Secondary Education

Applying for a Year 7 place

Information for parents

2026/27

warrington.gov.uk/schools

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Contents

Introduction **5**

Important dates to remember **6**

Open days/evenings 7

Before you apply **8**

Admission arrangements – Academic year 2026/27 8

Co-ordinated admissions 8

Published admissions numbers (PAN) 9

Oversubscription criteria 9

Admission age 9

Applying for schools outside Warrington 9

Applications from parents who live outside Warrington 9

Definition of a child's home address 10

Shared responsibility 10

Overseas applications 11

Supplementary forms 11

Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children 11

Siblings 12

Children of multiple births 12

Children of UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces) and children of Crown Servants 12

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan 13

Late applications 13

Expressing and ranking your preferences **14**

Equal preferences 14

Second and third preferences 14

Verifying information 14

Reasons 15

When preferences cannot be met 15

How to apply **15**

Registration - New users of the Citizen Portal 15

Registration - Already registered on the Citizen Portal. 15

No internet access or email account 16

Frequently asked questions about online applications 16

Amending a submitted application **17**

Making changes 17

Address changes 17

Allocation **18**
Offers 18
Year 7 waiting lists 19
Appeals 19
Secondary school information **20**
Types of secondary school in Warrington 20
Location map 21
Obtaining more information about individual schools 21
2025 allocation table 23
School contact details and oversubscription criterion 2026/2027 ..... **24**
Beamont Collegiate Academy 24
Birchwood Community High School 26
Bridgewater High School 28
Bruche Academy 30
Cardinal Newman Catholic High School 31
Culcheth High School 33
Great Sankey High School 34
King's Leadership Academy 36
Lymm High School 37
Padgate Academy 39
Penketh High School 41
St Gregory's Catholic High School 43
Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School 45
Admissions to University Technical Colleges and Studio Schools **47**
General information 47
How to apply 47
Notification of places for September 2026 47
UTC Warrington 48
Details of University Technical Colleges (UTC) and Studio Schools in other Local Areas ... 49
Moving between Secondary Schools/ In Year Transfers **50**
Fair access protocol 50
UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces) and Crown Servants 50
To apply 50
Taking up an offered place 51
Appeals procedure 51
Transport to and from school **52**
Additional transport assistance for low-income families 52

Sustainable school travel 52
General school information 53
Children with special educational needs 53
School meals 53
Free school meals 53
Clothing and uniform 53
The school curriculum 54
Public examinations 54
Discipline and exclusions 55
Charges for school activities and remission of charges 55
Parents access to pupil records 55
Parent governors 55
Personal property 55
Post-16 information 56
Warrington schools with post-16 provision 56
Other Warrington post-16 provision 56
How to apply 57
Transport 57
The 16–19 bursary scheme 57
Recommended school term dates 2026/27 58
Useful contacts 59
Warrington Borough Council 59
Diocesan authorities 60
Catholic 60
Church of England 60
Other Local Authority contact details 61

Introduction

Education Services
1 Time Square
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 2NT

Dear Parents/Carers

This booklet has been produced as a guide to all admissions to secondary schools in the Borough of Warrington. There are three types of secondary school admissions which are as follows:

1. Children transferring from Year 6 to Year 7 in September 2026 (referred to as normal rounds of admission).
2. In-year admissions, which are all other admissions where children move from one school to another part way through a school year; and
3. Admissions to schools with an atypical age range, such as University Technical College.

The booklet provides important information on the processes associated with admissions to schools and gives details of how places are allocated (normal rounds) which should help you make an informed decision about your preferences.

Please take the time to read the booklet carefully before completing an application, even if you have already decided which schools you prefer.

The law gives parents/carers the right to express a preference for which school you wish your child to attend. It is very important that you understand that this is not the same as being able to choose a school. Admission to your preferred schools depends on meeting the criteria that are explained in this booklet and availability of places at the school. The booklet tells you about the schools in Warrington, how to apply for a place and what to do if we cannot meet the preferences that you express.

Finally, please make sure that you submit your application for admission to Year 7 for September 2026 on or before the deadline date which is 31 October 2025. Late applications will only be considered after all on time applications have been processed and will significantly reduce our ability to offer a place at your preferred school.

Yours faithfully

Sharon Cooper
Interim Director of Children's Services

Important dates to remember

Timetable for transfer to secondary school

Opening date to apply Application process starts online application and composite prospectus available.	1 September 2025
Closing date for applications Closing date for submission of online applications.	31 October 2025
National allocation date Offer emails and letters will be sent.	2 March 2026
Date for appeals to be lodged by All appeals lodged by this date should be heard within 40 school days.	31 March 2026
Admission to school	September 2026
Waiting list closing date	31 December 2026

Open days/evenings

Secondary schools hold open evenings during the Autumn Term so that parents and pupils may visit schools prior to completing the application form for a secondary school place.

It is advisable to check these dates and times with the schools in case there have been any changes since this booklet was published. For further information please contact the schools directly.

Beamont Collegiate Academy

Thursday 2 October 2025 - 5pm – 7.30pm

Open mornings by appointment only on Fri 3 October, Mon 6 October and Tues 7 October

Tel : 01925 579500

Birchwood Community High School

Wednesday 1 October 2025 - 4pm – 7.30pm
Tel: 01925 853500

Bridgewater High School

Wednesday 24 September 2025 - 6pm – 8pm
Tel: 01925 263814

Bruche Academy

Monday 22 September 2025 - 5pm – 6pm
Tel: 01925 815772

Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Thursday 18 September 2025 - 5pm – 7.30pm
Tel: 01925 635556

Culcheth High School

Thursday 2 October 2025
Registration 5.30pm for 6pm HT Presentation
Tel: 01925 767587

Great Sankey High School

Thursday 25 September 2025 - 4pm – 7.30pm
Tel: 01925 724118

King's Leadership Academy

Saturday 11 October 2025 - 9am - 12 noon
Tel: 01925 817939

Lymm High School

Thursday 2 October 2025 - 5pm – 8pm
Tel: 01925 755458

Padgate Academy

Thursday 18 September 2025 - 4.30pm – 7.30pm

Open mornings Monday 22, Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 September 9am to 11am

Tel: 01925 822632

Penketh High School

Thursday 2 October 2025 - 5pm – 8pm
Tel: 01925 722298

Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

Thursday 25 September 2025 - 5pm – 8pm
Head Teacher's address 5.30pm and 7pm
Tel: 01925 636414

St Gregory's Catholic High School

Thursday 18 September 2025 - 4pm – 7.30pm
Tel: 01925 574888

University Technical College

Wednesday 24th September, Thursday 9th October, Thursday 13th November – 5pm-8.00pm

Tel: 01925 737067

Before you apply

We have a few things you need to know before you complete your application for year 7 transfer in September 2026.

Admission arrangements – Academic year 2026/27

All Admission Authorities must have admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted to their school, including the criteria that will be applied if there are more applications received for the school than there are places available (oversubscription criteria).

Admission arrangements must be determined annually by 28 February, even if they have not changed from the previous years and a consultation has not been required. A copy of the full arrangements for community schools is available to download from **our website:**

For full copies of all the Faith, Academy and the Free School admission arrangements please contact the individual school direct or visit the school's website.

Co-ordinated admissions

There are regulations which require all Local Authorities to co-ordinate admissions in accordance with a published scheme.

Under the co-ordinated admission arrangements, applications must be made to a parent's home Local Authority (the Authority to which they pay their council tax). Warrington Local Authority will notify all parents living within the Borough of Warrington of the place allocated to their child, even if the place offered is at a school situated within another Local Authority. These arrangements are to ensure that every parent living in a Local Authority receives an offer of one (and only one) school place on the same day.

