

21. Transfer from Primary to Secondary

Some Questions Answered

These are the answers to some of the questions parents ask most often about transfer to secondary education.

At what age will my child enter secondary school?

The Council's policy is that children transfer to secondary school in September of any year if they have reached the age of eleven on or by 31 August in that year.

What are the arrangements for transfer from primary to secondary school?

If your child is attending a Community or a Church in Wales primary school and is due to transfer to a secondary school next September you will receive correspondence from the Council in the autumn term of year 6. All parents must apply for the school they wish their child to attend/transfer to, even if it is the school identified by feeder primary school arrangements. Failure to apply could lead, if demand exceeds the number of places available, to some children being denied a place at their local school. You are strongly advised to apply by the closing date. The Council will consider applications received prior to the closing date before any late applications. If you wish to apply for Stanwell or St Richard Gwyn Catholic Secondary School, you should apply to the Governing Body of the School, who will consider them in the light of their own admission arrangements. Details of the admission arrangements for the Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales Secondary School are available from the school itself.

How are admissions decided if a school is oversubscribed?

In deciding admissions, the council applies the published oversubscription criteria which is found in this booklet

What should I do if I want my child to attend a denominational secondary school, (i.e. a Church in Wales or Catholic secondary school) or a Foundation school?

Admissions to these schools are dealt with by the Governors of each school. Details of how to apply for Church in Wales secondary schools are distributed to pupils in their final year at County primary schools and the Church in Wales primary schools. Details about the admission arrangements for the Catholic secondary school will be distributed to pupils in their final year at Catholic primary schools. In addition, any parent can obtain information about the admission arrangements for a particular denominational or foundation school from the school itself. Admission policies for our Foundation and Voluntary Aided Schools are provided in Appendix 2 and 3.

What arrangements are there for me to appeal?

Please refer to our appeals section. An Appeal Panel is independent of the Council and comprises of lay persons, persons who have experience in education, are acquainted with the educational conditions in the area, or are parents of a registered pupil at another school. Parents who have applied unsuccessfully for an alternative Community secondary school and who wish to appeal must submit their appeal form

by the deadline provided. Appeals submitted after the deadline will not be considered except in exceptional circumstances, e.g. where a family changes address at a time which makes compliance with the deadline impossible. Separate and distinct Appeal Panels hear appeals against decisions of aided and foundation schools. Guidance on such an appeal should therefore be sought from the schools concerned.

At what age can my child legally leave school?

A child can legally leave school on the last Friday in June following their 16th birthday.