TOWER HAMLETS

Starting **Primary School** in Tower Hamlets 2022

For children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018

Closing date for applications: 15 January 2022
National offer day: 19 April 2022

Apply online at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

Key dates at a glance

From September 2021
Read this booklet and consider which schools you want to apply for. You can visit schools to help you decide.

1 September 2021 to 15 January 2022
Complete the application online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk** or via **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**
Apply for up to six schools in preference order. If you want to apply for a voluntary aided (church) or free school, you must also obtain and complete the school's supplementary information form.

15 January 2022
This is the closing date for applications. Make sure you apply online by this date.

January to April 2022
Pupil Services will process your application to decide at which school your child can be offered a place.

19 April 2022
You will be sent a letter and email by Pupil Services informing you of the outcome of your application. If you are offered a place at a school, the school will write to you to confirm the arrangements for you to accept the place.

4 May 2022
Deadline for you to confirm acceptance of a place, directly with the school you have been offered. You can also add your child's name to any other school's waiting list.

17 May 2022
Deadline for making an appeal for admission to a preferred school/s.

June 2022
Appeals heard, parents can attend the hearings.

September 2022
Your child starts school.

Foreword by the Corporate Director

Dear parents and carers,

Starting primary school is a big moment for both parents and children. We know that you want your child to have the best start in life and choosing the right school for your child can be a difficult decision. This booklet is designed to help you make the right choice so that your child is happy and successful at school.

Inside you will find information about schools in Tower Hamlets, including addresses, phone numbers and maps showing the location of our schools. We have also tried to answer the most frequently asked questions.

It is a good idea to visit some schools and take the time to see the range of opportunities that are available before making up your mind. School staff are always pleased to meet new parents and carers. As long as you make an appointment first, they will be happy to show you around. Please note that schools may have additional protective measures in place as a result of the pandemic. All our schools produce brochures about themselves, so you may want to contact those you are most interested in to ask for a copy. For more information and advice, please call Pupil Services on 020 7364 5006. We have multilingual as well as Bengali speaking admissions officers.

You should make your application online and, if you do not have a computer, you can access the internet at any of the borough's Idea Stores.

The website address is **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**. Please see page 32 for more information.

More than 97 per cent of Tower Hamlet's primary schools are judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and the borough has some of the fastest improving schools in the country. The most recent national primary school results show that very high standards are common in schools across the borough.

This has meant a rise in the number of parents wanting to send their children to our schools so there is a greater demand for school places in the borough. As a result, most schools in Tower Hamlets receive more applications than there are places available, so some children may not be offered a place at their preferred school(s). Please be aware of this when deciding which six schools to apply to in order of preference.

We are proud that Tower Hamlets schools are inclusive and that children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are educated well and thriving in our mainstream settings.

I am sure you have very high aspirations for your child and expect high levels of achievement as well as good behaviour and regular attendance.

The council and our schools look to work in partnership with parents and carers. Together we can ensure your child and all children in Tower Hamlets progress well and make the best of their time at school. You can be sure our teachers and other staff strive for nothing short of excellence and, working with you, we can achieve this for your child.

We look forward to your child attending one of our schools.

Yours sincerely,

James Thomas
Corporate Director, Children and Culture
London Borough of Tower Hamlets

This booklet explains how to apply for a place at a primary school in Tower Hamlets.

You will find this information useful if you are applying for a nursery place for your son or daughter, if they are due to start reception or you would like them to transfer from one school to another.

You should start thinking about which nursery or early years unit you would like your child to go to when they are two years old.

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, they should start reception in the 2022/23 school year.

You need to apply by 15 January 2022 to secure a place for your child in the 2022/23 school year.

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Nursery schools, classes and early years units

1

Nursery admission

Children will usually start nursery school or a nursery class in the September following their third birthday. It is possible for eligible children to access a funded place from the beginning of the term after their third birthday. Both part-time (15 hours per week) and full-time (30 hours per week) places are available at Tower Hamlets nurseries.

Who is nursery education for?

Nursery Education is free for all three to four-year-olds. Your child is entitled to 15 hours free early years education per week and this is available from the term after their third birthday. Eligible parents may also be entitled to an additional 15 hours per week. Some parents of two-year-olds are also eligible for 15 hours free nursery, but must meet certain government (income-based) criteria.

The benefits of choosing nursery education

Attending a nursery school or a nursery class gives children a valuable introduction to school. They will have the opportunity to develop their skills and to be part of a large group of children of their own age. We work in partnership with parents to give your child the best possible start to their education and prepare them for Reception class.

Our nurseries are run by experienced, early years trained teachers and supported by nursery nurses and early years trained teaching assistants. All nursery education in Tower Hamlets nursery schools and nursery classes in primary schools are rated 'Good' by Ofsted and many are rated 'Outstanding'.

The nursery day is arranged to allow each child to develop at their own pace. Nursery classes are usually organised in the same way as a school, with three terms. A typical day in nursery consists of two sessions: a morning session from approximately 9am to 12 noon and an afternoon session from approximately 12.30pm to 3.30pm. Some settings offer wrap-around-care which means children can attend breakfast club (e.g. from 8am) and after school care (e.g. until 5.30pm).

For more information on how a typical day in nursery is arranged you can contact your local nursery. You can also learn more about the early years foundation stage from **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/earlyyears** or the Department for Education (DfE) website (**www.gov.uk/dfe**).

Nurseries welcome visits from parents as we want you to feel confident that you pick the right setting for your child. It is well worth visiting a few nursery settings before making your application.

Nursery provision in Tower Hamlets

Nursery Schools

There are five nursery schools in Tower Hamlets:

- Alice Model Nursery School
- Children's House Nursery School
- Columbia Market Nursery School
- Old Church Nursery School
- Rachel Keeling Nursery School

More information about these nursery schools can be found on page 26.

Primary Schools with Nursery Classes

There are 60 maintained primary schools which have an attached nursery class in Tower Hamlets. A full list of these nursery schools and classes, along with more information about them, can be found on page 26.

Other pre-school provisions

Private, voluntary and independent nurseries, preschools and playgroups also offer pre-school provision. A list of these providers is available from the Family Information Service on **020 7364 6495** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

1 Nursery schools, classes and early years units

Nursery class sessions

Nursery classes are part-time for 15 hours or full-time for 30 hours each week during school term.

Usually children attend either a morning or afternoon session of three hours, or a full day. Where a school offers both morning and afternoon sessions, the school will allocate the sessions. Sessions may be allocated in consultation with parents. No guarantee is made of the session time when a place is offered. Children from multiple births will be offered the same session.

Early learning for two-year-olds

Some children may be eligible for 15 hours of funded childcare from the term after their second birthday. Unlike the nursery education for three and four-year-olds which is open to all, the early learning for two-year-olds is only available to children and families that meet certain criteria.