Where the place is for a Faith, Academy or Free School, the Governing Body/Academy Trust (as the Admission Authority) will make the allocation decision, but the Local Authority will send out the email/letter on behalf of the Governing Body/Academy Trust.

The scheme for co-ordinated admissions is available to view or **download from our website:**

Published admissions numbers (PAN)

As part of their admission arrangements all Admission Authorities must set an admission number for each relevant age group. This PAN identifies the maximum number of places available. You can find the admission numbers for each school for September 2026 published later in this booklet.

Oversubscription criteria

All schools must have oversubscription criteria. The oversubscription criteria are part of the school's admission arrangements and could change on an annual basis. If more applications are received than there are places available, then it means that the school is oversubscribed. When this happens the oversubscription criteria will be applied to decide how places are allocated.

The 2026/2027 oversubscription criteria for all Warrington schools are detailed within this booklet. Information on the 2025/26 oversubscription criteria can be found in the Secondary Information booklet for 2025/26 a copy of which is available upon request from the School Admissions Team.

Admission age

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, or if they are in year 6 and are being educated outside their normal age group, you will need to complete an online application form for your child to start secondary school in September 2026.

Applying for schools outside Warrington

If you live in Warrington and wish to apply for schools in another Local Authority, you must do so on our online application form. If you name a school outside of Warrington, please take the time to read that Local Authority's Information Booklet as well as ours as their admission arrangements may be different to those applied in Warrington. Contact details for neighbouring Authorities can be found later in this booklet.

After the closing date for applications, it is a legal requirement for Local Authorities to exchange information which is relevant to schools in their area.

Applications from parents who live outside Warrington

If you reside in another Local Authority and wish to apply for a Warrington school, you must complete your home Local Authority's online application form and read both Local Authority's Information Booklets before submitting your application. Contact details for neighbouring Authorities can be found later in this booklet.

After the closing date for applications, it is a legal requirement for Local Authorities to exchange information which is relevant to schools in their area.

Other Local Authorities may specify some different deadlines and requirements regarding their admissions process. If you wish to apply for schools outside Warrington or you live outside of the Warrington area and wish to apply for a Warrington school, please read both Local Authority's Information Booklets carefully before submitting your application.

Definition of a child's home address

The address given on the application, should be the child's permanent place of residence at the time of the application, not a childminder or grandparent's.

It may be necessary for us to carry out checks to confirm addresses given are genuine, therefore we may also liaise with other departments within the Local Authority to verify address information supplied for the application. If we are unable to verify address information, it may be necessary to request additional proof of address. Any evidence you provide must show that the parent or main carer lives at the address used on the application. Only once this information is received will your child's records be updated.

Acceptable evidence of your home address, may include:

- council tax bill
- driving licence
- utility bill (water, gas or electric)
- proof of your child benefit/ child tax credits
- a signed copy of the contract for the sale and purchase of the property or a signed copy of a tenancy agreement (at least six months)

Shared responsibility

We will only accept one application per child for a school place. Before applying, the applicant **must** inform all other parties who have parental responsibility and agree on preferences before submitting the application form.

Where parents with shared responsibility disagree on school preferences, they must settle their differences before submitting only one form, as we are unable to mediate on these matters. If parents cannot reach an amicable agreement regarding the preferences submitted for their child, then both parents should seek legal advice.

Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility the child's address given on the online application form should be the address where the child sleeps the majority of the school nights (Sunday to Thursday) during the week in term time. Where there is a dispute or equal nights are slept, the applicant will be asked to provide proof of the address registered with the child's GP.

On occasions where applications are received from both parents, we will contact the applicants and advise that only one application can be processed.

Any parent seeking to advantage their child's application by putting a false address may have the offer of a place withdrawn. We have withdrawn offers of places in previous years. You should be aware that where a place is allocated at a school based on your address, or sibling connection, and then you change address or the older sibling leaves the school, then the offer of the place may be withdrawn.

Overseas applications

We do accept applications from outside the UK. For these applications the overseas address will be used as the residential address for the application until proof that the parent or main carer lives at the Warrington address is received. For more information on School applications for foreign national children and children resident outside England, visit the **DfE website**.

Supplementary forms

If you are including a faith School as one of your preferences, even if you have listed one of these schools as a second or third preference, then you must complete the school's own supplementary form as well as the online application form.

Supplementary Forms are used by Faith schools, to provide them with relevant information to help them decide the correct oversubscription criteria that your child's application falls under. Failure to complete a supplementary form, could mean that your child's application could be categorised incorrectly.

The supplementary form will not be regarded as a valid application unless you have also completed the Local Authority application form and nominated the school concerned on it.

Supplementary forms are available from each individual school and once completed these forms should be returned to the school.

If any of your preferences are for schools out of borough you will need to contact the school direct to check if a supplementary form for admission to their school needs to be completed.

Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children

It is a legal requirement for all state funded schools to prioritise looked after and previously looked after children in their oversubscription criteria.

A looked after child is defined as a child who is (a) in the care of a Local Authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their Social Services

functions under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making the application to the school.

The term previously looked after children is defined as children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted, (or became subject to a Child Arrangement Order or Special Guardianship Order).

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

For a previously looked after child to be considered under this criterion, the applicant must provide details of which Local Authority the child was previously in the care of and a copy of the Adoption Certificate, Child Arrangement Order or Special Guardianship Order. This information should be sent to the School Admissions Team either by email or post at the time of application.

If a child was previously in state care outside England, then the applicant must provide written documentation to support this at the time of application. This information should be sent to the School Admissions Team either by email or post.

If copies of the verifying documents are not received, then your application will not be considered under this criterion.

Siblings

Siblings are defined as elder brothers and sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit.

Children of multiple births

In respect of twins, triplets etc. the Admission Authority will apply the oversubscription criteria in the normal way. If the last place available at a school is offered to one of the twins, triplets etc. then the admission authority would agree to admit the other twin, triplet etc. too.

Children of UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces) and children of Crown Servants

For children of UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces) returning to live in the area, a Unit postal or quartering address will be accepted in advance of a change of address subject to official written confirmation of the address and relocation date. If this applies to your child, please tell us on your application. You must also provide evidence i.e., an official letter from

your commanding officer containing a relocation date and Unit postal address. Where Crown Servants are returning from abroad, a future address can also be considered as the current address for a school application. Evidence must be submitted to the School Admissions Team by the closing date 31 October 2025.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan you **do not** need to complete an online application form as the SEND Team will contact you with details of their process.

Parents of children currently undergoing assessment for an Education, Health and Care Plan should follow the procedures outlined in this booklet and complete an online preference form for their child.

Any allocation of a place will be in consultation with the SEND Service once the statutory assessment is completed.

Late applications

All applications submitted on or before the closing date of 31 October 2025 will be processed at the same time. Late applications will be processed after those received on time. You should be aware that a late application could reduce the chance of gaining a place at your preferred school. In some cases, when an application is submitted after the closing date but before the allocation date it may be considered alongside those applications which were received on time, where there is, in the view of the school's Admission Authority, an acceptable reason for the late submission of the form.

Any late applications received after 13 February 2026 will only be processed after the National Offer Day which is 2 March 2026.

Expressing and ranking your preferences

Equal preferences

From September 2008, following a change in the law, The Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Admissions Code, required all Admission Authorities to operate an Equal Preference System for dealing with applications to school.

Under the Equal Preference System, the three preferences you name on the application form will be treated equally. The preference order will only be used if your child fulfils the admission criteria for more than one of the schools you have listed on your preference form. If this is the case, your child will be allocated a place at the school you placed as the highest preference, for which your child qualifies for a place. It is, therefore, important for you to name the schools you prefer in order of preference.

