Secondary Transfer for Children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND)

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/ CARERS

Secondary Transfer

The secondary transfer process can be a worrying time for both parents/carers, and children, and possibly more so for children with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND).

Our aim is to help explain and provide information about the process, give some support and share parental experiences about the process

We will try to make this as clear as possible, and will try to answer any questions that you may have, or signpost you to other agencies for support.

Applying for Secondary Schools

Children **without an EHCP**, go through the usual admissions procedure. Parents should complete the application form in the usual way and children will be offered a place based on the school's published admissions criteria. All school in Harrow receive additional funding to provide extra help for children wirh SEND.

https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning/apply-secondary-school-place

The process for children who have either a **proposed EHC Plan or Final EHC Plan** looks different to that of other children with SEND.

How the application process works

With an EHCP	Without an EHCP
• Summer term of Year 5 – annual review held and review paperwork sent to Harrow to be amended ready for consultation process in Autumn term of Year 6. **At this review, you are also asked if you have any preferences for schools and can name them at this point.** • September of Year 6, you will be contacted by Harrow SENARS (SEN Assessment & Review Service) /Hillingdon SEND Service to confirm your school preferences. • SENARS will the consult with the High School of your choice, and may contact you to discuss other options if necessary. • You respond directly to Harrow SENARS/Hillingdon SEND Service • Can include schools from other borough • May include schools with specialist provision • You can name private and grammar schools	https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/ • Apply through the borough in which you live e.g. Harrow or Hillingdon • Six Choices • Can include schools from any boroughs Harrow, Hillingdon, Brent etc… (however, EHCPS, Siblings, distance……..) • Grammar Schools – Barnet, Bucks, Herts (require examinations). • Faith Schools (will be required to complete and submit a SIF – direct to the school) https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Choosing a School

- Wherever possible and appropriate, Harrow looks to place children in their local secondary school. This means that they can transfer with most of their peers from primary school and benefit from being within their local community.
- **You are advised, therefore, to visit your most local secondary school(s).** This will give you the opportunity to meet with the Inclusion Team and discuss your child's needs.
- Only a small number of children, with EHCPs, who have the most complex needs, receive places at a special school or at a mainstream school with special provision.
- Some children may also go to grammar schools or choose a private school.
- Sometimes the deadline for submitting your preferred choices are very close to the High Schools' Open days/evenings – **consider attending the previous year if schools allow this**

Choosing a school

- If your child has an EHCP, you are also advised to visit any schools which you feel will be the most appropriate placement for your child.
  - You are also able to consult with Harrow SENARS about suitable schools.
  - You do have a right to express a preference for any other school, as well as your nearest school.
  - As well as looking at schools in Harrow, if your child has an EHCP, you are also able to name a school within another local authority e.g. Ealing, Hillingdon, Hertfordshire, Brent, Barnet **if there is a school that could best meet your child's needs.**
- If you express a preference for a Voluntary Aided school you will need to complete the school's own admission form to ensure that you meet the criteria for admission to that school. The secondary school will be able to provide you with this form. A list of schools can be found on the Council's website www.harrow.gov.uk
- If you wish to name a private school, you will also need to contact the school directly to find out about their application process.