Children love to play and learn, and Tower Hamlets has some excellent nurseries, pre-school playgroups and childminders where they can do just that.

Your child could take up their place in the term after they turn two-years-old, with 15 hours a week of free care, if you are on a low-income, if your child has additional needs or if your child is looked after by the council. If you have an older child at school and they receive Free School Meals, your younger children will probably be eligible for a free two-year-old place too.

Your child will be eligible if any of the following apply:

- they have a current Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they have left care through special guardianship or an adoption or child arrangement order
- they are looked after by the local authority

Families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF) are not eligible for a funded Early Learning for two-year-olds.

You can check whether your child is eligible by going to: **www.myearlylearning.co.uk**

Alternatively, you can go to your nearest children's centre, and they will be able to do the check. For more information on children's centres, or to check your eligibility you can call the Family Information Service on 020 7364 6495 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). The Family Information Service will also be able to discuss with you what childcare is available and what best suits you and your child.

Start dates

Children will usually start nursery school or a nursery class in the September following their third birthday. However, it is possible for eligible children to access a funded place from the beginning of the term after their third birthday.

Nursery schools, classes and early years units

1

How to apply

If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 and you would like a nursery place for September 2022, you must submit an online application by 16 February 2022.
You should apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**

It is very important not to apply late, because applications made after the closing date will be considered only after places have been allocated to children whose parents applied on time. Nursery class places are in considerable demand and most schools will not have vacancies once all applications that have been received on time have been processed.

When you have completed and submitted your application you will receive an instant email confirmation. You can then make changes to your application up until the 16 February 2022 closing date.

If you are not able to make an online application, or you are not a resident of Tower Hamlets and wish to apply for a Tower Hamlets nursery, you should contact Pupil Services on 020 7364 5006.

If you wish to apply to a private nursery or a nursery in another local borough, you must contact the nursery directly.

To find out how to apply for a nursery place after a September 2021 start i.e. January 2022 or April 2022, please contact Pupil Services on 020 7364 5006 or email school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk.

For further information on nursery admission, including instructions on how to make an online application, please refer to the **'Starting Nursery in Tower Hamlets'** brochure, which can be found here: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

Notification of decisions

If your application was received on or before the closing date (16 February 2022), Pupil Services will notify you of the outcome of your application by letter and email. The letter will be sent on **6 May 2022** and will name the nursery at which a place has been offered for your child. The email will be sent after 5pm on the same day.
This offer will be for a part-time place only.

If you have not been offered a place at any of your chosen nurseries, you will be sent a list of nurseries that still have places remaining and given the opportunity to visit and apply to one of these nurseries. Your child will also be placed on the waiting list for your preferred nursery.

Part-time and full-time funding

All parents are entitled to 15 hours per week of free early years education for 38 weeks each year from the start of the school term after their child's third birthday until the child reaches compulsory school age i.e. the term after their fifth birthday.

An additional free 15 hours will only be available for families where both parents are working (or the sole parent is working). Typically, each parent must earn the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the national minimum or living wage and less than £100,000 a year to be eligible.

For more information on eligibility go to:
www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds.

The local authority will only offer part-time places. Once your child has been offered a part-time place, you may request a full-time place from your nursery. Full-time places will be subject to availability and will depend on the eligibility criteria outlined in the previous paragraph.

Parents not eligible for the additional free 15 hours may still access a full-time place by paying a top-up fee. This fee will be set by each nursery. Please contact your local nursery for further information

Appeals

As nursery is non-statutory, parents do not have the right of appeal if they do not get their preferred nursery choice. However, parents may contact the local authority for more information on the reason as to why their child was not offered a place.

1 Frequently asked questions about nursery admission

Q Is there financial help available for nursery provision?

All parents are entitled to 15 hours per week of free early years education for 38 weeks each year from the start of the school term after their child's third birthday until the child reaches compulsory school age i.e. the term after their fifth birthday.

An additional free 15 hours will only be available for families where both parents are working (or the sole parent is working). Typically each parent must earn the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the national minimum or living wage and less than £100,000 a year to be eligible. For more information on eligibility go to: **www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds**.

For more information you can contact the Family Information Service on **020 7364 6495** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Q Can my child attend more than one provision?

It is not recommended for a child to be attending more than one type of under-fives activity (e.g. playgroup in the morning and nursery class in the afternoon). The adjustment is too demanding and confusing for most children of this age and much of the benefit from either activity could be lost.

Q Can I transfer my child between nurseries?

Once children are admitted to nursery education, it is in their interests to remain at that school until they have to move on and start Reception. Children take at least a term to settle and can find it very upsetting to move at this stage. Transfers will only take place at the start of each term and should only be considered if a family has moved from the area or on exceptional grounds. Please contact Pupil Services to request a Nursery in-year transfer form.

Q When can a child move from a nursery to primary school?

Children normally start the reception year of primary school at the beginning of the school year (September) following their fourth birthday. If your child is born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 they will start reception in September 2022.

Children who attend a school's nursery class do not automatically transfer to reception, as decisions on primary school admissions are taken separately. For more information on when to apply for a reception place for your child, please contact Pupil Services on 020 7364 5006.

Q If a child is already in the school's nursery class, is there an automatic right to a place in the reception class?

No. When parents apply for their children to start reception, no priority is given to children that attend the nursery of the school. The decision on whether or not a place can be offered will be made in accordance with the school's admission policy. The policy used for community schools in Tower Hamlets is explained on page 11.

Q Can I get help with free early education or childcare for my two-year-old?

Your two-year-old child may be entitled to 15 hours education or childcare a week if you are in receipt of low-income welfare benefit or your child meets other criteria. For a list of eligibility criteria visit **www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds**.

Your child would be eligible from the beginning of the term after their second birthday if you qualify for a funded place. For more information, call the Family Information Service on **020 7364 6495** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Reception admission 2

Starting primary school

Children start primary school at the beginning of the school year in which they become five years of age. A child born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 should start school in September 2022.

When to make your application

If your child is due to start reception in September 2022, you must complete and submit your application by 15 January 2022.

What you should do before you apply

Starting primary school in the reception year is an important stage in your child's life. It is important that you carefully consider which schools to apply to.

Decide which schools to apply for

You should visit your local schools to help you decide. You can make an appointment by contacting each of them directly. You should also look at:

- **the school's prospectus** (information about how the school runs)
- **the school's most recent Ofsted inspection report** (www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports)
- **the school's performance results** (www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance).

You should also consider the likelihood of being offered places at the schools you prefer. This booklet explains the applications process and how school admission decisions are made.

How to apply

If you live in Tower Hamlets, you will need to complete the application via the local authority, even if you want to apply to schools outside of the borough. You should apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**.
Please see page 32 of this brochure for instructions.

