



**Admissions Policy
2026/27
(September 2026 entry)**

**Author:
Responsible Committee:**

**Mr R Newman
Full Governing Body**

The school will have a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 182

Section 324 of the Education Act 1996 requires the governing bodies of all maintained schools to admit a child with an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school. Haileybury Turnford will admit all children with an EHCP who names the school.

If there are fewer applications than places available, all applicants will be offered a place. If there are more applications than places available, the criteria outlined below will be used to prioritise applications.

Rule 1 Children looked after and who were previously looked after

Rule 1: Children looked after and children who were previously looked after including those 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. Previously looked after children are those who were looked after but ceased to be so because of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order.

Rule 2 Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school

Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to Haileybury Turnford.

A panel of Hertfordshire County Council officers will determine whether the evidence provided is sufficiently compelling to meet the requirements for this rule. The evidence must relate specifically to the school applied for under Rule 2 and must clearly demonstrate why it is the only school that can meet the child's needs.

Rule 3 Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age-range of the school

Note: the 'normal age range' is the designated range for which the school provides, which is Years 7 to 13 at Haileybury Turnford.

Rule 4 Children of staff at the school

Children of staff directly employed by the school on a permanent contract (full-time or part-time) who have been either:

- i. employed by the school for a minimum of two years at the time of application
- ii. recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

In either case, the member of staff must be the biological or adoptive parent of the child, or have legal parental responsibility for that child or (where the child is the child of the member of staff's partner) must have lived with the child at the same address for at least two years prior to the date of application.

Rule 5 Children who live in the priority area for whom it is their nearest Hertfordshire maintained school or academy that is non-faith, co-educational and non-partially selective

Non-partially selective means that the school does not offer any places based on academic ability.

Rule 6 Children who live in the priority area who live nearest to the school

The school's priority area comprises Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon, Nazeing, Northaw & Cuffley, Stanstead Abbots, Waltham Cross.

Rule 7 Children living outside the priority area on the basis of distance, with those living nearest to the school given priority

These rules are applied in the order they are printed above. If more children qualify under a particular rule than there are places available, for rules 2-6, the next rule will be applied to further prioritise children.

Tie break

A tiebreak will be used if 2 applications have addresses that measure the same distance from a school. For example, if 2 applications had identical home to school distance measurements, a random tiebreak would be used to decide which applicant is offered a place.

Every applicant is given a unique random number for each of their school preferences. When a random tiebreak is needed, this random number is used to allocate the place – the lowest number is given priority.

If 2 applications were received from the same block of flats, the applicant with the lower door number would be classed as nearest and offered a place because they are likely to be closer to the ground floor and, therefore, the school.

See Explanatory notes and definitions 2026/27 for a full explanation/definitions.

Continuing Interest (Year 7 places)

After places have been offered, Hertfordshire County Council will maintain the school's continuing interest (waiting) list. A child's position on the continuing interest (CI) list will be determined by the admission criteria outlined above and a child's place on the list can change as other children join or leave it. The county council will contact parents/carers if a vacancy becomes available and it can be offered to a child.

Continuing interest lists will be maintained for every year group until the end of the summer term and confirmed to parents at the time of allocation. To retain a CI application after this time, parents must make an In Year application.

In Year Admissions

Hertfordshire County Council's coordinate In Year Admissions scheme for Haileybury Turnford. Information about how to apply and the online application form can be found at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/inyear. Parents can also contact the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043 for a paper application form. Parents should return the application form direct to the County Council.

The oversubscription criteria outlined above is used to prioritise all In Year applications to Haileybury Turnford.

Fair Access

The school participates in Hertfordshire County Council's Fair Access Protocol and will admit children under this protocol before those on continuing interest, and over the Published Admission Number (PAN) if required.

Priority Areas

The co-educational priority areas in the admission rules are based on the following towns, parishes/unparished areas. These apply to Rules 4 and 5. Haileybury Turnford has retained the county's priority areas as part of their admission arrangements for 2026/27 and is therefore included in the list below along with all other academies and foundation schools (as marked by an asterix*)