Harrow

a guide to secondary schools

2026-2027

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

Contents

Contents

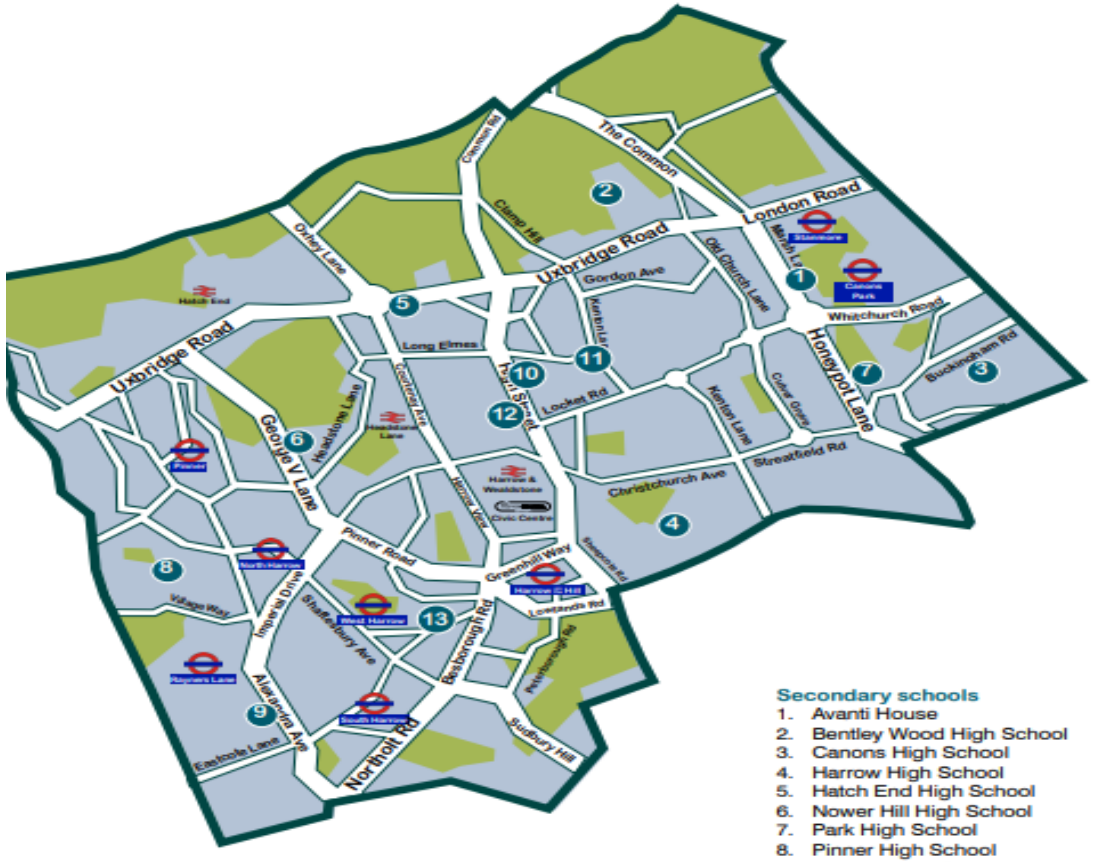
- Your application
- How places were offered 2024
- Open days
- How to apply
- How the application process works
- Hints and tips on choosing a school
- Late applications
- Admissions arrangements
- Schools information
- Applying for schools in other boroughs
- Children with Special Educational Needs
- University technical colleges and studio schools
- Appeals
- Sixth Form education
- LGBT pupils
- Schools map

How places were offered in 2025

This table shows how places were allocated to children starting at Harrow's secondary schools in September 2025.
It shows how many places were available, how many people applied for those places and how those places were then allocated.
These are the statistics for last year, and while this year's statistics may be similar, the level and pattern of demand for schools changes every year.
This means that the distances cited in the table below change from year to year. Please do not assume that because children in your area attend a particular school that your child will also be offered a place.
Harrow schools do not have catchment areas as part of their admission arrangements[1]. Schools in Harrow use distance as part of their admission arrangements. All schools in Harrow measure distances from home to school in a straight line from the home address to the school.