If we are not able to offer you a place at the school of your first preference, your second and third preferences will be considered alongside first preference applications for those schools. It is, therefore, very important that you take the opportunity to name three schools on the preference form.

In 2025, 98.8 percent of on time applications for Warrington residents were offered a place at one of their preferences.

The number of preferences for a particular school can vary from year to year and over a period of years. The table later in this booklet contains individual school details and information regarding how places were allocated for September 2025.

Second and third preferences

If you do not name a second or third preference, it does not increase your chances of getting a place at the school you have put first. It means you have wasted your preferences and, if you do not obtain a place at your first preference school, you may lose priority for another school where you might otherwise have obtained a place.

Please do not name a school more than once. This does not improve your chances of getting a place there. It means that if you do not obtain a place at the school, the School Admissions Team do not know which other schools are of interest to you. You may lose priority for another school where you might otherwise have gained a place.

Verifying information

If you wish your child's application to be considered under the Looked after/ previously looked after child criterion or in accordance with a medical/social criterion, then verifying information in support of your application must be provided at the time you apply. The information should be scanned and emailed to the **School Admissions Team** or you can send it by post.

If your child was formerly looked after, you must provide information on which Local Authority they were previously in the care of, as well as a copy of the Adoption Certificate, Child Arrangement Order or Special Guardianship Order, to be considered against this criterion.

If you would like your application to be considered against a medical/social criterion, you should provide supporting evidence from a registered professional, such as a Medical Practitioner, Psychologist or Social Worker, which sets out the particular reasons why the school in question is the most suitable school for your child.

If the verifying information is not provided at the time of application, then the application will not be considered against this criterion.

Reasons

Parents can indicate the reasons for their preferences, however, since Admission Authorities can only allocate places based on their published oversubscription criteria, the reasons should relate to the criteria published by your preferred school(s).

When preferences cannot be met

If we are not able to offer your child a place at any of your preferred schools, your child will be offered a place at the nearest school to the home address which has a place available. When this school is a Faith, Academy or Free school any offer of a place would be made in agreement with, and on behalf of, the Governing Body/Academy Trust as Admission Authority for the school.

How to apply

All parents need to apply online using the Citizen Portal. The Citizen Portal enables families to apply for council services such as school places and 2 - and 3-year-old funding.

To access the Citizen Portal please follow the links on the webpage.

Registration - New users of the Citizen Portal

If you don't already have an account on the Citizen Portal, simply click on 'Don't have an account' and follow the instructions. You will receive an email confirming your registration; this email will contain a unique link which will allow you to proceed with your online application. Click on the link and confirm your email and password, you will then be able to add your child's details by clicking on the 'School Admissions' icon.

Registration - Already registered on the Citizen Portal.

If you have previously registered your details on the Citizen Portal you can log in using the same email and password. **Before proceeding, please check that the details held for you are correct, particularly your address, by clicking 'My Account' and amend it if necessary.**

If you cannot remember your password, you can click on the forgotten password link.

Links will expire after 3 days. If you have not accessed the links within this period, you will have to re-register.

If you do remember your password but still have problems accessing your account, contact the School Admissions Team on **01925 446226** or email us.

If you change your email address after the closing date has passed, you will not receive an automated email offer.

If you do change your email address, please inform us immediately, and we will arrange for the offer information to be forwarded to the new email address as soon as we are able, but this may not be on the offer date.

Please make sure:

1. If you have indicated a faith school as any of your preferences then you must complete the schools own supplementary form and return it directly to the school before the closing date.

2. Any verifying information which supports your application is provided at the time of application.

No internet access or email account

If you do not have a computer or smartphone, you may want to consider contacting your Local Library or Contact Warrington to arrange to access their internet and submit your application. Alternatively, you can contact us on 01925 446226 to make a telephone appointment for a member of the Admissions Team to help you to complete the online application.

Anyone using the appointment system to submit their application **cannot** receive their offer via email. A letter will be posted to the home address on 2 March 2026, so please allow time for delivery.

Frequently asked questions about online applications

When can I use the online system?

The online system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week up to midnight on the closing date of 31 October 2025. If you are applying after this date you will need to contact the School Admissions Team.

Will my application be secure?

Yes, the system has a series of security features which prevent others from seeing your personal information.

Can I change my mind after clicking submit?

Yes, up to the closing date for receipt of applications, 31 October 2025. However, you should note that if you revisit or edit your submitted form you must re-submit and accept the Terms & Conditions or the original application will be lost.

How will I know that the amendments have been logged?

Every time you re-submit the online application, you will receive an email notification confirming the status of the application.

What do I need to apply online?

You will need access to the internet, your Council Tax reference number, and your child's details.

Amending a submitted application

Making changes

You can make changes to your online application form up to the closing date of 31 October 2025. All you need to do is go back to the online application form (you will need your username and password), make the changes and then you must re-submit your application. If you do not re-submit, your application form will not be registered.

After the closing date, the online facility is no longer available so you would need to contact the School Admissions Team and request to make any changes. Requests should be made in writing stating your reasons for the change.

All requests to make changes to your application received after the closing date may be considered as late, unless there is a genuine reason for the change, such as a change of address or if a child has recently been taken into care. It will be the decision of the school's Admission Authority as to whether to treat the request as on time or as late. If their decision is to treat the request as late, then it will only be considered after all other on time applications have been processed.

Address changes

If you change address after the closing date you must inform us in writing, immediately, even if you have included this information on your application form. Proof of your new address must be provided.

Any evidence you provide must show that the parent or main carer lives at the new address. Applicants who are not liable for Council Tax at the new address must supply a secondary form of evidence as given below:

- written evidence of a final completion of sale/purchase or a long term tenancy agreement;
- your current driving licence;
- a utility bill (gas, electricity or water) covering the closing date for applications;
- proof of your Child Tax Credits;
- proof of your Child Benefit;

Only once this information is received will your child's records be updated.

In Warrington, address changes with supporting documentary proof can only be accepted up until 13 February 2026. Any changes received after this date will be dealt with after the allocation date 2 March 2026.

Other Local Authorities may specify some different deadlines and requirements regarding their admissions process, so if you are moving out of/into Warrington please ensure that you contact the relevant Local Authorities for further information.

Allocation

Offers

Offers are communicated to all on time applicants via email. Emails will be sent to the email address, which you provided on the online application form, from 8:00 am on 2 March 2026.

You can also view your offer by logging back into the Citizen Portal and clicking school admissions.

All applicants who applied after the closing date, will receive their offer via letter. Letters will be posted on 2 March 2026, so please allow time for delivery.

If you are offered one of your preferred schools, it is assumed that you will accept the place and no further action will need to be taken. The school allocated will contact you in due course to invite you to the school and arrange admission.

All applicants who are refused a preference (or preferences), will receive a letter as well as an email, The letters will include information on how places were allocated at the preferred school(s), in accordance with the individual school's oversubscription criteria and will also include information on waiting lists and appeals procedures. The letter will be posted on the day of allocation so please allow time for delivery.

If you are a Warrington resident and we are unable to offer a place at any of your preferred schools we have a duty to offer a place at the next nearest school with a place available. In the event you are offered a next nearest school you will be asked to complete a reply slip indicating whether or not you accept the place offered.

Once places have been allocated (after 2 March 2026), you may request a change of school, but it may be difficult to meet your revised preference.

Year 7 waiting lists

Waiting lists for oversubscribed schools will be maintained by us until the end of the Autumn Term 2026 (i.e. 31 December 2026). This is because vacancies sometimes arise after the initial allocation of places has been made.

When parents are refused one of their preferences, their child's name will be automatically added to the waiting list for that school. If a place becomes available, it will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list. These places will only be offered after 7 April 2026.

