



Online Admissions

Primary School 2026



If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 they will be due to start school at the beginning of the academic year commencing **1 September 2026**

Apply online from **18 November 2025**

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2026

You must complete an online application for your child to start primary school. There is no automatic transfer from nursery into primary school.

All on time applications will be considered equally after the closing date, 15 January 2026. Applications received after this date will be treated as late and considered after all applications received before the closing date.

This leaflet explains how to apply for a school place for your child, who is due to start Primary School in September 2026.

Full information, details of Calderdale schools, Academies and the Admission to Primary School booklet is available on our website

www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions. You are strongly advised to read this information before submitting your online application.

The period in which you may apply to select your preferences of schools, runs from 18 November 2025 to 15 January 2026. If you do not have internet access at home you can use the internet at your local library free of charge for the first hour.

Applications can be viewed and amended throughout this period. An immediate acknowledgement will be sent by e-mail.

How do I apply?

Online applications can be made at www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions between the 18 November 2025 and 15 January 2026. You can apply for up to five schools, putting the school you want most as your first preference. The schools can be within Calderdale and/or other Local Authorities.

Your child will be considered separately for each school that you have listed. Whether your child can be offered a place at each school will be decided using the school's oversubscription criteria. If your child can be given a place at more than one school, a place will be offered at the school you listed highest on your application.

You should receive notification either by letter or e-mail on or around the 16 April 2026 to tell you which school your child has been offered.

Residents of other Local Authorities can apply for Calderdale schools via their own Local Authority.



How are places allocated?

Calderdale Council's co-ordinated admissions scheme for 2026 operates in such a way that all parental preferences are considered equally. However, the schools have to be expressed in order of preference. In the event of a child being eligible for a place at more than one school only one offer of a place will be made, this will be at the highest expressed preference of school for which the child is eligible.

Many schools have more applications than there are places available. Eligibility for school places is determined by the oversubscription criteria published for each school. The oversubscription criteria details how priority will be determined for a school in the event that there are more applications received than places available.

There are common oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools within Calderdale. Foundation and voluntary aided schools/academies have their own specific oversubscription criteria which is applied.

All oversubscription criteria can be viewed at www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions.

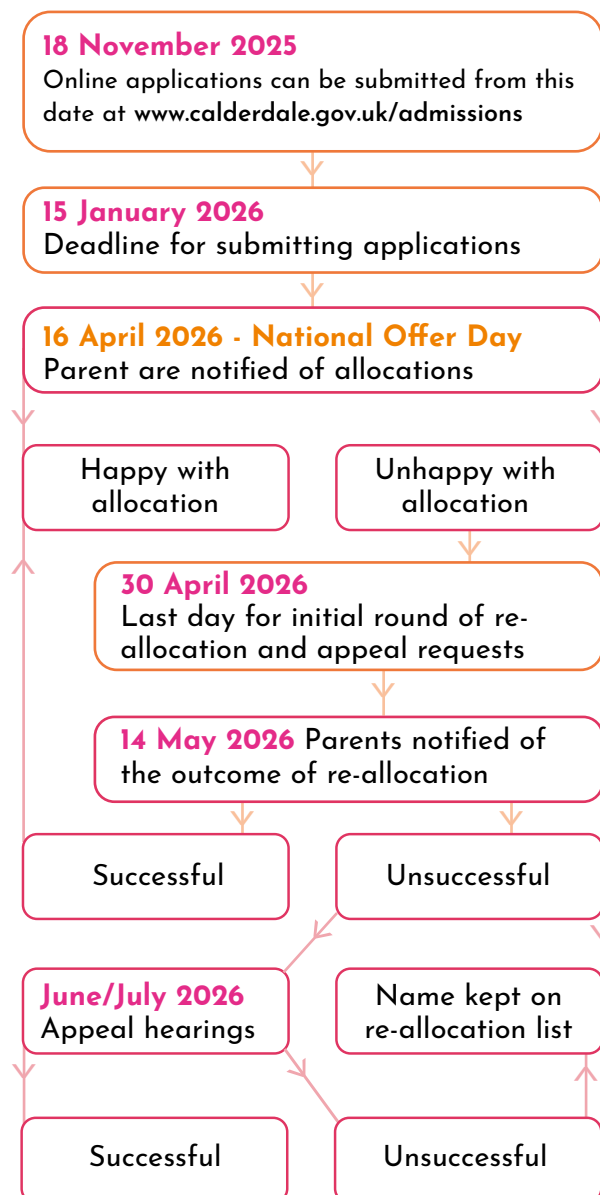
For out of authority schools you should contact the relevant local authority about the school's oversubscription criteria.

The child's current permanent residential address must be used for the application. The address of a relative or childminder, or an address where your child stays or sleeps because of special domestic circumstances cannot be considered.

You cannot use a future address until you are permanently resident in the property. Evidence will be requested for all change of addresses.