When you have completed and submitted your application you will receive an instant email confirmation. You can then make changes to your application up until 15 January 2022.

If you are not able to make an online application, you should contact Tower Hamlets Pupil Services on **020 7364 5006** or via email to **school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk**.

If you live in another London borough you can contact their School Admissions team for a copy of their primary school brochure. There will be the facility for you to apply online. A list with the contact details of nearby London local authorities is provided on page 37.

The different types of primary school in Tower Hamlets

There are five different types of maintained primary (government funded) schools within Tower Hamlets:

Community – these schools are run by the council and the local authority decides which children can be admitted.

Voluntary aided – these are either Church of England or Roman Catholic schools and each school's governing body will decide on admissions. Priority is given to children whose families can provide evidence they practice the school's particular faith.

Foundation Trust – these schools are charitable trusts and work in partnership with a charity or businesses. Decisions on admissions are made by the local authority on behalf of the school's board of trustees.

Academy – schools that are directly funded by central government and independent of local authority control. Decisions on admissions are made by the school's trust board.

Free school – these are schools established by parents, teachers, charities or businesses and are independent of the local authority. Decisions on admissions are made according to the school's admission criteria and by the school's board of trustees. However, applications for admission must be made via the local authority.

Applications for admission to all of the above schools must be made via the local authority.

A list of the Tower Hamlets maintained schools with their description, location, website and contact details can be found on pages 26-28 of this brochure. Details of admissions policy and oversubscription criteria for schools can be accessed via the school's website.

2 Reception admission

The number of schools you can apply for

It is strongly advised that you apply to six primary schools. It is important that you list them in order of preference i.e. the school you want the most should be your first choice. This will decide which school is offered if your child qualifies for admission at more than one of the schools you have applied to.

You must not name independent (private) schools on your application. Instead, you should apply directly to these schools.

You must complete an application for a reception place, even if your child is already in the school's nursery

Children do not have an automatic right to transfer from a school's nursery class to its reception. You must therefore make a separate application for a reception place.

Please also note that by making an application you are not guaranteed that a place will be offered, as children in the nursery are not prioritised above other applicants.

You must submit an application with the local authority, even if you have already completed the school's form

The school's form will be a 'supplementary form' and is used by voluntary aided (church) or free schools to gather additional information that will enable the school to consider your application under its faith or other criteria. You must also submit an application with the local authority.

Changing your address

If you move address before 15 January 2022, you will be able to log in and update the address on your online application. You can also make changes to the schools you wish to apply to.

If you move address after 15 January 2022, you must inform Pupil Services in writing immediately. It may still be possible to change your choice of schools.

A change in your circumstances

If an older child transfers to another school after 15 January 2022 and you need to change your younger child's school preferences because of this, you should contact Pupil Services. Depending on when your older child transfers, it may be possible to change your school preferences.

If any medical or social circumstances within the family change after 15 January 2022 which means that you feel your child would need a place at a particular school, please contact Pupil Services.

If you live outside of Tower Hamlets, you must complete and submit your application to the borough where you live.

Applying after the closing date

Applications received after 15 January 2022 will be dealt with after all on-time applications have been considered. Most schools will not have any places available after considering on-time applications.

Processing applications

The local authority's Pupil Services team will process applications and coordinate the decisions for Tower Hamlets children, including those applying to schools in other boroughs. This is done as part of the Pan London Admissions System, which seeks to ensure that as many children as possible are placed in a school at the earliest opportunity.

Your application for each school is processed individually and, in each case, a decision is taken to determine if your child can be offered a place. If we find that we can place your child at more than one of your school preferences only one school will be offered. This will be for the highest preference school at which an offer can be made.

Making the decisions on applications

The decisions on applications for Tower Hamlets community schools are made by Pupil Services. If a community school receives more applications than there are places available, the local authority's oversubscription criteria are used to determine who can be offered a place. The oversubscription criteria are set out on the next page.

For voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies it is the school governors who will make decisions, based on the information you provided in your application and the school's supplementary form. Admission policies and oversubscription criteria for these schools can be found in their prospectuses, on their websites or at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

Reception admission 2

If one or more of the schools you have applied for is outside of Tower Hamlets, the decision will be taken by the local authority or the admission authority for the school and notified to Pupil Services. Once all admission decisions are made Pupil Services will then coordinate the offers of places as explained above.

The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), St Paul's Way Trust School, Bygrove Primary School, Stebon Primary School and The Clara Grant Primary School have delegated decisions on admissions to the local authority and, therefore, use the same oversubscription criteria as Tower Hamlets community schools.

The number of places available at each Tower Hamlets school

The number of children who can be admitted to each Tower Hamlets school for the school year 2022/23 is set out on pages 26-28 of this booklet.

Oversubscription criteria for Tower Hamlets community schools and nurseries

If a community school receives more applications than places available it will not be possible to offer every child a place. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), which names the school applied to, will be placed before all other applicants.

The remaining places will be filled in the priority order below.

1. Children Looked After by the local authority, including adopted children who were previously looked after and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order. This also includes children who were previously in care abroad;
2. Children for whom it is deemed there is strong medical or social reason to attend the school applied to (See Note 1);
3. Children living within the catchment area of the school who have a sibling attending the school (including the school of a separate infants and junior schools) and who will continue to do so on the date of admission (See Note 2);
4. Children whose parent is a member of staff who has been employed at the school concerned for two or more years at the time of application and/or children of a member of staff who has been recruited to fill a vacancy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (See Note 3);
5. Children who live within the catchment area of the school and for whom the school applied for is their nearest community school within the catchment area;
6. Other children from within the catchment area of the school;
7. Children living outside of the catchment area with a sibling at the school;
8. Children living outside of the catchment area of the school.

NOTES

Note 1: This can include the parents', carers' or other family members' medical conditions and the family's social needs. Parents must complete the relevant section on the application form and attach medical and/or social reports from a suitable professional (e.g. a doctor or social worker) to support the application, explaining why the particular school is most suitable with regards to the family circumstance.

Note 2: Includes the sibling of a child who does not live within the school's catchment area, but who was admitted on or before 31 August 2021. For this purpose, sibling means a whole, half or step-sibling resident at the same address.

Note 3: Priority will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year*, with an additional maximum limit of no more than:

- Four children throughout the whole school (for single and one-and-a-half form entry schools)
- Eight children throughout the whole school (for two form entry schools)
- Twelve children throughout the whole school (for three form entry schools, and upwards)

Planned admission number	Max per year group	Max per school
30 to 45 pupils	1	4
60 pupils	2	8
90 pupils	3	12

*An exception to the above will apply to children of multiple birth or those born in the same academic year.

2 Reception admission

Tie-break

In the event of oversubscription within categories 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (on the previous page), priority will be given to children who live closest to the school by the shortest walking distance. In the event of two distances being the same, a decision will be made by random allocation.

