



## School Admissions, Children's Services

County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

☎ 01305 221000

🌐 [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

**Date:** 2 November 2020

**Ref:** Starting School Application

☎ 01305 221060

✉ [admissions@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions)

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Children eligible to start school for the first time in September 2021

Date of Birth	Type of Application	Closing Date	Offer Date
01.09.16 – 31.08.17	Starting School September 2021	15 January 2021	16 April 2021

If your child is eligible to start school for the first time in September 2021, you must apply for a school place through the local authority where you live. It is not enough to register your interest with the school or have your child attend a nursery attached to the school.

The **closing date** for on time applications is the **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

It is very important that your application is received by this date. You stand a much greater chance of securing a place in one of your preferred schools if you apply by 15 January.

#### If you are a Dorset resident:

Please read the [Parents' Guide](#) before making your application. The Parents' Guide contains lots of useful information on how the school admissions process works, how to apply and what evidence you may need to supply to support your application. Some schools have their own admissions policies which will detail what evidence they may require and how places are allocated at their school. You can read or download the guide and the schools' admissions policies on our [website](#).

**Apply online** at our website [Dorset School Admissions](#) via a smart phone, tablet or computer. You can create an account and then complete the application which should take no longer than half an hour. You will receive a confirmation email once you have submitted your application. If you cannot access the internet, please call 01305 221060 to discuss alternative ways of applying.

**Apply by the closing date** this will give your child the best chance of being offered a place at one of your preferred schools. If you post anything to us, such as copies of evidence, please use the address at the top of this letter. The Post Office can provide you with a proof of posting receipt. If you would like us to confirm receipt of your copies of evidence, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

**If you are not a Dorset resident:**

If you do not live in Dorset you should contact your own local authority for information on how to apply for a school place and not complete a Dorset Council application form. This includes those living in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole who should apply through their home authority of BCP.

If you need any further information or help please contact School Admissions on **01305 221060**.

Yours sincerely

*Ed Denham*

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Sufficiency School Places Manager