Waiting lists are held strictly in oversubscription criteria order. The order of the waiting list can change as applicants leave or join the list, or as the circumstance of the applicant change e.g. change of address, change of primary school, sibling joining or leaving the preferred school.

If you change address during the time the waiting list is held, proof of the new address will be required to update the waiting list.

Appeals

If your child is refused a place at any school for which you have expressed a preference, you have the right of appeal against this decision. This applies whether the school is Community, Faith or Academy.

The letter explaining that a place cannot be offered to your child will include details of how to appeal if you wish to do so. The letter will also tell you the time limit within which you can appeal where appropriate.

To lodge an appeal, you must complete our online appeal form which will be available on our website after 2 March 2026. Any supporting documentation you would like the panel to consider can be attached to the appeal submission or alternatively, you can **email these as scanned documents to us** or send separately to - School Admissions Team, East Annexe, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington, WA1 1UH.

Photographs of documents cannot be accepted as the information must be reproduced

Your appeal form and all other paperwork will be sent to the Clerk to the Independent Appeals Panel who will arrange dates for the appeal(s) to be heard and will contact you directly with

details. All appeals lodged by the 31 March 2026 should be heard within 40 school days of this date.

Before deciding whether to appeal, you should think about the school's published policy for admitting pupils, your reasons for wanting your child to attend the school, your child's view of what school he/she should attend and how strong a case you have. You may also want to visit the school where you have been offered a place.

If your appeal is successful there will be no assistance with transport unless you qualify under the Local Authority's transport policy.

If your appeal is declined, you are not able to appeal again for the same school for the same academic year unless there has been a significant material change of your circumstances (e.g. change of residence) or the circumstances of the school have changed.

For pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan any appeal about the school named in the Education, Health and Care Plan would be to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal rather than the Independent Appeals Panel.

Secondary school information

This section provides information about all Warrington secondary schools including contact details, age range of pupils, published admission number, how places were allocated for the previous year and the individual school's oversubscription criteria for 2026/27.

The information provided in this section should help you to estimate your chances of success at being allocated a place at a particular school before submitting your application.

Please be aware that how places are allocated can significantly change each year. It is important to remember that none of the admissions criteria guarantees a place at a school.

In all cases, Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are allocated school places under different regulations and will override all other categories or priority. Children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will be admitted to the school named in the EHCP over and above the published oversubscription criteria.

The table below contains information regarding how places were allocated last year. Please be aware that the 2025/26 oversubscription criteria for each school has been used when allocating these places, details of which can be found in the 2025/26 Information Booklet, which is available upon request, or on the relevant schools website.

Types of secondary school in Warrington

There are four types of secondary schools in Warrington. These are:

Academies and free schools

Academies are independently managed, all ability schools set up by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups in partnership with the Department for Education. Together they fund land and buildings, with the Government covering the running costs. The Academy Trust is the Admission Authority for the school. Each Academy Trust has its own published admission criteria as detailed on the individual school's information page in this booklet and is responsible for the allocation of places. The Local Authority informs parents of the allocation decisions on the school's behalf.

Community schools

The Local Authority owns the school land and buildings and employs the staff on the recommendation of the Governing Body. As the Admission Authority for all community schools, the Local Authority deals with the allocation of places using the published admission criteria for community schools as detailed on the individual school's information page in this booklet.

Faith schools

The Governing Body is the employer and the school's land, and buildings are normally owned by the church, or a charitable foundation and they contribute towards capital costs of running the school. The Governing Body is the Admission Authority for the school. Each Governing Body has its own published admission criteria as detailed on the individual school's information page in this booklet and is responsible for the allocation of places. The Local Authority informs parents of the allocation decisions on the school's behalf.

University Technology College

Technology Colleges are academies which usually cater for Key Stage 4 and 5 children. The Academy Trust is the Admission Authority for the school. The school has its own published admission criteria as detailed on the individual school's information page in this booklet and is responsible for the allocation of places.

Location map

A map showing the location of all the secondary schools in Warrington is available to view or download from **our website.**

Obtaining more information about individual schools

Visit the schools

It is a good idea to attend the open evenings of schools you may be interested in before deciding which one you prefer your child to attend.

School websites

Each year schools are required to publish information about their schools on their websites. The individual school's website addresses can be found further along in this booklet.

Ofsted inspection reports

Summaries of inspections carried out by Inspectors on behalf of the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED) are available in schools. Headteachers will provide information on the action plans which address issues raised in OFSTED reports. OFSTED reports can be viewed on the **OFSTED website**.

School performance tables

Copies of the published secondary school Achievement and Attainment Tables for Warrington secondary schools may be inspected in local libraries or are obtainable from the Department for Education by telephoning 0800 242322 or on the **DfE website.**

2025 allocation table

The table below contains information on how places were allocated for all Warrington secondary schools on the National Offer Day 2025

School	School Type and Age Range	Published Admissio...	Oversubscribed School	Places allocated	Last criterion and Distance admitted	Appeals lodged	Appeals upheld (successful)
Beamont Collegiate Academy	Academy 11-16	180	Yes	180	Criterion 5 0.923 miles	16*	3
Birchwood Community High School	Academy 11-16	200	No	133	Criterion 4 5.296 miles	0	0
Bridgewater High School	Academy 11-16	360	No	332	Criterion 6 Over 10 miles	0	0
Cardinal Newman Catholic High School	Faith 11-16	165	No	142	Criterion 9 2.401 miles	0	0
Culcheth High School	Community 11-16	240	Yes	240	Criterion 5 3.373 miles	8	0
Great Sankey High School	Academy 11-18	375	No	336	Criterion 5 Over 10 miles	0	0
King's Leadership Academy	Free 11-16	150	Yes	165	Criterion 6 1.005 miles	16	0
Lymm High School	Academy 11-18	300	Yes	300	Criterion 4 4.497 miles	20*	7
Padgate Academy	Academy 11-16	150	No	126	Criterion 6 3.415 miles	0	0
Penketh High School	Academy 11-16	220	No	218	Criterion 6 Over 10 miles	0	0
St Gregory's Catholic High School	Faith 11-16	240	Yes	240	Criterion 9 0.505 miles	13*	0
Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School	Academy 11-16	175	Yes	175	Criterion 6 1.055 miles	14	1

* These schools have appeals lodged which will be heard in September, so outcome not yet known

School contact details and oversubscription criterion 2026/2027

Beamont Collegiate Academy

Long Lane, Warrington, WA2 8PX

Telephone: 01925 579500

Principal : Mr P Greenhalgh

Email: mail@bca.warrington.ac.uk

Website : http://bca.warrington.ac.uk/

Admissions Authority: The Challenge Academy Trust **PAN:** 180

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements, including all definitions and interpretations.

1. Child in Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred academy and expected to continue at the academy in the following school year). This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Pupils for whom advice from a medical practitioner or psychologist has been provided by the parents (at the time of application) in support of admission to a particular academy, which, in the Admissions Authority's view, justifies admission to the Academy. The Admissions Authority, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the school medical officer or educational psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds.

4. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed by the relevant academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Where relevant, pupils attending an academy's partner primary schools. The nominated partner primary schools are:

    a. Beamont Community Primary School
    b. Bewsey Lodge Primary School

c. Brook Acre Community Primary School
d. Dallam Primary School
e. Meadowside Community Primary School
f. St Andrew's Church of England Primary School
g. St Ann's Church of England Primary School
h. St Margaret's Church of England Primary School
i. Oakwood Avenue Community Primary School

6. Pupils living nearest to the academy measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the academy measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the academy.

Where an academy reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above, those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the academy as defined in oversubscription criterion six.