A digital ordnance survey map is used to measure the distance from the home address to the school's designated official entrance. The distance is measured from the centre point of the address to the centre point of the main entrance of the school, measuring along the centre line of the shortest approved route. The system will take account of local footpaths and public walkways with regard to the safety of the route. It does not take account of the location of pedestrian crossing points.

Distances measured by other means i.e. private car, pedometer or internet websites are likely to result in different calculations as they may use different parameters for the address locations and the underlying network which is used to calculate the distance, and therefore should not be relied upon as evidence that the local authority's distance calculation is incorrect.

The local authority's measurement system is designed to be reliable and consistent.

Catchment areas

The school catchment area maps are on pages 19-25. Please also see pages 29-30 for an explanation of school catchment areas and the tie-break criteria.

When you will hear about the outcome of your application

If your application was received on or before the closing date (15 January 2022), Pupil Services will notify you of the outcome by letter and email. The letter will be sent on 19 April 2022 and will name the school at which a place has been offered for your child. The email will be sent after 5pm on 19 April 2022.

Confirming acceptance of the school offer

Shortly afterwards, the school will contact you to confirm whether you want to accept or refuse the place. You must inform the school of your decision within ten school days. You need to accept the offer by the reply date or it could be withdrawn. If an offer is withdrawn or you refuse it, your child will not have a school place. You are, therefore, advised to accept the offer even if is not your most preferred school.

Providing the school with proof of your address

When offering school places, the local authority will check addresses to prevent fraudulent applications. The school will, therefore, need proof of where you and your child are living. You will need to provide the school with your original 2021/22 council tax bill or council tax benefit letter or notice, as well as one of the following documents that show your address:

- a utility bill (gas, electricity or water) from the last three months. We do not accept a mobile phone bill or an internet bill;
- a statement from your bank or building society or a credit card statement from the last three months; or
- your child benefit entitlement letter from HM Revenue & Customs for your 2021/22 claim.

Your name, your child's name and your address on these documents must match the information on your application form. If you change your address at any time in this process, you must provide proof of your new address by sending the documents shown above to Pupil Services. If you do not inform Pupil Services that you have moved, the offer made to your child may be withdrawn if your child gained an unfair advantage over other applicants.

Families of UK service personnel with a confirmed posting in Tower Hamlets, or Crown Servants returning from overseas to live in Tower Hamlets, will need to provide an official letter (ie from the MoD or FCO) which declares a relocation date and a unit postal address or quartering area address.

If you do not have an offer at any of the schools you have applied for

If an offer cannot be made at any of the schools you applied for, the letter that Pupil Services sends you on 19 April 2022 will name the school at which a place has been reserved for your child. This will be the nearest school to your home address where there is a vacancy at that time. The letter will also provide information on the schools that still have places remaining, how you can add your child's name to additional school waiting lists and how you can exercise your right of appeal.

Making further applications

If you are unhappy with the school at which a place has been reserved for your child, you can apply for a place at one of the schools with places remaining.

Please contact Pupil Services if you wish to make a further application.

What happens next

Pupil Services will then advise you of the outcome of any further school applications you make in May 2022. It is strongly recommended that you secure a place at one of the schools that still have places.

Your child's waiting list position at your preferred schools, or the outcome of an appeal that you decide to make, will not be affected by your child having an alternative school place.

School waiting lists

Waiting lists are ordered using the oversubscription criteria in the local authority's admission policy. The date an application is made is not considered. Therefore, a child's position on the waiting list can go down as more names are added to the waiting list.

If your child is not offered a place at a community school you named as a higher preference, they will remain on the waiting list until the end of the 2021 autumn term. Normally children are settled in school by this stage. However, if you wish for your child to remain on the waiting list beyond this point, you will need to complete an in-year application form. This is available from Pupil Services by calling 020 7364 5006. Your child's name will then stay on the waiting list for the remainder of the school year.

You will need to contact voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies directly to confirm their waiting list procedures. Schools outside of the borough may operate waiting lists differently and you should check with the admission authority.

2 Reception admission

How to appeal against a decision not to offer a place

You have the right to appeal any of the schools listed on your application form for which a place could not be offered to your child. If all six of your applications are unsuccessful, you have the right to appeal for all of them.

Appeals for community schools must be submitted online via **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.
Appeals for community schools should be made by 17 May 2022.

If you wish to appeal against the refusal of a place at a voluntary aided school, free school or academy, you should contact the school directly for details of the appeals procedure and how appeals must be made.

Appeal timetable

Your appeal will normally be heard within 30 school days of the closing date from its receipt and before your child is due to start the reception year.

The independent appeal panel

An independent panel made up of three people with knowledge of education will hear your appeal. None of the panel members will have any connection with the school or admissions authority. They are served by an independent clerk who will contact you to confirm the date, time and venue for the hearing and invite you to attend.

The appeal panel will accept comments in writing or in person at the appeal hearing. The appeal panel's decision is final and both you and the local authority are required to accept it. Please note that government rules' limit a school's infant class size to a maximum of 30 pupils.

These rules also mean that the independent appeal panel would not normally overturn a decision if it finds that it was made fairly and correctly. Consequently, there is much less chance of a successful appeal for a place in the reception class.

Deferring entry to the reception year

Children are normally admitted to their school reception class in September, at the start of the school year following their fourth birthday. Your child will get the most from their education in a school reception class if they start at the same time as their friends and other children of the same age. However, if you feel there are particular reasons why your child should not start reception in September, for example your child may have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you can ask for your child's entry to be deferred until later in the school year. You should first discuss this with the head teacher or manager at your child's current nursery or playgroup. This is especially important if your child has significant developmental delay. Following a discussion with the head teacher or manager at your child's current nursery, you should also speak with the head teacher of the school your child will be attending.

A leaflet with further advice and a form to request your child's deferral can be obtained by calling the Pupil Services team on 020 7364 5006. You should not request to defer your child's admission to one school because you are awaiting a place at another.

Where a place is deferred it cannot be given to another child, but your child must enter school by the beginning of the school term following their fifth birthday and within the school year for which the offer was made. You can also request that your child attends reception part-time from September 2021 up until the latest date entry can be deferred.

The latest point that your child's entry can be deferred depends on when your child was born:

Your child was born between	Point until which entry can be deferred
September 2017 – December 2018	January 2022 (Start of the spring term)
January 2018 – August 2018	April 2022 (Start of summer term)

Tower Hamlets schools will try to accommodate parents' wishes wherever possible and will try to ensure there is no gap in a child's education.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) / Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

If you feel that your child may have special educational needs and disabilities, you should discuss your concerns with the head teacher and Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at your child's nursery as early as possible. If your child does not attend nursery, you should contact the SEN team and discuss your concerns with them.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), the SEN Section will work closely with Pupil Services to arrange a school place. When you submit your application, please ensure that you have clearly stated that your child has an EHCP.