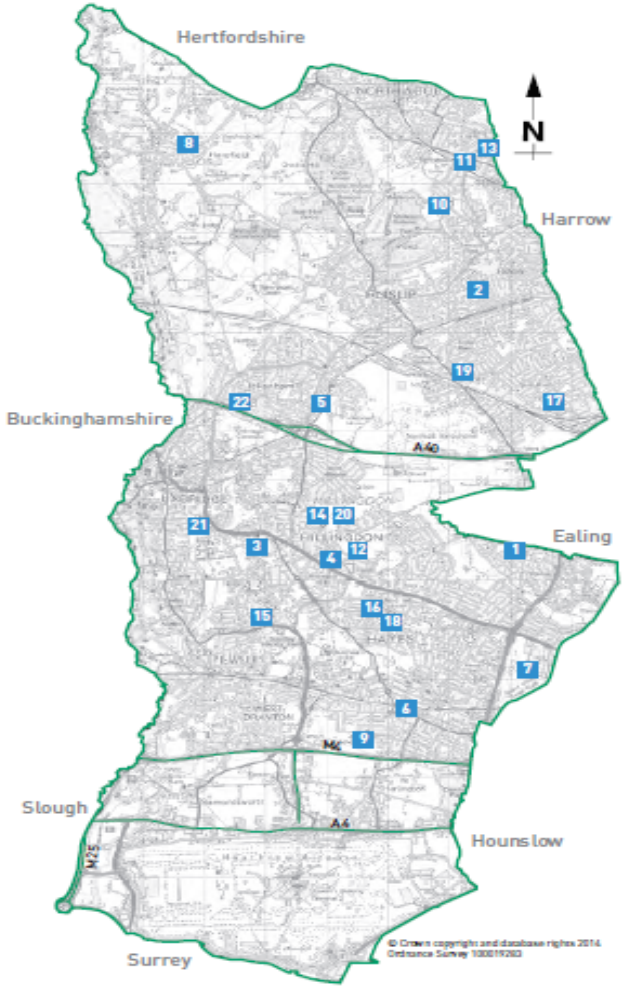
School name	Number of applications received	Number of places available	Special Educational Needs - EHC Plans	Looked-after children	Medical/ Social needs child	Medical parent	Sibling	Children of staff	Feeder school	Random allocation	Practicing Hindu parent ISKON	Practicing Hindu parent	Distance criteria	Furthest distance offered in miles**
Avanti House	879	180	11	0	N/A	N/A	58	2	75	N/A	15	15	4	0.196
Bentley Wood	661	240	4	1	0	0	58	2	5	110	N/A		60	1.681
Canons High	332	210	5	0	0	0	42	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		92	N/A
Harrow High	455	180	1	0	0	0	38	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		101	N/A
Hatch End	515	210	10	1	0	0	47	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		139	N/A
Nower Hill	1448	324	13	0	1	0	102	7	N/A	N/A	N/A		201	0.834
Park High	450	270	7	0	0	0	75	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		120	N/A
Pinner High	1202	180	13	2	0	0	58	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		107	0.639
Rooks Heath	319	210	3	0	0	0	42	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		114	N/A
Salvatorian College	301	150		Information for Salvatorian College and The Sacred Heart Language College can be obtained directly from the school										
Sacred Heart	295	150												
Whitefriars	182	60	3	0	0	0	13	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		36	N/A
Whitmore	1368	270	8	4	0	0	88	1	N/A	N/A	N/A		169	0.791

Mainstream schools are all developing their own offer of support to children and young people with SEND, which can be found on their school websites.



Click to see travel maps

Where to find secondary schools in Hillingdon



Key

- (A) Academy
- (F) Foundation school
- (S) Studio college (14 to 19 year olds only)
- (U) University technical college (14 to 19 year olds only)

Please note: Each school's status is correct at the time of publication.

1. (A) **Barnhill Community High School** Hayes (DfE 5412)
2. (A) **Bishop Ramsey C of E School** Ruislip (DfE 4600)
3. (A) **Bishopshalt School** Hillingdon (DfE 5400)
4. (S) **De Salis Studio College** Hayes (DfE 4009)
5. (A) **The Douay Martyrs School** Ickenham (DfE 5408)
6. (U) **Global Academy** Hayes (DfE 4014)
7. (A) **Guru Nanak Sikh Academy** Hayes (DfE 4654)
8. (A) **The Harefield Academy** Harefield (DfE 6906)
9. (F) **Harlington School** Hayes (DfE 5411)
10. (A) **Haydon School** Eastcote (DfE 5401)
11. (U) **UTC Heathrow** Northwood (DfE 4024)
12. (A) **Hewens College** Hayes (DfE 5407)
13. (A) **Northwood School** Northwood (DfE 5405)
14. (F) **Oak Wood School** Hillingdon (DfE 5409)
15. (A) **Park Academy West London** Yiewsley (DfE 4021)
16. (S) **Parkside Studio College** Hayes (DfE 4000)
17. (A) **Queensmead School** South Ruislip (DfE 5403)
18. (A) **Rosedale College** Hayes (DfE 5406)
19. (A) **Ruislip High School** Ruislip Manor (DfE 4023)
20. (A) **Swakeleys School for Girls** Hillingdon (DfE 5410)
21. (A) **Uxbridge High School** Uxbridge (DfE 5404)
22. (A) **Vyners School** Ickenham (DfE 5402)

Specialist Provision in Harrow

There are 16 ARMS provisions in Harrow, including the following High Schools

Hearing Impairment
- Hatch End High

Complex Physical Disabilities
- Whitmore High School

Moderate Learning Difficulties
- Bentley Wood High School (for girls)
- Canons High