1	Priority Area	Towns/Parishes/Unparished areas	Schools
	Hitchin	Hexton, Hitchin, Holwell, Ickleford, Langley, Lilley, Offley, Pirton, Preston, St. Ippolyts, Wymondley.	The Priory*
2	Letchworth Garden City	Letchworth Garden City	Fearnhill*, The Highfield*
3	Baldock and surrounding villages	Ashwell, Baldock, Bygrave, Caldecote, Clothall, Edworth, Hinxworth, Newnham, Radwell, Rushden, Sandon, Wallington, Weston.	The Knights Templar*
4	Buntingford, Puckeridge and Royston	Anstey, Ardeley, Aspenden, Barkway, Barley, Braughing, Brent Pelham, Buckland, Buntingford, Cottered, Great Munden, Hormead, Kelshall, Meesden, Nuthampstead, Reed, Royston, Standon, Therfield, Westmill, Wyddial.	
5	Stevenage	Aston, Benington, Datchworth, Graveley, Great Ashby, Knebworth, Stevenage, Walkern.	Barclay*, Barnwell*, Marriotts, The Nobel*, Thomas Alleyne*
6	Hemel Hempstead, Kings Langley, Berkhamstead, Tring, Garston, Watford, Chorleywood and Rickmansworth	Abbots Langley, Aldbury, Berkhamsted, Bovingdon, Chipperfield, Chorleywood, Croxley Green, Flaunden, Great Gaddesden, Hemel Hempstead, Kings Langley, Little Gaddesden, Maple Cross, Nash Mills, Nettleden with Potten End, Northchurch, Rickmansworth, Sarratt, Tring, Tring Rural, Watford, Wigginton.	The Astley Cooper, The Hemel Hempstead, Longdean*, Kings Langley*, Laureatte Academy*, Westfield*

7	Harpenden and St. Albans	Ayot St. Lawrence, Colney Heath, Flamstead, Harpenden, Harpenden Rural, Kimpton, King's Walden, London Colney, Markyate, Redbourn, Ridge, Sandridge, St. Michael, St. Pauls Walden, St. Stephens, St. Albans, Shenley, Wheathampstead.	Beaumont,* Katherine Warrington* Roundwood Park*, Samuel Ryder* Sandringham*, Sir John Lawes*
8	Welwyn Garden City, Hatfield, Potters Bar and Brookmans Park	Ayot St. Peter, Codicote, Essendon, Hatfield, North Mymms, Potters Bar, Welwyn Garden City, Welwyn, Woolmer Green.	Monks Walk*, Onslow St. Audreys*, Ridgeway Academy* Stanborough*
9	Ware and Hertford	Bayford, Bengoe Rural, Bramfield, Brickendon Liberty, Great Amwell, Hertford, Hertford Heath, Hertingfordbury, Hunsdon, Little Berkhamsted, Little Munden, Sacombe, Stanstead St. Margarets, Stapleford, Tewin, Thundridge, Ware, Wareside, Watton-at-Stone, Widford.	Simon Balle*
10	Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth	Albury, Birchanger, Bishop's Stortford, Eastwick, Elsenham, Furneux Pelham, Gilston, Great Hallingbury, High Wych, Little Hadham, Little Hallingbury, Much Hadham, Sawbridgeworth, Sheering, Stocking Pelham, Thorley.	
11	Borehamwood Bushey and Watford Rural	Aldenham, Bushey, Elstree, Borehamwood, Watford Rural	
12	Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Turnford and Cheshunt	Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon, Nazeing, Northaw & Cuffley, Stanstead Abbots, Waltham Cross.	Robert Barclay*, Haileybury Turnford*

Appeals

Parents have the right of appeal against non-admission to this school.

The appeals process is handled directly by Hertfordshire County Council on behalf of the governing body.

Parents wishing to appeal who applied through Hertfordshire's online system should log in to their online application and click on the link "register an appeal". Out of county residents and paper applicants should call the Customer service Centre on 0300 123 4043 to request their registration details and log into www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals and click on the link "log into the appeals system".

For In Year applications, Hertfordshire County Council will write to you with the outcome of your application and, if you have been unsuccessful, will include registration details to enable you to login and appeal online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals

Sixth Form Arrangements

- The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the Sixth Form is 30 for external students.
- The minimum academic criteria for all students is, for Level 3 courses at least 5 GCSEs Grade 9-4 and above; or Grade 5 and above for subjects students wish to study at Level 3.
- Students with less than this requirement will be directed towards Level 2 courses.
- If oversubscribed with external applicants, priority will be given to:
 - Children with an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP)
 - Children Looked After or Previously Looked After
 - Children with siblings at the school
 - Children living nearest the school

If there is a tie break with two children living identical distances both will be admitted.

Definition: Children looked after and children who were previously looked after, including those 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 or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order.

