TRANSFERRING TO SECONDARY SCHOOL 2025

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATION

- All London boroughs and some of the surrounding boroughs participate
- Around 90,000 children applying across London; over 20,000 apply to schools outside their own borough
- Parents receive no more than one offer on 2nd March

THE STRONG PERFORMANCE OF MERTON SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- ATTAINMENT IS ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGES
- ALL MERTON SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE JUDGED TO BE GOOD OR OUTSTANDING BY OFSTED
- INCREASINGLY, PARENTS ARE NAMING A MERTON SCHOOL AS THE ONE THEY MOST WANT THEIR CHILD TO ATTEND
- FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MERTON SCHOOLS BY VISITING THEIR WEBSITES
- FURTHER DETAILS OF EACH SCHOOL'S OPEN EVENING EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON SCHOOL WEBSITES

Merton Secondary School Open Events – 2024

Raynes Park High School	Thursday 25 September **Open mornings**: 8 and 10 October	3.30–6.30pm From 9:00am	Booking not required
Ricards Lodge High School	Thursday 25 September **Open mornings:** 29 Sept to 3 October - Head @ 9am, tours at 9.30am	5–7.30pm (last entry 7pm) 9.00–10.30am	Register on school website for open **mornings**
Rutlish School	Thursday 18 September **Open Mornings** – 24 & 25 September Tours 9am and 10am	5–7.30pm (last entry 7pm) 9am – 10.30am	Book for open evening here Book for open mornings here

Harris Academy Merton	Thursday 18 September	5–8pm	No open mornings Last entry 7.30pm https://www.harrismerton.org.uk/
Harris Academy Morden	Thursday 2 October	5.30–8pm	No open mornings https://www.harrismorden.org.uk/
Harris Academy Wimbledon	**Open mornings**: 18 and 30 September and 2nd October	9.15am and 11.30am	https://www.harriswimbledon.org.uk/120/academy-admissions Book for morning tours here

Ursuline High School	Wednesday 24 September **Open mornings:** 29 Sept–3 October	6.30–8.30pm 9am -11am	Year 5 and 6 pupils and parents/carers only Year 6 only **Ticketed entry only** https://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-events-2
Wimbledon College	Thursday 25 September **Open mornings:** 29 & 30 Sept & 1 October	5.30–8.00pm Last tour 7pm 9am	Year 6 only **Ticketed entry only** https://www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk/openevents
St Mark's Church of England Academy	Wednesday 24 September **Open mornings:** 23 and 30 September & 14 october	5–7.30pm 9.00 - 10.00am	Registration details on school website. tickets

MAKING APPLICATIONS

- Maximise the chance of being offered a school you are happy with by using all six preferences
- Include Merton schools and any out-borough schools on the same application
- Obtain school prospectuses and visit school websites to find out about school open evenings
- Consider your likely chances of success. Pay attention to each school's criteria and how places have been offered in the past

MAKING APPLICATIONS CONTINUED

- Use your preferences as a wish list but make sure some are realistic. If you do not get one of your higher preferences, you automatically go on the waiting list
- If you already have a child attending a school you are applying for, make sure you name them on your application
- Apply online and ensure your application is submitted by the closing date (31 October)
- Any information on your application, including the address you use, will be checked

DEADLINES

- 31 October is a national closing date
- Changes of address can be considered up to 8 December
- Deadlines for supplementary forms or test registrations may be different – check with the schools you are applying for

HOW THE OFFER PROCESS WORKS

- Schools do not know your preference order
- Applications are ranked solely according to the admissions criteria for the school
- If you are eligible for more than one school, the higher preference of these will be offered
- Those who are not eligible for any of their preferences will receive an alternative offer

AFTER OFFER DAY

- If you don't get your first preference school, don't panic
- Read the outcome text fully
- Don't reject an offer without an alternative school place secured
- Remain on waiting lists
- Appeal for preferred schools

2025 IN NUMBERS

- 69% of Merton parents received a first preference offer
- 90% received one of their top three preferences
- 94% received one of their six preferences
- 99% of Merton parents made their application using the online system

HELP & SUPPORT

- Information about the admissions process is available from your home authority website. For Merton this can be found at www.merton.gov.uk/admissions
- Video guidance on setting up online account
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2WXUD8Fido
- Detailed enquiries which cannot be answered from the website information can be made to Merton on 020 8274 4906 or admissions@merton.gov.uk
- Can WCPS help? parentsupportadvisor@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk

Borough	**London Borough of Croydon**
Address	People Department, 2nd Floor (Zone A), Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, CR0 1EA
Telephone	020 8726 6400
Email	school.admissions@croydon.gov.uk
Website	Croydon admissions site
Borough	**Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames**
Address	School Admissions, Guildhall 2, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 1EU
Telephone	Please email for a call-back
Email	kingston.admissions@achievingforchildren.org.uk
Website	Kingston admissions site

Borough	**London Borough of Lambeth**
Address	School Admissions Team, London Borough Lambeth, PO Box 734, Winchester, S023 5DG
Telephone	020 7926 9503
Email	schooladmissions@lambeth.gov.uk
Website	Lambeth admissions site

Borough	**London Borough of Sutton**
Address	Cognus Admissions Team, Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1EA
Telephone	020 8770 5000
Email	suttonadmissions@cognus.org.uk
Website	Sutton admissions site

Borough	**London Borough of Wandsworth**
Address	Pupil Services, Wandsworth Council, Children's Services Department, Town Hall Extension, Wandsworth High Street, London, SW18 2PU
Telephone	020 8871 7316
Email	admissions@wandsworth.gov.uk
Website	Wandsworth admissions site