The SEN section will then consult your preferred school to see if it can meet your child's needs.

The school must then respond to us before a place is offered – please bear in mind that schools do have the right to object if they do not feel that they are able to meet a child's needs. If this happens, we can offer further advice.

Please call the SEN team on **020 7364 4880** if you have any queries. You may also wish to contact the Parents' Advice Centre on **020 7364 6489**.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

It is the view of the local authority that children should start primary school with their normal age group ie the beginning of the school year following their fourth birthday. Primary schools in Tower Hamlets can address an individual child's educational needs through an appropriately differentiated and enriched curriculum.

However, a parent may seek admission for their child outside the normal group, for example, if:

- they are gifted and talented
- they have missed a significant amount of education due to ill-health
- they were born prematurely and would otherwise be in the year below.

If you wish to request for your child to be admitted outside the normal year group, you should include a letter with your reception application and provide a report from an appropriate education or health professional.

Your request will be considered by the admission authority for the school. In the case of community schools this will be the local authority's Director of Education and Partnerships. For schools which are their own admission authority, this will be the governing body.

When considering your request, the admission authority will seek the views of your child's nursery headteacher and other relevant professionals, before deciding whether or not your child's needs can be met within the current year group. The decision will be notified to you in writing.

If it is agreed that your child should start school earlier than the normal year group, it cannot be guaranteed that a place will be offered at one of your preferences.

If your request is for your child to start reception later than the normal year group, and this is refused, your child will need to start school at the normal time.

2 Frequently asked questions on reception admission

Q Is my child guaranteed a place at one of their six preferred schools?

The local authority expects that most families will be offered a place at one of their six preferred schools. However, this cannot be guaranteed. Unfortunately, it is not always possible for everyone to get a place at the school they most prefer.

When a school receives more applications than the number of places available, not all children can be admitted. It is important therefore that you fully consider the likelihood of your child getting a place at a preferred school before you make your application.

To increase the likelihood of your child getting a place at one of your preferred schools you are advised to apply to six schools. If you are applying to community schools, your child is more likely to be offered a place at schools in the catchment area for your home address, especially if this is the nearest community school within your catchment area.

Q Is my child more likely to be offered a place at my first preference school?

Applications for each school are determined in line with the school's admissions policy with no consideration given to whether or not it is the first, second, third or sixth preference school. However, if your child qualifies for a place at more than one school, the order in which you listed your preferences on your application form will determine the school you are offered.

This school will be the highest listed preference at which an offer can be made. Your applications for schools listed as lower preferences will then be cancelled. This is why it is important to list the schools you are applying to in order of preference on the application form.

Q If my child is already in the school's nursery class, is there an automatic right to a place in the school's reception class?

No. When parents apply for their children to start reception, no priority is given to children that attend the nursery of the school. The decision on whether or not a place can be offered will be made in accordance with the school's admission policy. The policy used for community schools in Tower Hamlets is explained on page 11.

Q Are voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies part of the school catchment area system?

All voluntary aided schools, Sir William Burrough Academy and the Canary Wharf free schools have their own admissions policies and do not use the catchment area system.

The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), St Paul's Way Trust School, Bygrove Primary School, Stebon Primary School and The Clara Grant Primary School use the local authority's admissions policy and, therefore, the catchment area system.

Q I live in one of the neighbouring boroughs; will I fall into one of the school catchment areas?

Some of the school catchment area boundaries cover areas in neighbouring boroughs. If you live in Hackney, Newham or the City of London and your home address is in one of the school catchment areas your child will have the same priority as those who reside in Tower Hamlets.

If you live outside of the school catchment area, you are welcome to apply for a school place in Tower Hamlets but will not have priority for those schools. To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

Q Can I apply to a school that is not within my catchment area?

You can apply to any school within the borough. However, if the school is not within your catchment area, your child will not have priority for that school and will only be considered after those children who live within the school's catchment area. You can also apply to schools outside of Tower Hamlets.

In-year admissions, school transfer and moving from infant to junior

3

In-year admission

In-year admission is where a child starts primary school at a time other than the normal point of entry in reception. This is often when a child has moved into the Tower Hamlets area from another part of the UK or overseas.

If you have recently moved to the Tower Hamlets area, please contact Pupil Services immediately. They can tell you about the schools with places that are nearest to your home address and provide you with an application form to complete for your child's school admission.

Pupil Services contact details are:

Pupil Services
Town Hall, Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
London E14 2BG
Tel: 020 7364 5006
Email: school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk

School transfer

You may want your child to transfer from one Tower Hamlets primary school to another. This can be arranged by Pupil Services, but you will first need to speak with the head teacher of your child's current school and together complete 'Part B' of the in-year application form that will be provided.

From September 2021 there will also be a facility to submit your in-year application online. For more information on submitting an in-year application, please visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

It is not always possible for a child to transfer to another school if that school is already full or if there are more applicants than places available at the time you make your application. Your child will, therefore, be placed on the school's waiting list in line with the school's admission criteria.

The local authority will consider transfer requests once a term in line with the timetable below and children are expected to transfer at the beginning of the next term. Your child must, therefore, continue to attend school while awaiting a transfer.

You will need to re-apply in September every year if you want your child to remain on the waiting lists for the schools you wish for them to transfer to.

Children transfer to a secondary school in the September after reaching the age of 11-years-old. You will receive a separate booklet with information about the schools and the application procedure when your child begins year 6 of primary school.

Entry point	Closing date	Parents sent outcomes
Spring Term (January 2022 Start)	5 November 2021	3 December 2021
Summer Term (April 2022 Start)	11 February 2022	18 March 2022
Autumn Term (September 2022 start)	10 June 2022	1 July 2022

3 In-year admissions, school transfer and moving from infant to junior

Tower Hamlets Fair Access Admission Protocol

All schools in Tower Hamlets follow the Fair Access Admission Protocol. The protocol sets standards for dealing with applications that are made when families move into the borough or want to transfer their child from one school to another. The protocol also provides the early admission to school or access to alternative education for children whose circumstances make them difficult to place.

Children Out of School

Pupil Services will normally let parents know whether a place can be offered within ten school days of receiving an application for a child who does not have a school place. Where a child is offered a place, they would normally be admitted within ten school days after the decision is made, although more time is allowed if a school must make arrangements to support the child's education in the school.

More information about the protocol is available from Pupil Services on **020 7364 5006**.

Infant to junior transfer

If your child goes to an infant school, they will transfer to a junior school in the September after their seventh birthday.