If a student has not provided accurate information or has given misleading information the school reserve the right to withdraw the place

Parents have the right of appeal against an admission to this school. The appeals process is handled directly by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) on behalf of the governing body. Once a parent has received written notification from the school with its decision to refuse admission, email school.appeals@hertfordshire.gov.uk. An Appeal must be heard by an independent panel.

Parent cases will be prepared in writing but only submitted to the team organising the Appeal for distribution to the Panel members, and the Representative of the school.

Explanatory notes and definitions for the admission arrangements for 2026/27

The following definitions apply to terms used in the admissions criteria:

Rule 1: Children looked after and children who were previously looked after including those 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. Previously looked after children are those who were looked after but ceased to be so because of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order¹ or a special guardianship order².

Places are allocated to children in public care according to Chapter 7, Section 2 of the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012.

A “child looked after” is 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 (section 22(1) of The Children Act 1989)

All children adopted from care who are of compulsory school age are eligible for admission under rule 1.

Children in the process of being placed for adoption are classified by law as children looked after providing there is a Placement Order and the application would be prioritised under rule 1.

Children who were not “looked after” **immediately** before being adopted or made the subject of a child arrangement order or special guardianship order, **will not** be prioritised under rule 1. Applications made for these children, with suitable supporting professional evidence, can be considered under rule 2.

¹ Child arrangements order

Under the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amended section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders which settle the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

² Special guardianship order

Under 14A of The Children Act 1989, an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian or guardians.

Children previously looked after abroad and subsequently adopted will be prioritised under Rule 1 if the child’s previously looked status and adoption is confirmed by Hertfordshire’s “Virtual School”.

The child’s previously looked status will be decided in accordance with the definition outlined in The Children & Social Work Act 2017:

- i. to have been in state care in a place outside England and Wales because he or she would not otherwise have been cared for adequately, and
- ii. to have ceased to be in that state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is in “state care” if he or she is in the care of, or accommodated by –

- (a) a public authority,
- (b) a religious organisation, or
- (c) any other organisation the sole or main purpose of which is to benefit society.

Rule 2: Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school

Rule 2 applications will only be considered at the time of the initial application, unless there has been a significant and exceptional change of circumstances within the family since the initial application was submitted.

All schools in Hertfordshire have experience in dealing with children with diverse social and medical needs. However, in a few very exceptional cases, there are reasons why a child has to go to one specific school.

Few applications under Rule 2 are agreed.

All applications are considered individually but a successful application should include the following:

- a) Specific recent professional evidence that justifies why only one school can meet a child’s individual needs, and/or
- b) Professional evidence that outlines exceptional family circumstances making clear why only one school can meet the child’s needs.
- c) If the requested school is not the nearest school to the child’s home address clear reasons why the nearest school is not appropriate.
- d) For medical cases – a clear explanation of why the child’s severity of illness or disability makes attendance at only a specific school essential.

Evidence should make clear why only one school is appropriate. A Rule 2 application will generally not be upheld in cases where more than one school could meet the child’s need.

In exceptional cases relating to a disability, where more than one school in the county can meet the child’s specific needs, a clear and compelling case can be made for the “nearest” school with the relevant facilities, environment or location. You must clearly explain why attendance at the “nearest” school with these facilities is essential.

Applications under Rule 2 can only be considered when supported by a recent letter from a professional involved with the child or family, for example a doctor, psychologist or police officer. The supporting evidence needs to demonstrate why only one named school can meet the social/medical needs of the child.

Applications for children who were not “looked after” immediately before being adopted or made the subject of a child arrangement order or special guardianship order may be made under this rule.

Further details on the Rule 2 process can be found in the [Rule 2 protocol](#)

Definition of sibling

A sibling is defined as: the sister, brother, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, child of the parent/carer or partner or a child looked after or previously looked after¹ and in every case living permanently² in a placement within the home as part of the family household from Monday to Friday at the time of this application.

A sibling must be on the roll of the named school at the time the younger child starts or have been offered and accepted a place.

If a place is obtained for an older child using fraudulent information, there will be no sibling connection available to subsequent children from that family.

² A sibling link will not be recognised for children living temporarily in the same house, for example a child who usually lives with one parent but has temporarily moved or a looked after child in a respite placement or very short term or bridging foster placement. If an applicant lives at more than one address, the sibling must also reside at the same address for the majority of the school week. The sibling's address will be verified by the school.

Multiple births

The school will admit over the school's published admission number when a single twin/multiple birth child is allocated a place at a school.

Home address

The address provided must be the child's current permanent address at the time of application.