Birchwood Community High School

Brock Road, Birchwood, Warrington, WA3 7PT

Telephone: 01925 853500

Headteacher: Ms E Mills

Email: contactus@birchwoodhigh.org **Website:** www.birchwoodhigh.org

Admissions Authority: One Community Trust **Pan:** 200

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Children who are or have been in the care or interim care of a Local Authority pursuant to sections 31 and 38 of the Children's Act 1989, or children who are accommodated by a local authority pursuant to section 20 of the Children's Act 1989, or children who have previously been in the care of a local authority but have since been adopted alongside children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (IAPLAC).

2. Admission of pupils whose siblings currently attend Birchwood Community High School and who will continue to do so on the date of admission. For the purpose of allocating places, sibling means:
    - full sibling living at the same address as the applicant
    - step sibling living at the same address as the applicant
    - half sibling living at the same address as the applicant
    - long term foster sibling living at the same address as the applicant

3. Pupils for whom advice from a medical practitioner or psychologist has been provided by the parents (at the time of application) in support of admission to a particular school, which, in the Academy's view, justifies admission to the Academy. The Academy, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the Academy medical officer or educational psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds.

4. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the school.

Where the school reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those

whose permanent place of residence is closest to the school as defined in oversubscription criterion four.

Bridgewater High School

Lower site:
Hall Drive, Appleton, Warrington, WA4 5JL

Telephone: 01925 263814

Upper site:
Broomfields Road, Appleton, Warrington, WA4 3AE

Telephone: 01925 263919

Principal: Mr K Powell **Headteacher :** Mrs T Hatton

Email: enquiries@bridgewaterhigh.com **Website:** www.bridgewaterhigh.com

Admission Authority: The Challenge Academy Trust **PAN:** 360

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Child in Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred academy and expected to continue at the academy in the following school year). This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Pupils for whom advice from a medical practitioner or psychologist has been provided by the parents (at the time of application) in support of admission to a particular academy, which, in the Admissions Authority's view, justifies admission to the Academy. The Admissions Authority, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the school medical officer or educational psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds.

4. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed by the relevant academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Where relevant, pupils attending an academy's partner primary Schools. The nominated partner primary schools are:

a. Appleton Thorn Primary School
b. Broomfields Junior School (linked to Cobbs Infant School)
c. Grappenhall Heys Primary School
d. St Matthew's C of E Primary School
e. St Thomas' C of E Primary School
f. Stockton Heath Primary School

6. Pupils living nearest to the academy measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the academy measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the academy.

Where an academy reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above, those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the academy as defined in oversubscription criterion six.

Bruche Academy

Seymour Drive, Padgate, Warrington, WA1 3TT

Telephone: 01925 815722

Executive Headteacher: Mr C Jones

Email: bruche.office@wpat.uk **Website:** bruchepprimary.co.uk

Admission Authority: Warrington Primary Academy Trust **PAN:** 60

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Attending Bruche Academy since at least Year 5 onwards.

3. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or step brothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

4. Children of staff – i.e. all permanent members of staff (teachers and support staff), who have been employed at Bruche Academy for at least two years at which the application is made or who have been recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer. This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the school.

Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Bridgewater Avenue, Latchford, Warrington, WA4 1RX

Telephone: 01925 635556

Executive Head: Mr A McGlown **Head of School:** Mrs H Pinnington

Email: enquiries@cardinal-newman.co.uk **Website**: www.cardinal-newman.org.uk

Admission Authority: Governing Body **PAN:** 165

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes2&3 of the full policy)

2. Catholic children who attend a feeder Catholic primary school namely, **Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, St Benedict's Catholic Primary School, St Bridget's Catholic Primary School, St Monica's Catholic Primary School, St Oswald's Catholic Primary School, St Peter's Catholic Primary School, St Stephen's Catholic Primary School.** (see note 3 of the full policy)

3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3 of full policy)

4. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2 of full policy)

5. Children of other Christian denominations and children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion or other religious leader. (see notes 4&5 of full policy)

6. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

(i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (i) above. (see note 6)

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance by the Local Authority using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures a straight-line distance from the centre point of the child's home address (the centre point of the building if the address is within a block flats) to the centre point of the school.

You will be required to complete a supplementary form in addition to your online application for applications to this School. Please visit the school's website for the supplementary form. Once completed these forms should be returned directly to the school.

Culcheth High School

Warrington Road, Culcheth, Warrington, WA3 5HH

Telephone: 01925 767587

Headteacher: Mr C Hunt

Email: info@culchethhigh.org.uk **Website:** http://culchethhigh.org.uk/

Admission Authority: Local Authority **PAN:** 240

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. A full copy of the Community Schools Admission Arrangements can be viewed at www.warrington.gov.uk/schools

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Children with proven medical needs which are directly relevant to the school concerned. If you wish to be considered under this category you must provide appropriate supporting evidence at the time of your application from a doctor or other professional. This evidence must explain why the preferred school is the most suitable and what difficulties would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

4. Pupils attending a designated partner primary school. St Helen's CE Primary School is partnered to Culcheth High School

5. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using a geographical information address point system. Distances will be measured in a straight line from the central point of the child's permanent place of residence to the central point of the school. (Central points are as defined by the Warrington Local Land and Property Gazetteer and distances are based on the same system).

Where a school reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories
listed above those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent
place of residence is closest to the school as defined in oversubscription criterion five.

Great Sankey High School

Barrow Hall Lane, Great Sankey, Warrington, WA5 3AA

Telephone: 01925 724118

Headteacher: Mr G Evans

Email: enquiries@greatsankey.org **Website:** www.greatsankey.org

Admission Authority: Omega Multi Academy Trust **PAN:** 375

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Children for whom it is essential to be admitted to Great Sankey High School Academy because of special circumstances to do with significant medical needs. The recommendation must be received in writing from a consultant at an NHS hospital or equivalent. This criterion relates to the child's medical needs and does not include any other member of the child's family. The supporting evidence should set out the particular reasons Great Sankey High School is the most suitable school and difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

4. Pupils attending Burtonwood Community Primary School.

5. Pupils living nearest to the school defined as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school, measured using a Geographical Information Address Point system based on the Local Land and Property Gazetteer. This

measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the school in miles.

Where a school reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the school as defined in oversubscription criterion five.

King's Leadership Academy

Hillock Lane, Woolston, Warrington, WA1 4PF

Telephone: 01925 817939

Principal: Mr U Hussain

Email: info@kingswarrington.com **Website:** www.kingswarrington.com

Admission Authority: The Great Schools Trust **PAN:** 165

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Children in care and children formerly in care (those who have ceased to be in care because they have been adopted, or became subject to a residence order, or a special order).

2. Siblings (brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Children of permanent staff members currently employed at King's Leadership Academy Warrington, provided the staff member has been employed for at least two years at the time of the application.

4. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school on Hillock Lane measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer. This measures straight line distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence, in miles, to the address point of the school.

Lymm High School

Oughtrington Lane, Lymm, WA13 0RB

Telephone: 01925 755458

Headteacher: Mr G Williams

Email: info@lymmhigh.org.uk **Website:** www.lymmhigh.org.uk

Admission Authority: Lymm High Academy Trust **PAN:** 300

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Children in care and children formerly in care (those who have ceased to be in care because they have been adopted, or became subject to a residence order, or a special guardianship order).

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Children for whom a particular school is appropriate on genuine medical or social grounds. Such applications will be decided by Lymm High School. (Applications on medical grounds will only be considered under this criterion if they are supported by an attached written statement from a doctor. This must demonstrate why the Academy is the only educational placement appropriate for the child's needs).