If it is discovered that a school place has been offered on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application (for example a false claim to residence) that offer will be withdrawn.

Timetable of Events



Important Information

Individual school prospectuses are available from the relevant school. A full list of primary schools and academies in Calderdale, with their contact details, can be found on our website. Parents/guardians who wish to look around an individual school should contact the school directly to arrange a visit.

Customer First Advisors are available on **01422 392617**, option 1, to support parents with the online application process and any issues they may have. **Please phone this number for advice if you are experiencing any problems with the application process.**

What do I do now?

Once you have read the information on the Calderdale website and fully considered your preferences, you will need to complete the online application at www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions.

Please be sure to

- Read carefully the information available on Calderdale's website www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions.
- Register and apply online, preferencing up to 5 schools (including any outside of the Calderdale area).
- Ensure that details of any siblings already attending a school which you have preferenced are included on the application.
- Ensure that the information you have provided is accurate. Please be aware that the address given on the application must be your child's permanent residence. A school place may be withdrawn if a false address is provided (which includes a relative's or childminder's address).
- Submit your application before the close date of 15 January 2026 (you will receive an automated acknowledgement so that you know we have received your application).





Reminder

Please consider carefully, before submitting your application for primary schools:

- Oversubscription Criteria detailing priority order in which pupils are admitted.
- Previous data relating to admissions to your preferred school.
- Performance tables can be accessed via www.calderdale.gov.uk.
- Ofsted reports and other school information can be found on the individual school's website.
- Travel arrangements - the transport policy is included within the Admissions to Primary School 2026 booklet or online at www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions.



What happens next?

16 April 2026 - National Offer Day

- If you live in Calderdale the offer of a school place will be made by Calderdale Council. You will have the option of how you wish to receive your offer when you apply online.
- If you live outside Calderdale your home local authority will contact you regarding the offer of a school place.

Re-allocation requests - 16 April to 30 April 2026

If you are not happy with the school place that you have been offered you can request that your child's name is added to the reallocation list for places which may become available after 16 April 2026, this is effectively a waiting list. Applications for reallocation must be received by 30 April 2026. If and when places are given up at your preferred school(s), the oversubscription criteria will be reapplied and a place will be offered to the child who falls within the highest priority category.

Re-allocation outcome - 14 May 2026

Calderdale Council will notify you in writing of the outcome of your reallocation request by 14 May 2026. Reallocation lists will be maintained by the Authority until September, if a place becomes available during this time the Admissions Team will contact you. At the start of the new term the lists are passed to the individual schools to maintain until at least the end of the first term.



Frequently asked questions

There are a number of questions which parents/guardians often ask, some of these are shown below. However, these are not meant to replace the information contained on the website and you are strongly advised to take the time to consider all the information before making your preferences.

Q1

When completing the application form, what order should I state the schools?

A1

All preferences are considered equally, so you should preference schools in the order that you would like them allocated. The Authority will offer the highest preference possible if your child is eligible for more than one school.

Q2

What happens if the Authority cannot allocate any of my preferred schools?

A2

The Authority has a duty to allocate a school place to all children living within Calderdale. If none of your preferred schools can be allocated, the Authority will allocate the school which is closest to the family home where there are vacancies. If you are resident outside of the Calderdale area, your own local authority is responsible for ensuring a school place is offered.

Q3

Can I put a relative's address on the application as it is nearer to the school?

A3

No. The address given on the application must be the child's current permanent place of residence. A school place may be withdrawn if a false address is provided (this includes relative's or childminder's addresses).

Q4

Do I still need to apply if my child is already attending the school nursery?

A4

Yes. Attendance at a school nursery does not guarantee a place in the reception class. You must complete an application which will be considered along with all other applications for the school.

Q5

If I only put one school on the application form does it mean I will be offered it?

A5

No. Naming only one school on your application will not necessarily ensure that your child is allocated a place at that school. Parents/guardians are urged to use the opportunity to express five preferences for schools in order of preference.

Q6

Where can I get advice on completing the online application form?

A6

The Authority recommends that parents/guardians contact the Admissions Team on **01422 392617** to obtain appropriate advice and guidance. Advisors are available on option 1 of this number to support parents with the application process and address any issues you may have.

Useful Contacts

School Organisation and Access Team
Children and Young People's Services
Town Hall
Halifax
HX1 1UJ

Tel: 01422 392617

Email: cyps.admissions@calderdale.gov.uk

Bradford MDC

Tel: 01274 439200

Kirklees MC

Tel: 01484 225007

Lancashire CC

Tel: 01254 220718

Rochdale MBC

Tel: 0300 3030340

Special Educational Needs Team

Tel: 01422 394129

Home to School Transport

Tel: 01422 393532

Children Looked After Team

Tel: 01422 394125

Education Welfare Service, Halifax

Tel: 01422 266125