- "At the time of application" means the closing date for applications
- "Permanent" means that the child has lived at that address for at least a year

Where a family has not lived at an address for a year, they must be able to demonstrate that they own the property or have a tenancy agreement for a minimum of 12 months* and the child must be resident in the property at the time of application.

The application can only be processed using one address. If a child lives at more than one address (for example due to a separation) the address used will be the one where the child lives for the majority of the school week. If a child lives at two addresses equally, parents/carers should make a single joint application naming one address.

If the child's living arrangements change after you apply and they now spend the majority of the school week living at a different address, you must provide evidence of the new permanent address.

We may ask for proof of your address at any time. If, following an initial investigation and/or any investigation by with the Shared Anti-Fraud Service, the county council concludes that a fraudulent address has been used, correspondence confirming this decision will be sent to the applicant. We will explain the decision-making process and the action that will be taken with the application. We will also confirm which address will be used as the child's permanent home address for admission allocation purposes.

If we receive more than one application with different address details and **parents don't agree**, parents/carers should provide court documentation to evidence the address that should be used for admission allocation purposes. If two applications are received, with different addresses, neither will be processed until the address issue is reconciled.

If two different applications are received for the same child from the same address but contain different preferences, parents/carers will be invited to submit a joint application or provide court documentation to evidence the preferences that should be used for the admission process. Until the preference issue is reconciled neither application will be processed.

If duplicate applications are made to different LAs for the same child, those LAs will liaise and share information. The child's home LA will determine if the application will be processed.

For the transfer application rounds, if the initial differing applications (one or both) were received "on-time", an amended joint application will also be considered "on-time" if received before the "late deadline". If the amended joint application is received after the late date, it will be treated as "late". The late deadline for the 2026/27 transfer application process is 2nd December 2025 for secondary applications. If this date changes, an amendment will be published on the HCC admissions web pages at the start of the 2026/27 application process in September 2025.

* If, because of the nature of the agreement, it is not possible to provide a 12-month tenancy agreement, alternative proof of address will be requested.

Fraudulent applications

The school, in liaison with Hertfordshire County Council, will do as much as possible to prevent applications being made from fraudulent addresses, including referring cases to the Shared Anti-Fraud service for further investigation as necessary.

Address evidence is frequently requested, monitored and checked and school places will be withdrawn when false information is deliberately provided. Hertfordshire County Council will take action in the following circumstances:

- When a child's application address does not match the address of that child at their current school;
- When a child lives at a different address to the applicant;
- When the applicant does not have parental responsibility;
- When a family move shortly after the closing date of applications when one or more of the following applies:
 - The family has moved to a property from which their application was less likely to be successful;
 - The family has returned to an existing property;
 - The family lived in rented accommodation for a short period of time (anything less than a year) over the application period;
 - Official/public records show an alternative address at the time of the application
- When a child starts at the allocated school and their address is different from the

address used at the time of application.

Parents/carers will need to show that they have relinquished residency ties with their previous property and they, and their child(ren) are permanently residing at the address given on the application form.

Address Visits

Where suspicions lie as to the validity of an address, the Admissions & Transport Team may make unannounced visits to the applicant's claimed address or any other address suspected to be the normal permanent residence of the child's primary carer or the address where the child resides for the majority of the week. The aim of these visits is to verify that the address information provided on the application form is accurate. All visits will be made by two members of the Admissions & Transport Team.

If an address appears to be unoccupied at the time of a visit, a letter will be left confirming that an attempted visit took place. This letter will ask the occupant to contact the Admissions & Transport Team within 24 hours to confirm receipt of the letter and details of the occupant. It is reasonable to expect that an applicant living at the address stated on the application form can respond within 24 hours. If contact takes longer than 24 hours, the applicant will be asked to explain why and provide evidence why they did not respond within the specified time.

If, following the initial investigation or any further investigation, the Admissions & Transport Team concludes that, on the balance of probability, a fraudulent address has been used on an application, correspondence will be sent to the applicant confirming this decision. This will outline the factors taken into account in making the decision as well as the action which will be taken with the application. It will also set out which address will be considered to be the child's permanent home address for the purpose of their application for admission to school.

Home to school distance measurement for purposes of admissions

A 'straight line' distance measurement is used in all home to school distance measurements. Distances are measured using a computerised mapping system to two decimal places. The measurement is taken from the AddressBase Premium address point of your child's house to the address point of the school. AddressBase Premium data is a nationally recognised method of identifying the location of schools and individual residences.

Maps showing address points for individual residences and school are available on request.