4. Pupils attending Lymm High School's nine partner primary Schools, which are: -
    a. Bradshaw Community Primary School
    b. Cherry Tree Primary School
    c. Grappenhall St Wilfrid's C E Primary School
    d. High Legh Community Primary School
    e. Little Bollington CE (Controlled) Primary School
    f. Oughtrington Community Primary School
    g. Ravenbank Community Primary School
    h. Statham Community Primary School
    i. Thelwall Junior School

5. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer. This measures

straight line distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the school.

When the school reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the school as defined in oversubscription criterion five.

Padgate Academy

Insall Road, Padgate, Warrington, WA2 0LN

Telephone: 01925 822632

Principal: Mr A McMillan

Email: info@padgateacademy.co.uk **Website:** www.padgateacademy.co.uk

Admission Authority: The Challenge Academy Trust **PAN:** 180

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Child in Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred academy and expected to continue at the academy in the following school year). This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Pupils for whom advice from a medical practitioner or psychologist has been provided by the parents (at the time of application) in support of admission to a particular academy, which, in the Admissions Authority's view, justifies admission to the Academy. The Admissions Authority, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the school medical officer or educational psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds.

4. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed by the relevant academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Where relevant, pupils attending an academy's partner primary Schools. The nominated partner primary schools are:

   None

6. Pupils living nearest to the academy measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the academy measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the academy.

Where an academy reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above, those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the academy as defined in oversubscription criterion six.

Penketh High School

Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY

Telephone: 01925 722298

Principal: Mr J Carlin

Email: admin@penkethhigh.org **Website:** www.penkethhigh.org

Admission Authority: The Challenge Academy Trust **PAN:** 240

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Child in Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred academy and expected to continue at the academy in the following school year). This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit).

3. Pupils for whom advice from a medical practitioner or psychologist has been provided by the parents (at the time of application) in support of admission to a particular academy, which, in the Admissions Authority's view, justifies admission to the Academy. The Admissions Authority, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the school medical officer or educational psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds.

4. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed by the relevant academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Where relevant, pupils attending an academy's partner primary schools. The nominated partner primary schools are:

   None

6. Pupils living nearest to the academy measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the academy measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the academy.

Where an academy reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above, those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent place of residence is closest to the academy as defined in oversubscription criterion six.

St Gregory's Catholic High School

Cromwell Avenue, Westbrook, Warrington, WA5 1HG

Telephone: 01925 574888

Headteacher: Mr E McGlinchey

Email: schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com **Website:** www.stgregoryshigh.com

Admissions Authority: Governing Body **PAN:** 240

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children.

2. Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of Sacred Heart & St Alban, St Benedict, St Joseph and St Paul of the Cross. (see notes3 & 10 of full policy)

3. Other Baptised Catholic children (see note 3 of full policy)

4. Children attending one of the following Catholic Partner Primary Schools in the parishes or former parishes named in criterion 2 above:
    a. Sacred Heart
    b. St Alban's
    c. St Benedict's
    d. St Joseph's
    e. St Paul of the Cross
    f. St Vincent's

5. Members of an Eastern Christian Church not in full communion with Rome (see note 4 of full policy)

6. Children of other Christian Ecclesial Communities whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see not 5 of the full policy).

7. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 6 of full policy).

8. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

(i) Where evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which can most appropriately be met at this school, the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made. (see note 9 of full policy)

(ii) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school (not including the Sixth Form where there is one) at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (i) above (see note 7of full policy).

Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

Grammar School Road, Latchford, Warrington, WA4 1JL

Telephone: 01925 636414

Headteacher: Mrs B Scott-Herron

Email: info@boteler.org.uk **Website:** www.boteler.org.uk

Admission Authority: The Challenge Academy Trust **PAN:** 175

School admissions policy and arrangements

This is an extract from the school's Admission Arrangements. Please visit the school's website for a copy of the full arrangements including definitions and interpretations.

1. Child in Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children including those previously in state care outside of England.

2. Siblings of children currently attending the academy and expected to continue to attend the academy in the following school year. This includes full, half or stepbrothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit.

3. Children or whose parent/s worship in a Christian church. 'Parental worshipping' is taken to mean attendance at a minimum of 2 public worship services per month for at least 2 years prior to the date of application.

   A Christian church means any church which is designated under the Ecumenical Relations Measure nationally by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York or locally by the diocesan bishop, or is a member of Churches Together in England, or the Evangelical Alliance, or a partner church of Affinity.

   In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.
   Parents/Carers must complete a separate application form to meet this criteria and this must be signed by a Vicar, Rector or Minister of the church.

4. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the relevant academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Children attending primary schools associated with Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School, which are:

    a. Alderman Bolton Primary
    b. Latchford St James' Primary
    c. St Elphin's C of E Primary
    d. Oakwood Avenue Primary

6. Pupils living nearest to the academy measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the academy measured using a geographical information address point system based on the local land and property gazetteer (LLPG). This measures straight line (direct) distances from the address point of the permanent place of residence to the address point of the academy.

Where an academy reaches its published admission number from pupils within one of the categories listed above, those pupils to be admitted from within that category will be those whose permanent places of residence are closest to the academy as defined in oversubscription criterion six.

Admissions to University Technical Colleges and Studio Schools

Atypical Age Range Schools

General information

UTC's are set up by universities and businesses to specialise in one or two technical subjects. At GCSE, they offer a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school including English and Maths, as well as their own specialist subject.

Studio schools are similar to UTC's in that they have an employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing the skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience, alongside a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school.

There is only one atypical age range school in Warrington. The UTC Warrington is located in the Stadium Quarter of Warrington Town Centre, a few minutes' walk from both Warrington Bus Interchange and Warrington Central Station.

The following pages give information on UTC Warrington and details of other UTC's and Studio schools which are located within other Local Authorities.

How to apply

The Local Authority will be co-ordinating the admissions on behalf of UTC Warrington. If you wish to apply for a place at UTC Warrington for September 2026, please visit the college's website to complete the on-line application form. If you are unable to complete the on-line application form, please contact the college direct to request a paper application form.

The closing date for applications is 31 October 2025.

Applications for admission to Key Stage 5 (Year 12) should be made directly to the college. Any in- year transfers for UTC Warrington should be made to the School Admissions Team.

To apply for places at UTC's and Studio schools based in other Local Authorities please contact the schools direct.

Notification of places for September 2026

The offer information will be sent by email if one is provided, or by post to your home address on 2 March 2026.

If you are offered a place, it is assumed that you will accept, and no further action will need to be taken. The college will contact you in due course to invite you to the school and arrange admission.

If you are refused a place at the school, your letter will include a breakdown of how places were allocated in accordance with the school's oversubscription criteria. It will also include details regarding waiting lists and appeals procedures.

UTC Warrington

Dallam Lane, Warrington, WA2 7NG

Telephone: 01925 737067

Principal: Mr Christopher Hatherall

Email info@utcw.co.uk **Website:** www.utcw.co.uk

Admission Authority: UTC-Warrington Academy Trust **PAN:** 130

Below is an extract from the school's Admissions Policy and Arrangements document. A full copy of these arrangements can be obtained from the school.

Oversubscription criteria for Years 9 &10 for 2026

Please note that we have been advised that, due to exceptional circumstances, UTC Warrington is no longer accepting an Year 9 intake for September 2026. For any enquiries relating to this, please contact the college info@utcw.co.uk

1. Looked after and Previously Looked After Children i.e. children who are in the care of the Local Authority or who were previously in its care but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.

2. Children whose siblings already attend UTCW and continue to do so on the date of admission. Sibling is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, step-brothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters.

3. Pupils living nearest to the school measured as a direct distance from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using a geographical information address point system. Distances will be measured in a straight line from the central point of the child's permanent place of residence to the central point of the school. (Central points are as defined by the Warrington Local Land and Property Gazetteer and distances are based on the same system.)