Children at infant schools in the borough will normally transfer to their linked junior school at the age of seven, but you must apply for a junior school place. Most linked schools are on the same site and have the same name. We treat the following as linked schools:

- Blue Gate Fields Infants and Juniors
- Elizabeth Selby Infants and Lawdale Juniors.

When your child is in a year two class, you must apply for your child's year three place, even if this is for a place at the linked junior school. You must submit your application by 15 January 2022.

What you must do

You should submit you application online at www.eadmissions.org.uk giving the name of the school you want your child to transfer to (this should be your child's linked junior school). Please see page 32 of this brochure for instructions.

When you have completed and submitted your application you will receive an instant email confirmation. You can then make changes to your application up until the 15 January 2022 closing date.

If you are not able to make an online application, you should contact Tower Hamlets Pupil Services on **020 7364 5006**.

If you live in another London borough you can contact their School Admissions team for a copy of their primary school brochure. There will be the facility for you to apply online. A list with the contact details of nearby London local authorities is provided on page 37.

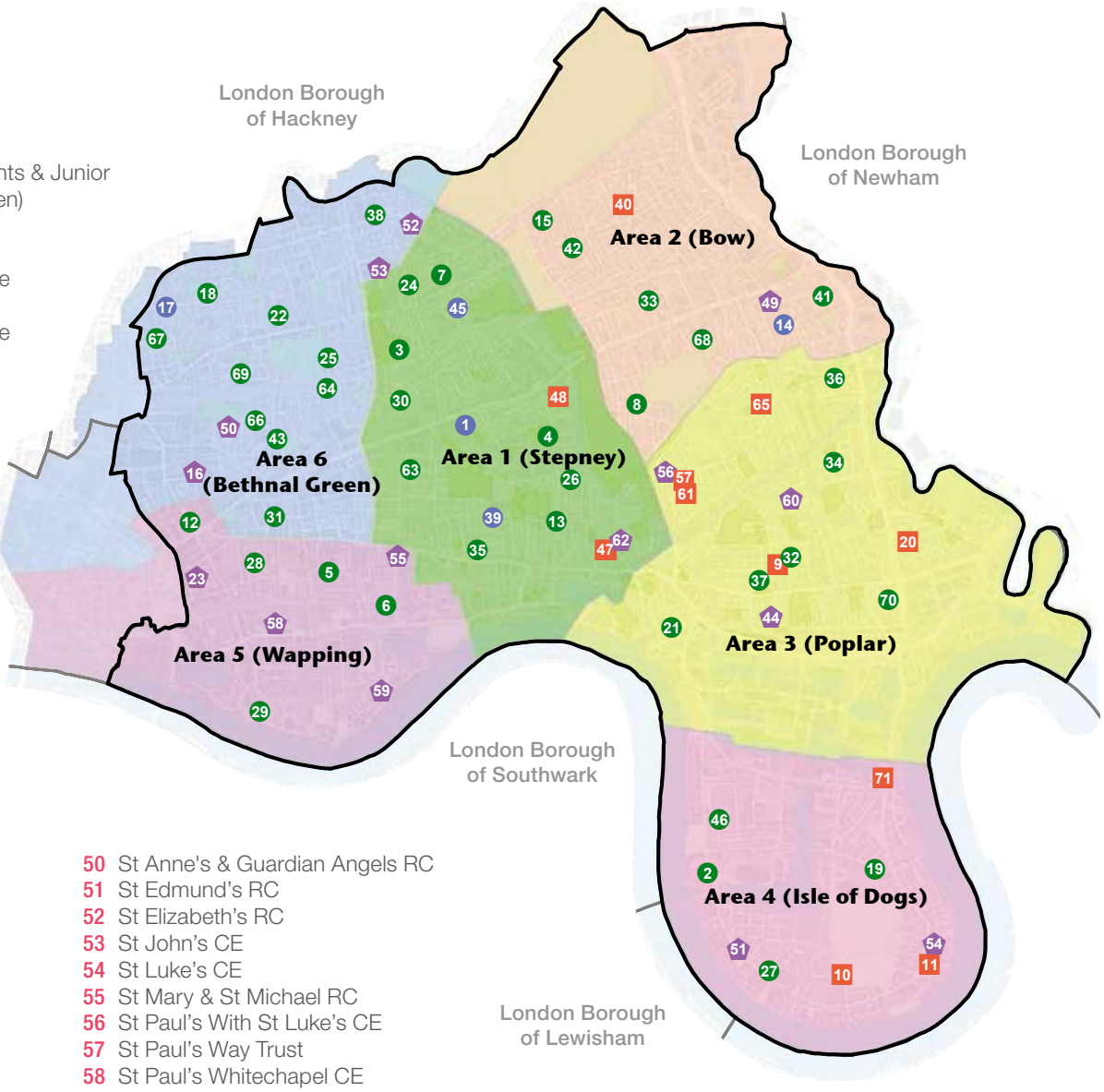
For all year three places at community junior schools we use the admission criteria listed on page 11 in priority order to decide which children should be offered places.

Pupil Services will offer places based on the admissions criteria and we will notify you of our decision on 19 April 2022.

School list and catchment area maps

4

1 Alice Model Nursery
2 Arnhem Wharf
3 Bangabandhu
4 Ben Jonson
5 Bigland Green
6 Blue Gate Fields Infants & Junior
7 Bonner (Bethnal Green)
8 Bonner (Mile End)
9 Bygrove
10 Canary Wharf College East Ferry
11 Canary Wharf College Glenworth
12 Canon Barnett
13 Cayley
14 Children's House
15 Chisenhale
16 Christ Church CE
17 Columbia Market Nursery
18 Columbia
19 Cubitt Town
20 Culloden
21 Cyril Jackson
22 Elizabeth Selby & Lawdale Junior
23 English Martyrs RC
24 Globe
25 Hague
26 Halley
27 Harbinger
28 Harry Gosling
29 Hermitage
30 John Scurr
31 Kobi Nazrul
32 Lansbury Lawrence
33 Malmesbury
34 Manorfield
35 Marion Richardson
36 Marner
37 Mayflower
38 Mowlem
39 Old Church
40 Old Ford
41 Old Palace
42 Olga
43 Osmani
44 Our Lady & St Joseph
45 Rachel Keeling
46 Seven Mills
47 Sir William Burrough
48 Solebay Primary School
49 St Agnes RC
50 St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC
51 St Edmund's RC
52 St Elizabeth's RC
53 St John's CE
54 St Luke's CE
55 St Mary & St Michael RC
56 St Paul's With St Luke's CE
57 St Paul's Way Trust
58 St Paul's Whitechapel CE
59 St Peter's (London Docks) CE
60 St Saviours CE
61 Stebon
62 Stepney Greencoat CE
63 Stepney Park
64 Stewart Headlam
65 The Clara Grant
66 Thomas Buxton
67 Virginia
68 Wellington
69 William Davis
70 Woolmore
71 Wood Wharf