Definition of "nearest school" for secondary admissions

The "nearest school" definition for rule 5 is "the nearest Hertfordshire maintained school or academy that is non-faith, co-educational, and non-partially selective.

Note – non-partially selective means that the school does not offer any places based on academic ability.

Applications from children* from overseas

All children of compulsory school age (5 to 16 years) in England have a right of access to education. However, where a child is in England for a short period only, for example less than half a term, it may be reasonable to refuse admission to a school.

An application for a school place will only be accepted for such children currently overseas if, for In Year applications, proof is provided that the child will be resident in Hertfordshire within two weeks. In Year allocations are made on the assumption that the child will accept the school place and be on roll within that timescale.

For the Secondary transfer process, applications will not normally be accepted from, nor places allocated to, an overseas address. The exception to this (for both In Year and transfer processes) is for children of UK service personnel and crown servants (and from military families who are residents of countries with a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK). In these cases HCC will allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a HCC Unit postal address or quartering area address, for consideration of the application against oversubscription criteria.

Applications will also be considered, and places offered in advance for these families, if the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date but does not provide a quartering or unit address because the family will be residing in private accommodation. In these cases, if the family does not already have a permanent private address in Hertfordshire, the military base or alternative “work” address in Hertfordshire will be used for allocation purposes. If the family already has an established alternative private address, that address will be used for admission purposes as long as the parents provide evidence of the address and that the child will be living there.

HCC will also consider accepting applications from children* whose family can evidence intent to return to and/or permanently reside in Hertfordshire prior to the start of the new academic year. These applications, if accepted, will be processed from the overseas address until sufficient evidence is received to show the child is permanently resident in Hertfordshire. Evidence must be submitted at the time of application.

Evidence submitted after the date for late applications (2nd December 2024 for secondary transfer) cannot be taken into account before National Allocation Day. Decisions on these applications will be made by a panel of senior officers and communicated with parents within 6 weeks of the closing date for applications.

If an applicant owns a property in Hertfordshire but is not living in it, perhaps because they are working abroad at the time of application, the Hertfordshire address will **not** be accepted for the purposes of admission until the child is resident at that address.

Children from overseas, other than those mentioned above, do not generally have automatic right of entry to the UK. An application for a school place will not therefore be accepted until they are permanently resident in Hertfordshire. Proof of residency such as an endorsed passport or entry visa will be required with the application, in addition to proof of Hertfordshire address, for example a council tax bill or 12-month rental agreement.

*Children who hold full British Citizen passports (not British Dependent Territories or British Overseas passports) or have a UK passport describing them as a British citizen or British subject with the right of abode and normally have unrestricted entry to the UK. Freedom of movement into the UK for European Economic Area and Swiss citizens ended at the end of 2020. EEA (Irish citizens aside) and Swiss national children entering the UK after the end of 2020 are now treated the same as other foreign nationals. This means they will no longer have the right to enter the country to access a state-funded school unless they fall within certain immigration categories. Find out more about [visas and immigration](#) and the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) for European Economic Area and Swiss citizens.

Age of Admission and Deferral of Places

Summer born children (1st April – 31st August) – Entry to Year 7

Out of year group applications for Year 7 will be automatically accepted for summer born children admitted into Reception the term after their fifth birthday (i.e. chronologically a year late) and who still remain out of year group.

Children Out of Year Group

The school's policy is for children to be educated within their correct chronological year group, with the curriculum differentiated as necessary to meet the needs of individual children. This is in line with DfE guidance which states that "in general, children should be educated in their normal age group".

If parents/carers believe their child(ren) should be educated in a different year group they should, at the time of application, submit supporting evidence from relevant professionals working with the child and family stating why the child must be placed outside their normal age appropriate cohort. DfE guidance makes clear that "it is reasonable for admission authorities to expect parents to provide them with information in support of their request – since without it they are unlikely to be able to make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case".

The school's governing body, as the relevant admission authority, will decide whether the application will be accepted on the basis of the information submitted. The governor's decision will be based upon the circumstances of each case including the view of parents, the Principal, the child's social, academic and emotional development and whether the child has been previously educated out of year group. There is no guarantee that an application will be accepted on this basis. If the application is not accepted this does not constitute a refusal of a place and there is no right to an independent statutory appeal.

Similarly, there is no right of appeal for a place in a specific year group at a school. The internal management and organisation of a school, including the placement of pupils in classes, is a matter for the Principal and Senior Leadership of the school.

The governing body is ultimately responsible for making this decision for applications made to their school.

Admissions Contact

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