Autism Spectrum Conditions
- Whitmore High School
- Pinner High

Harrow special schools

- Kingsley High School – for children with severe and complex learning difficulties and autism. The school population is expanding and has a diverse range of learning, physical, sensory and emotional need. In addition, some of their pupils also have complex medical conditions.
- Shaftesbury High School – for students who experience a wide range of learning difficulties
- Harrow has plans for extending current provision

Specialist Provision in Hillingdon

Specialist provision within mainstream schools

- Northwood – **Speech, Language and Communication needs**
- Oak Wood – **Autistic spectrum disorder**
- Vyners – **Hearing impairment**
- Harlington School – **Physical disabilities and sensory needs**

Hillingdon Special Schools

- Moorcroft School –**SLD, Profound and multiple learning difficulties, Autistic spectrum disorder – Brunel/Hillingdon Hospital**

- Meadow High - **MLD – Hillingdon Hospital/Harefield**

- Pentland Fields – **Severe LD – Ickenham**

- The PRIDE Academy – **SEMH – Yiewsley, West Drayton**

- **Pinn River – new special school for ASD/Complex needs – Eastcote/Pinner**

Hertfordshire South West Consortium

The South West Hertfordshire School Admissions Consortium consists of the following schools:

- Croxley Danes (music only)
- Rickmansworth
- St Clement Danes
- Parmiter's
- Queens'
- Watford Grammar School for Boys
- Watford Grammar School for Girls

https://www.swhertsschools.org.uk/

Other options – selective schools

- South West Herts Consortium – 7 partially selective schools in SW Herts

Barnet Selective Schools

Henrietta Barnett
QE Boys

Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools

Chesham Grammar
Dr Challoner's Grammar School (Boys)
Dr Challoner's High School (Girls)

The South West Hertfordshire School Admissions Consortium consists of the following schools:

- Croxley Danes (music only)
- Rickmansworth
- St Clement Danes
- Parmiter's
- Queens'
- Watford Grammar School for Boys
- Watford Grammar School for Girls

Independent Sector

- Merchant Taylor's
- Haberdasher's
- Harrow
- John Lyon

- St Helen's
- Northwood College
- North London Collegiate School (NLCS)
- Royal Masonic

Some West Lodge Children –
Beech Lodge
Abingdon House
Merchant Taylor's

The Application Process

Individual application for each school
Register interest
Apply by 31st Oct
Exams in 1st or 2nd week January
Interviews – end of January/beginning of February
End of February offers made
Art, music, drama and sports scholarships are available

Tips and Questions you may want to ask when visiting a secondary school

- Prior to your visit to your preferred secondary school, we suggest you get ready a copy of your child's EHCP(last annual review) and/ or any recent information from professionals working with your child. This will allow you to discuss with the Inclusion Team how your child's special educational needs will be met in school.
- Visit the school's website, and in particular take a look at their SEND Information Report and SEND Policy. This will detail all the ways that the schools support children and young people with SEND.
- Download the guide to secondary schools booklet from the Council's website which should be available in the Autumn term www.harrow.gov.uk
- A copy of the school's own prospectus will describe out-of-school based activities and whether the school operates an after-school or breakfast club.
- You may find it helpful to talk to other parents/carers whose children attend the same secondary school.

Tips and Questions you may want to ask when visiting a secondary school

- Ask if your child will have an opportunity to visit/spend time at the school prior to starting in September.
- Ask how the school supports pupils with SEN. Do they have different support assistants for different subjects? Is there an SEN 'hub' pupils can access? How are interventions made available to pupils in their school?
- Does the school operate a 'buddy' system for those children who would benefit from a friend at break and lunchtime periods and/or finding their way around school? What else do the school do to help children find their way around the school between lesson time?
- You may want to know about the school's behaviour policy. The school's governing body publish a policy detailing their approach to behaviour. It should include the school's approach to discipline, what types of behaviour would lead to exclusion and how the school deals with bullying.

Questions

I would like to know the list of schools with Sen and their requirements and process for admission

Harrow SEND Local Offer - https://www.harrow.gov.uk/send-local-offer

---

How does the catchment area work for Secondary transfer?

Distance still is part of criteria, but please check school's Admissions Policy

Can Harrow Council guarantee updated EHCPs in time for application for secondary school?

All EHCPs have to be produced by February 14th/15th

Can the school support the child's application if the parent appeals?

Yes, we have supported parents with the mediation process over the last few years

What are the best schools for supporting children with ADHD?

Difficult to give a definitive answer as schools change over time

Thank you for your time – Parents' experiences