Details of University Technical Colleges (UTC) and Studio Schools in other Local Areas

Crewe Engineering & Design UTC

Joseph Locke Building
West Street
Crewe
CW1 2PZ
Telephone: 01270 218150
Email enquiries@creweutc.org.uk
Website: utccrewe.co.uk

Chester International School

Queen's Park Campus
Queens Park Road
Handbridge
Chester
CH4 7AE
Telephone: 01244 735610
Email :
enquiries@chesterinternational.co.uk
Website: chesterinternational.co.uk/

UTC@MediaCityUK

100-102 Broadway
Salford
M50 2UW
Telephone: 0161 661 3947
Email
information@utcmediacityuk.org.uk
Website: utcmediacityuk.org.uk

The Studio School

41 Greenland Street
Liverpool
L1 0BS
Telephone: 0151 230 1330
Email Admin@Thestudio-Liverpool.co.uk
Website: thestudioliverpool.uk/

Liverpool Life Sciences: University Technical College

41 Greenland Street
Liverpool
L1 0BS
Telephone: 0151 230 1320
Email admin@lifesciencesutc.co.uk
Website: lifesciencesutc.co.uk

Knutsford Academy - The Studio

Bexton Road
Knutsford
WA16 0EA
Telephone: 01565 633294
Email contact@knutsfordacademy.org.uk
Website: knutsfordacademy.org.uk

Moving between Secondary Schools/ In Year Transfers

In-year transfer applications are those requesting transfer from one school to another outside of the normal admissions round, for example when a family moves house part way through a school year.

If your request for an in-year transfer is not because of a change of address or relocation from overseas, you are strongly advised to think carefully before you transfer your child to another school since this causes an unnecessary break in your child's education. Problems that your child may be experiencing may not go away simply as a result of a change of school. If you are worried about your child's progress at school, you are advised first of all to discuss matters with the Headteacher. Whenever possible, it is better for transfers to take place at the beginning of a term.

Fair access protocol

Each Local Authority must have a Fair Access Protocol agreed with schools in its area including Academies and Free Schools, to ensure that unplaced children especially the most vulnerable are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This ensures that access to education is secured quickly for children who have no school place and that all schools in an area admit their fair share of pupils who meet Fair Access Criteria.

A copy of our **Fair Access Protocol can be viewed or downloaded from our website**.

UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces) and Crown Servants

For families of service personnel, with a confirmed posting to Warrington, or Crown Servants returning to live in Warrington from overseas, a school place will be allocated in advance of the family arriving into the area providing the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address. In the event the school is oversubscribed the advised address will be used when considering the application against the oversubscription criteria.

To apply

Application forms and further information on the in-year transfer process **is available on our website** or by contacting the School Admissions Team on **01925 446226**.

Proof of a change of residence will be required in the form of Council Tax Liability or written evidence of a final completion of sale/purchase or if moving to a rented property a long-term tenancy agreement.

Taking up an offered place

If you are offered a place, you will be asked to contact the school allocated to make arrangements for admission. All offers are available for four school weeks only. If a child has not started by the date given in the offer letter, then the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Appeals procedure

If your child is refused a place at any school for which you have expressed a preference, you have the right to appeal against this decision. This applies whether the school is Community, Faith or Academy.

The letter telling you that a place cannot be offered to your child will include details of how to appeal if you wish to do so. The letter will also tell you the time limit within which you can appeal where appropriate. A letter acknowledging receipt of your appeal paperwork will be sent to you.

Before deciding whether to appeal, you should think about the school's published policy for admitting pupils, your reasons for wanting your child to attend the school, your child's view of what school he/she should attend and how strong a case you have. You may also want to visit the school where you have been offered a place.

Appeals are passed to the clerk to the appeals panel who then provides further advice for appellants on the procedures followed.

If your appeal is successful there will be no assistance with transport unless you qualify under the Local Authority's transport policy.

If your appeal is declined, you are not able to appeal again for the same school for the same academic year unless there has been a material change of circumstances (e.g. change of residence) or the circumstances of the school have changed.

For pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan any appeal about the school named in the Education, Health and Care Plan would be to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal rather than the independent appeals panel.

Transport to and from school

You should not confuse the right to express preferences for schools with an entitlement to assistance with travel or transport provision.

The Local Authority is required by law to provide or pay for free transport for pupils who have to travel more than the statutory distance to their nearest suitable school.

For pupils at secondary schools this distance is over three miles, measured by the shortest available walking route.

Additional transport assistance for low-income families

Transport assistance will normally be given in the form of a bus pass. In certain circumstances, for example, where there are no suitable local buses available, a Local Authority bus pass may not be appropriate. If this is the case and you are entitled to travel assistance, you will be reimbursed for fares or mileage incurred. The level of financial assistance will be determined by the Local Authority.

There are some extended rights for free travel in relation to low-income families. For the purpose of the travel policy low income is defined as:

- Those who are eligible for free school meals or
- Those whose families are entitled to their maximum level of working tax credit.

Documentary proof of entitlement will be required at the time of application.

For more information and to apply **please visit the transport webpage.**

Sustainable school travel

As part of the initiative to make access to education sites easier and to reduce traffic and parking congestion around schools, the Local Authority is working with schools on the School Travel Plan programme. All schools are required to have effective travel plans in place to ensure that students wishing to walk, or cycle are able to do so safely.

If your chosen school is implementing its plan, it will be supporting walking and cycling to school by promoting it as a healthy option and highlighting safer routes to the school. The Local Authority's School Travel Adviser can help plan routes and give advice on road awareness and safety as well as park & stride schemes and walking buses. Details are available through the school or by contacting the Transport Planning Team on 01925 443414.

General school information

Children with special educational needs

Most children with special educational needs will attend an appropriate mainstream school where the Governing Body/Academy Trust will be responsible for ensuring their needs are met. A small number of children who have special educational needs which cannot be met from within the resources normally available to similar age will be assessed by the Local Authority in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Children and Families Act 2014 and in accordance with the Code of Practice 2014. Assessments are carried out after consultation with parents or guardians who are given full details of the results.

For children where an Education, Health and Care needs assessment has been carried out and an Education, Health and Care Plan is issued, dependent on the outcome of the assessment, these children can have their needs provided for in either mainstream schools, designated provisions attached to mainstream schools, or special schools. Any appeal with regard to the school named in the Education, Health and Care Plan will be to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SEND).

A leaflet entitled 'Special Needs Provision in Warrington' is available from Warrington SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs, Disability Information Advice & Support Service) on **01925 442978**.

School meals

Currently school meals are available in all schools. In secondary schools there is a cash cafeteria service. Facilities are provided in all schools for pupils to eat snack meals brought from home.

Free school meals

All state funded infant school children, from reception to year two, automatically receive a free school lunch. Your child may be eligible for free school meals outside of infant school if you receive certain benefits.

For further information and to download a copy of application form, **please visit the Free school meals page of our website** or call **01925 446226** and ask for a free school meals application form.

Clothing and uniform

Headteachers/Principals, in consultation with school Governors, decide whether or not there should be a school uniform. Details of uniform, where appropriate, are given in each school's prospectus, which can be obtained from the school.

The Local Authority does not help parents with the cost of school uniform or physical education kit. All pupils are expected to conform to a reasonable standard of clothing and

personal appearance. Parents are asked to try to ensure that pupils attend school suitably dressed.

The school curriculum

All state funded schools must offer a curriculum which covers the National Curriculum Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. They must also provide the Key Stage 3 and 4 assessment arrangement for pupils.

The curriculum includes at Key Stage 3 the core and foundation subjects and religious education. At Key Stage 4 there is a set of core subjects that must be offered alongside a number of curriculum entitlement areas from which students will be able to choose options. Schools with sixth forms are free to choose the range of A-Level and Vocational courses on offer. If you need detailed information about the curriculum, please ask your child's school.

