

Starting School Application



Is my child going to Reception?

Children born from

**1 September 2021 and 31
August 2022 inclusive**

must apply for a Reception place for the
2026/27 academic year.

Where to start?

*Application
deadline:*
**Thursday
15th January
2026**

- The Newham School Fact Finder will give you a great starting point to exploring schools closest to your home with links to the school website and you can also view the route from your home to the school.
- This will help you to see the schools closest to your address.
- Let us see how it works:
- www.newham.gov.uk/schoolfactfinder
(you can also find the link on page 10)

Application Timetable

*Application
deadline:*
**Thursday
15th January
2026**

- On page 12 you will find a Timetable for Admission to Reception.
- **September 2025 to January 2026** – Fact finding and discovering schools
- **15th January 2026** – Application form deadline (anything after this time is considered a “late application”)
- **16th April 2026** – National Offer Day
- **June/July 2022** – Welcome meetings and transition opportunities

How many places are offered?

- It is useful to find out how many places your selected schools offer to Reception children.
(page.82 <https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=967&type=pdf>)
- The details of priority of places for Reception starters.
 - **Priority 1** – LAC and any previously LAC
 - **Priority 2** - Staff Child
 - **Priority 3** - Service Child
 - **Priority 4** - Siblings
 - **Priority 5** - Child's Home Address (not catchment area)

Children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) will be placed using the SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) and associated local protocols and processes.

How many places are offered?

- The guide also offers you an example of places that were offered last year (page.16)
- Let's look at Curwen Primary as an example for the 2025 admission year.
 - 120 (Admission Number)
 - 90 (Actual Places)
 - Distance of final offer 0.896 miles
 - 202 applications for a place

Shortlisting schools

*Application
deadline:*
**Thursday
15th January
2026**

- Using the tools already discussed, create a shortlist of schools to make contact with.
- Have a look on the school's website to find out more. You will generally find a wealth of information about schools via the website.
- Call the school and find out about Reception Open days
- Find out if you can have a tour of the school
- Find out the admission policies for the various schools to ascertain the likelihood of being offered a place.
- Be armed with some questions to determine whether the school is a best fit for your child and for your lifestyle. (eg. Before school Breakfast arrangements, after school clubs, after school care)

Faith Schools Admissions

- The application process for faith schools has additional requirements
- Supplementary Information Forms needs to be filled out for every Faith school you express interest in. These can be obtained directly from the school itself. They must be submitted to Pupil Services alongside the online application.
- Page 85 of the online guide will provide you with further information about the application process for faith schools and how to apply for individual schools. (<https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=967&type=pdf>)

Academy and Free Schools Admissions

- Academy and Free Schools may have different admissions criteria to Newham Local Authority Schools. Specifically, Harris Academy Chobham.
- Information about each of these schools are outlined on page 97 - 100 as well as how they make their decisions.

Apply Online page.14 and 22

*Application
deadline:
Thursday
15th January
2026*

- All applications must be made online
- The process is easy and there are lots of prompts to help you along the way.
- Each screen will explain what you need to do along with guidance notes on the left to help.
- Text that is underlined will open in a new window with an explanation.

Apply Online

- If it is the first time you are applying online you will need to register to apply online and you must have an email address.
- You must register well before the deadline to ensure your application is received.
- Once you've registered, you will be sent an email with your username and instructions to follow.
- You will then be sent another email with your password to access the account.
- You will need these to log in every time you access the application and to check the progress when offers are made.
- If you have already registered online for an older sibling you can access this same account.



*Application
deadline:*
**Thursday
15th January
2026**

Apply Online

- Fill in all the personal information required about your child.
- Preferences : you must enter your selections in the order of preference. Your top choice will be number 1 and so on.
- You must check that you have officially submitted your application and you will get a reference to suggest that you have successfully applied.
- If you wish to make changes prior to the deadline you are able to. Remember to resubmit your application. You can make changes as many times as you like before the deadline.

Application Deadline

Thursday 15th January 2026

- If you miss this deadline your application will be considered late. It will be processed the same as all other applications but preference will be given to those received on time. Late applicants will be offered the school places that remain.
- The easiest way to apply is online.
- We can help if you need assistance.

Offers

*Application
deadline:*
**Thursday
15th January
2026**

- If you submitted your application by the closing date you will be sent the outcome of your application on the published offer day, usually after the Easter break, specifically 16th April 2026.
- You have 14 days to accept to the offer. You would do this through your eAdmissions account.
- If you are not happy with the offer made for your child, you can appeal. Details can be found on page 26 of the booklet.

Any Questions?

Would you like your child to get involved in interactive language activities while supporting an educational project?

We are looking for children **aged 4 years to 4 years and 11 months** with **English as their first and main language** to take part in a 50-minute session (with breaks) in your child's nursery setting.

If you are happy for your child to take part in the study, please scan the QR code below for more information about the study and to sign the consent form.



Children will be compensated with **stickers** and a **kite**.

If you would like any more information about the study, please email dorota.gaskins@kcl.ac.uk and you can also arrange a zoom call to find out more about the project.