result of the selection test.
- The CSSE will rank your child's application, according to the admission criteria for the schools and in academic order, and provide the ranking to us.
- The pass mark is 303 for all children.
- You are advised to use all 6 preferences and include non-selective schools in your preferences in case your child does not reach the 11+ pass mark.
- We recommend you include both the girls or both the boys schools and consider the faith schools and Shoeburyness High to maximise your options if your child is successful in reaching the pass mark.
- Your child cannot be considered for a selective place if the pass mark was not met for Southend High School for Girls, Southend High School for Boys, Westcliff High School for Boys and Westcliff High School for Girls.
- Your child can not be considered for a selective place if the pass mark and priority area is not met for a selective place at St Bernard's High School and St Thomas More High School.
- Shoeburyness High School considers the pass mark and children that passed with a borderline result of 298-303.

Open Days, Information Events for Southend-on-Sea Secondary schools

Belfairs Academy	Access Virtual Open Evening videos on school website
Cecil Jones Academy	Thursday 24 Sept, Further details on school website
Chase High School	Tuesday 29 Sept and Wed 30 Sept. Further details on school website
Shoeburyness High School	Further details on school website
Southchurch High School	Tuesday 22 Sept; Wednesday 23 Sept and Thursday 24 Sept. Further details on school website
Southend High School for Boys	Further details on school website
Southend High School for Girls	currently planning an open morning in October 2020. Further details on school website
St Bernard's High School	Dates for open mornings at St Bernard's will be announced in September. Further details on school website
St. Thomas More High School	Saturday 19 th September 2020 Session 9.00-11.30am & Session 1.00-3.30pm (Headteacher talks 10am & 2pm)
The Eastwood Academy	Further details on school website
Westcliff High School for Boys	Further details on school website
Westcliff High School for Girls	Further details on school website

School data that was not available at the time the Secondary Admissions Booklet 2021 was published:

Additional school data	Total roll Jan 2020 census (excluding 6th form)	Admission limit for 2020/21	Total number of preferences received for admission in Sept	Total number of places offered on offer day 2nd March 2020	Number of appeals lodged	number of appeals heard	Number of appeals upheld
School							
Belfairs Academy	1,209	292	941	292	35	33	9
Cecil Jones Academy	748	220	244	142	0	0	0
Chase High School	860	226	372	226	0	0	0
Shoeburyness High School	1,454	310	1425	310	16	15	1
Southchurch High School	580	168	451	168	25	23	0
Southend High School for Boys	892	180	965	180	23	17	1
Southend High School for Girls	869	180	938	180	12	12	0
St Bernard's High School	722	175	823	175	25	21	0
St Thomas More High School	789	180	730	180	19	17	6
The Eastwood Academy	985	220	1709	220	45	38	1
Westcliff High School for Boys	869	185	991	185	14	14	0
Westcliff High School for Girls	906	184	981	184	11	9	0

Frequently asked questions

The answers to most questions will be found in the secondary admissions booklet 2021 which is available on line on www.southend.gov.uk/admissions. Some common questions that parents raise are noted below.

What does order of preference mean?

You are asked to select up to 6 schools in order of preference. The school you want most should be number 1, your second preference number 2 etc. If you want your child to do the 11+ and attend a grammar school then you must state the grammar school as the higher preference.

For example, you might live in the catchment and in the same road as a school and put this school as your first preference and a grammar school as your second preference. Even if your child passes the 11+ with the highest mark in the Borough, if you meet the admission criteria for the first preference because you live in the catchment area and near the school you will be offered a place at that school and not the grammar school.

If you would prefer a grammar school put the grammar school as your higher preference.

Does putting a school as a higher preference affect my chance of getting into another school?

No, when you apply for a place the school will not know your order of preference. Only you and the Council will know. Your chances of getting offered a place are not affected by the preference you put.

What are admissions criteria?

If the school is oversubscribed these are the categories used by the admission authorities to rank applications in order. All schools give first priority to Looked After Children. These are generally followed by those with older siblings already in the school, those in the catchment area then those living outside the catchment area. Each schools criteria is detailed in the Admissions Booklet or will be shown in the school prospectus.

Am I guaranteed a place at my local catchment school?

No. There are no guarantees for any places. However, we would advise that you put your local catchment school as one of your preferences. This will improve your chance of getting at least an offer of a school place at one of your preferred schools in March. Check your catchment school on the postcode look up table on www.southend.gov.uk/admissions (select secondary and look down the bullet points)

When will I know which school my child is to be offered a place at?

If you applied on-line you will be advised on 1st March by email. If you used the paper form, letters will be sent out on 1st March and parents will receive them on 2nd or 3rd March.

What happens if I miss the closing date of 31st October?

Do not miss it. Your child will be disadvantaged as late applications are considered after all "on time" applicants.

Do I have to apply for six schools?

No, but the fewer schools you apply for, potentially the lower your chances are of getting an offer. Our advice is to apply for six and if doing the 11+ ensure that you have both selective and non-selective schools in your preferences.

If I think my child will pass the 11+ should I only apply for the school I want?

Our advice is no, use all six preferences. We recommend that you select both of the boys or both of the girls grammar schools and to also consider the faith schools and other partially selective schools in the borough. We also recommend that you include your catchment school as one of your preferences to ensure your child has priority at least one school. These tips will maximise your chances of securing one of your preferences.

Does every child get offered a school place?

Every child that has applied will get an offer of a school place on 1st March.

School Admissions Team
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Tel: 01702 212 934
Email: admissions@southend.gov.uk

10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. Make sure you apply to the correct authority. If you pay council tax to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council you must apply to Southend.
2. Research secondary schools you are interested in by, for example, viewing information on their website especially for year 6 pupils; if they have an open evening try to visit the school, look up information on the Department for Education.
3. Make sure you read through the Secondary admission booklet before you consider completing the application form.
4. If your child has taken the 11+ you will not get the results before completing the Council's application form. You must complete the application form by 31 October 2020. No changes will be permitted after this date until after offer day: 1 March 2021
5. Complete 6 preferences, in order, ensuring that the schools you want most are at the top.
6. Ensure you understand how your preferred schools allocate places, if they get more applications than there are places. Data on the last five years allocations is provided in the Secondary Admissions Booklet 2021.
7. Make sure you are aware which secondary school catchment area you live in. It is recommended that you put your catchment school as one of your preferences.
8. If your child is sitting the 11+ register with the CSSE
www.csse.org.uk; admin@csse.org.uk
0245 348 257
9. Complete your application form (and SIF, if applicable), preferably online and ensure you have submitted it to the appropriate school.
10. Ensure the application form is received by the Council before the closing date of 31st October 2020.