Sex education must be provided by all secondary schools. Teachers are aware of the need to treat sex education sensitively and in appropriate groupings of pupils. The school should keep a written statement of the policy they adopt on sex education and consult parents about their sex education programme.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or any part of sex education except where this is provided as part of the National Curriculum.

All secondary schools must also provide religious education (RE) and collective worship, but parents do have the right to withdraw their children from RE and/or collective worship if they so wish.

In Faith schools' religious education is given in accordance with the school's Trust Deed. In community schools the locally agreed syllabus is followed.

There is a procedure for considering complaints from parents about the curriculum, religious education, collective worship and related matters. Please refer, in the first instance, any complaint to the school and then its Governing Body in line with the school's complaints policy.

Public examinations

At Key Stage 4, the GCSE is the main way of assessing pupils but there are also a growing number of vocational qualifications being offered at 14-16. Post 16 there is also a range of GCE AS/A2 examinations, BTEC and OCR examinations and other vocational qualifications on offer.

All pupils are entered, without charge, for prescribed public examinations (e.g. GCSE or GCE A levels) for which they have been prepared by the school, unless the Headteacher decides on educational grounds not to enter the pupil, or the parents request that the pupil is not entered. Where pupils, without good reason, fail to attend public examinations for reasons other than illness, or fail to complete course work necessary to meet examination requirements, parents will be required to refund the cost of entry/subject fees charged by the

Examination Board. In cases of absence through illness a medical certificate must be provided.

Discipline and exclusions

Schools are aware that they share with parent's responsibility for the behaviour of children in their care. All school Governing Bodies maintain a written statement of general principles for their school's behaviour and discipline policy. Details are available from each school.

Warrington schools promote positive behaviour and offer a nurturing environment in which children and young people are encouraged to reach their potential, within a safe environment where clear boundaries exist.

Parents requiring further information should seek advice from their child's school, the Inclusion Services Team on **01925 442917** or SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs, Disability Information Advice & Support Service) on **01925 442978**.

Charges for school activities and remission of charges

The law prohibits charges for most activities that take place in school time. Local Authorities and school Governing Bodies wishing to charge for any activities where this is permitted must have a policy on charging and on remission and must draw up and maintain a written statement of policy which must be available to parents on request.

Parents access to pupil records

Parents may inspect their child's school record. If you wish to look at your child's record you should apply direct to the school.

Parent governors

All school Governing Bodies include parent Governors who are normally elected by parents of registered pupils at the school. Further information can be obtained from the school.

Personal property

The Local Authority does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to personal property whilst on or left on the school premises.

Post-16 information

Warrington schools with post-16 provision

The following state funded schools have their own post-16 provisions.

Barrow Hall College, Great Sankey High

01925 724118/9

Lymm High School

01925 755458

University Technical College – Warrington

01925 737067

Each school will hold open evenings and will produce a prospectus which contains a great deal of information about the courses on offer and specific entry requirements. Those young learners who are in year 11 who wish to apply to join their own school's post-16 provision will still be required to apply for a place. Please be aware that each school has an admission limit for pupils joining the sixth form from another school (external candidates) these figures are published in their prospectus.

If you wish to seek advice on what to do in the future before applying, you can visit the **Warrington Life** webpage.

Other Warrington post-16 provision

In addition to sixth form courses in some state funded schools a wide variety of full-time and part-time courses are offered at colleges. Details of the courses available can be obtained direct from the colleges.

The following colleges are located in the Borough of Warrington:

Priestley College

Loushers Lane
Warrington
WA4 6RD
Telephone: 01925 415415

Warrington and Vale Royal College

Winwick Road
Warrington
WA2 8QA
Telephone: 01925 494494

More information about sixth form colleges in the Warrington area can be found on our website

How to apply

Please contact the colleges direct to request a prospectus and obtain information on how to apply.

Transport

Local Authorities have a duty to publish an Annual Transport Policy Statement for Post-16 Learners. A copy of which is available to view or download on our website:

It should be noted that Warrington Borough Council does not generally provide transport assistance for students aged 16 and above and therefore any transport that is provided is on a discretionary basis.

Subsidised transport is generally available for students in the 16 – 19 age groups in the form of a student saver card for use on bus services provided by Network Warrington. Other bus operators may also offer discounted fares for students. To find out more information please contact the provider direct. Network Warrington contact telephone number is **01925 634296** or alternatively you can email the team.

The 16–19 bursary scheme

The Government has made some limited funding available to schools, colleges and training providers to allocate to young people who need financial support to stay in further education or training. This is known as the 16–19 Bursary Fund. For more information or to apply please contact the colleges direct.

Recommended school term dates 2026/27

Please note these are general holiday dates for guidance and information only. Dates should always be confirmed with individual schools before family holidays are booked. Parents are reminded that holidays should not be taken in term time.

Term	Date of opening	Date of closing
Autumn First Half Term	Wednesday 2 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
Autumn Second Half Term	Monday 2 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
Spring First Half Term	Monday 4 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
Spring Second Half Term	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
Easter Weekend Friday 26 March and Monday 29 March 2027 falls at the start of the Spring holiday break		
Summer First Half Term	Monday 12 April 2027	Friday 28 May 2027
May Day – Monday 3 May 2027		
Summer Second Half Term	Monday 7 June 2027	Wednesday 21 July 2027

Useful contacts

Warrington Borough Council

Education Services

1 Time Square
Warrington
WA1 2NT

Postal Address:
East Annexe
Town Hall
Sankey Street
Warrington
WA1 1UH

School Admissions

Tel: 01925 446226 Lines open 9am to 12 noon
Email:
schooladmissions@warrington.gov.uk
Web: www.warrington.gov.uk/schools

SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs, Disability Information, Advice and Support Service)

Tel: 01925 442978
Email:
imacdonald@warrington.gov.uk

SEND Service

Tel: 01925 442917
Email: SEND@warrington.gov.uk

School Transport

Mainstream Transport Email:
schooltransport@warrington.gov.uk

Warrington Life (Careers information)

Tel: 01925 442211
Web:
www.warrington.gov.uk/warrington-life

SEND Transport

Tel: 01915 442111 - lines open 9:30am to 12 Noon - Monday to Thursday
Email:
SENDtransport@warrington.gov.uk

Web:
warrington.gov.uk/schooltransport

Diocesan authorities

Catholic

Diocese of Shrewsbury

2 Park Road South
Prenton
Wirral, CH43 4UX
Tel: 0151 652 9855

Archdiocesan Schools Department

Liverpool Archdiocesan Centre for Evangelisation
Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park
Liverpool, L17 1AA
Tel: 0151 522 1000

Church of England

Chester Diocesan Board of Education

Church House,
5500 Daresbury Park
Daresbury,
WA4 4GE
Tel: 01928 718834

Liverpool Diocesan Board of Education

St James House,
20 St James Road
Liverpool,
L1 7BY
Tel : 0151 709 9722

Other Local Authority contact details

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Tel: 0300 123 7039
Email:
admissions@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Cheshire East Council

Tel: 0300 123 5012
Email:
admissions@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Halton Borough Council

Tel: 0151 511 7338

schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk

Liverpool Council

Tel: 0151 233 3006
admissions@liverpool.gov.uk

St Helens Council

Tel: 01744 671030
Email:
schooladmissions@sthelens.gov.uk

Salford City Council

Tel: 0161 793 2500
Email:
schooladmissions@salford.gov.uk

Trafford Council

Tel: 0161 912 5007
Email:
school.admissions@trafford.gov.uk

Wigan Council

Tel: 01942 489013
Email: schoolplaces@wigan.gov.uk

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