To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

4 School catchment area 1 (Stepney)

Schools in the catchment area

Community schools:

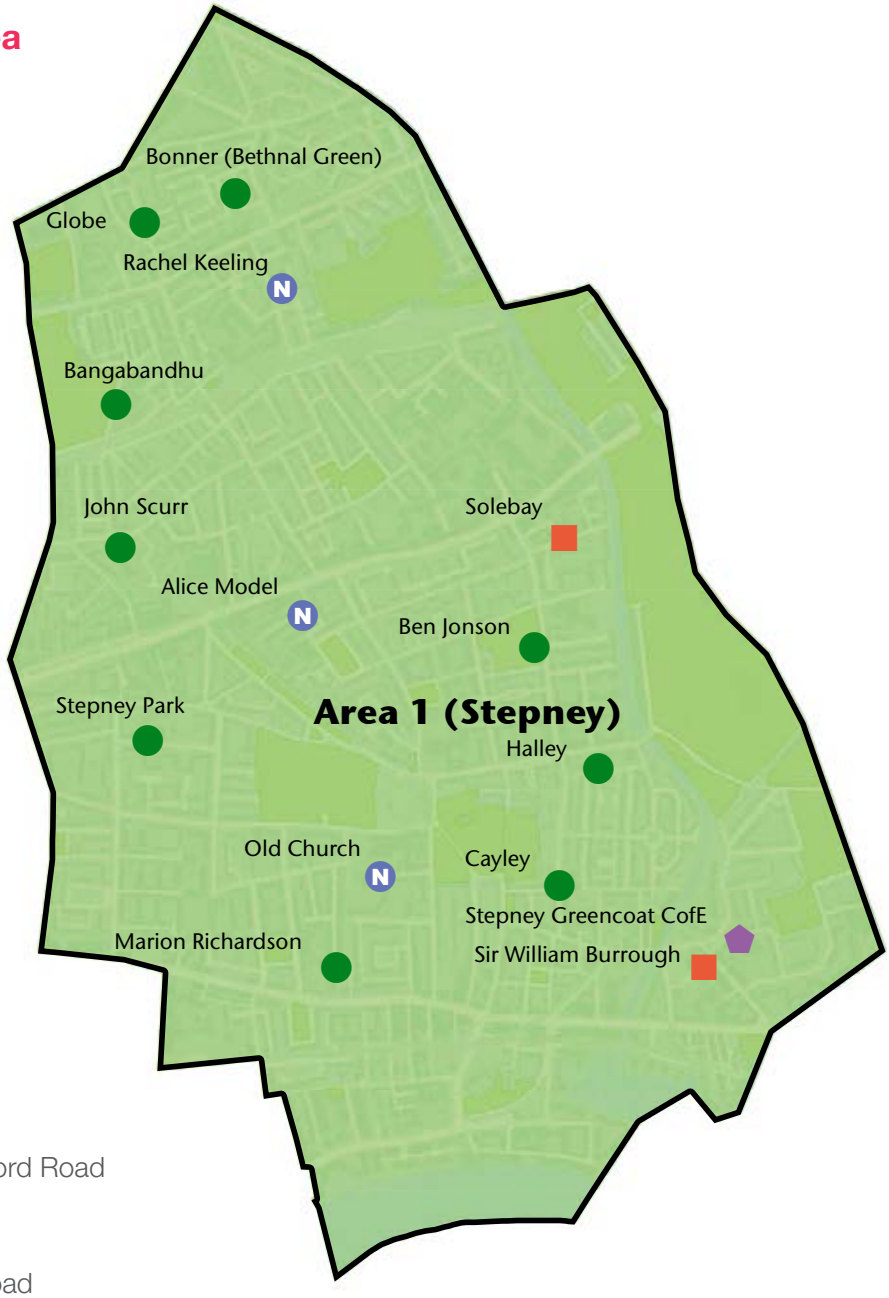
1 Alice Model Nursery
3 Bangabandhu
4 Ben Jonson
7 Bonner (Bethnal Green)
13 Cayley
24 Globe
26 Halley
30 John Scurr
35 Marion Richardson
39 Old Church Nursery
45 Rachel Keeling Nursery
63 Stepney Park

Voluntary primary schools:

62 Stepney Greencoat CE

Academy/Free schools:

47 Sir William Burrough
48 Solebay – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)



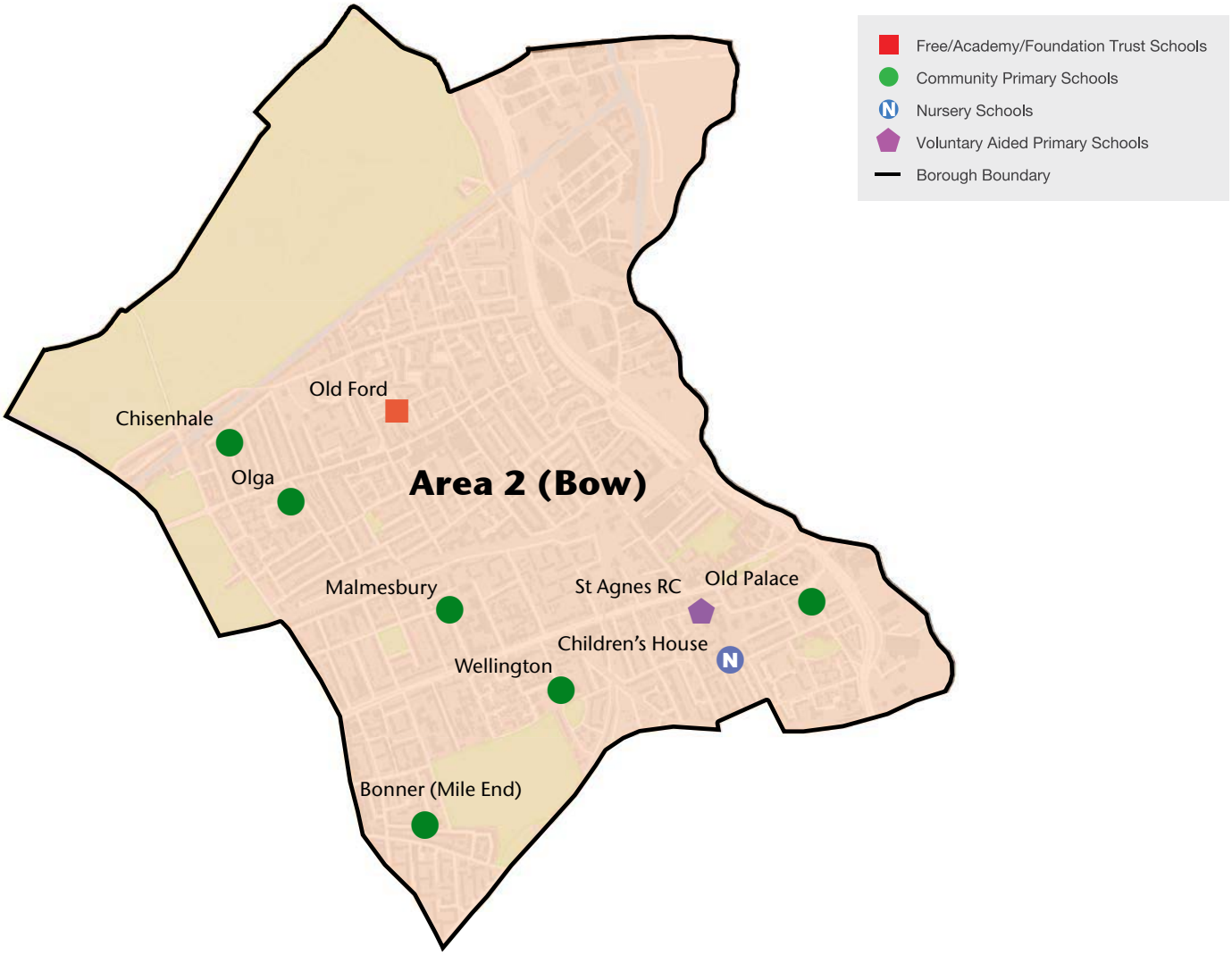
Area covered

- South of Approach Road and Old Ford Road
- West of Regents Canal (up to the Railway Bridge on Grove Road)
- West of Grove Road and Burdett Road
- North of Limehouse Cut from Burdett Road to River Thames
- North of River Thames
- East of Brodlove Lane and Devonport Street
- East of Lukin Street
- North of Commercial Road (from Lukin Street to Sidney Street)
- East of Sidney Street and Cambridge Heath Road

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 2 (Bow)

4



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools:

8 Bonner (Mile End)
14 Children's House Nursery
15 Chisenhale
33 Malmesbury
41 Old Palace
42 Olga
68 Wellington

Voluntary primary schools:

49 St Agnes RC

Academy/Free schools:

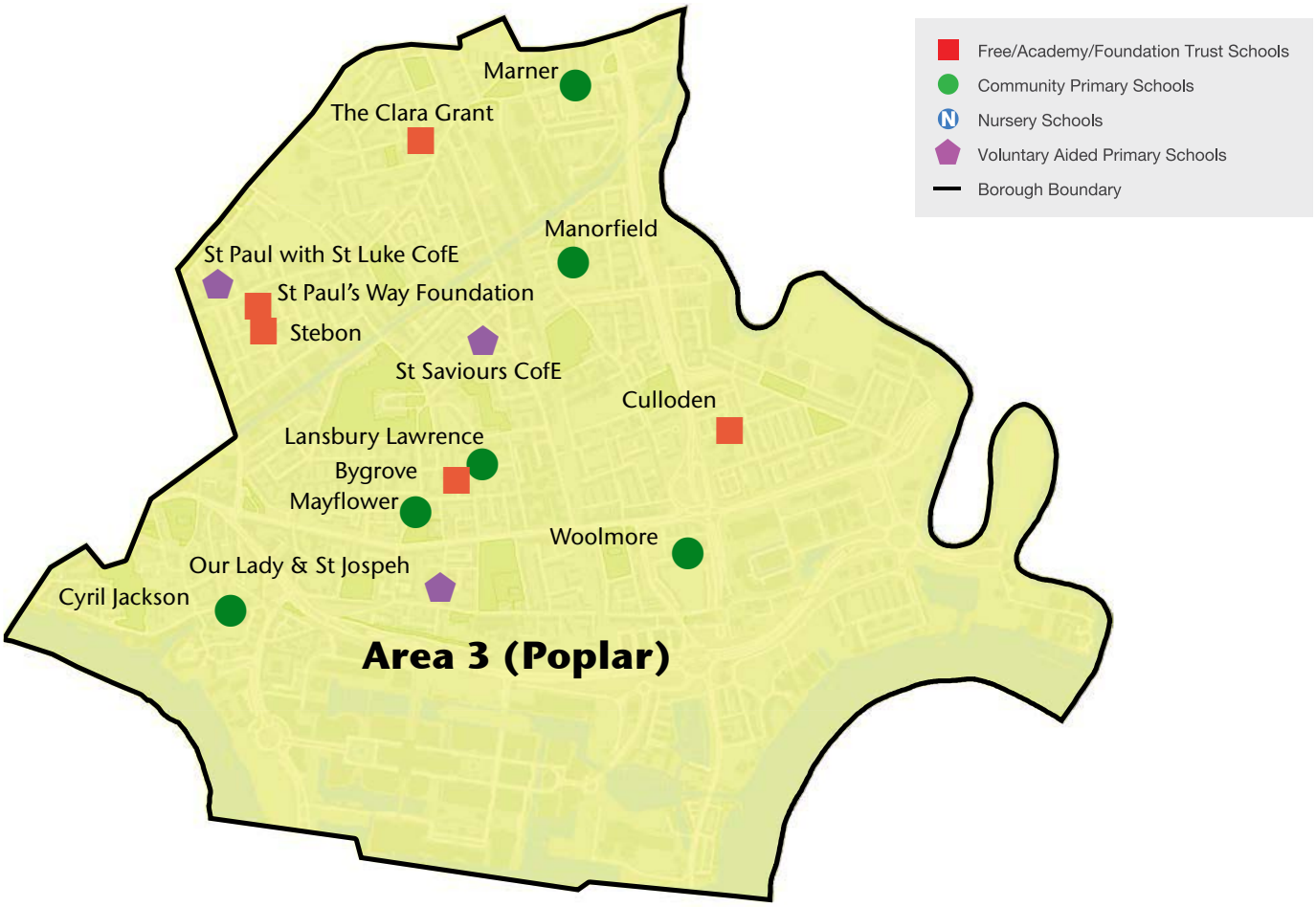
40 Old Ford – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

- South of Approach Road and A106 Victoria Park Road
- South of Cadogan Terrace
- West of River Lea
- East of Regents Canal (from Railway Bridge on Grover Road) and Burdett Road
- North of the railway line connecting Limehouse and Bromley by Bow

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

4 School catchment area 3 (Poplar)



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools:

21 Cyril Jackson
32 Lansbury Lawrence
34 Manorfield
36 Marner
37 Mayflower
70 Woolmore

Voluntary primary schools:

44 Our Lady & St Joseph RC
56 St Paul's with St Luke's CE
60 St Saviours CE

Academy/Free schools:

9 Bygrove (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
20 Culloden – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
57 St Paul's Way Trust (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
61 Stebon (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
65 The Clara Grant (uses same admissions policy as community schools)

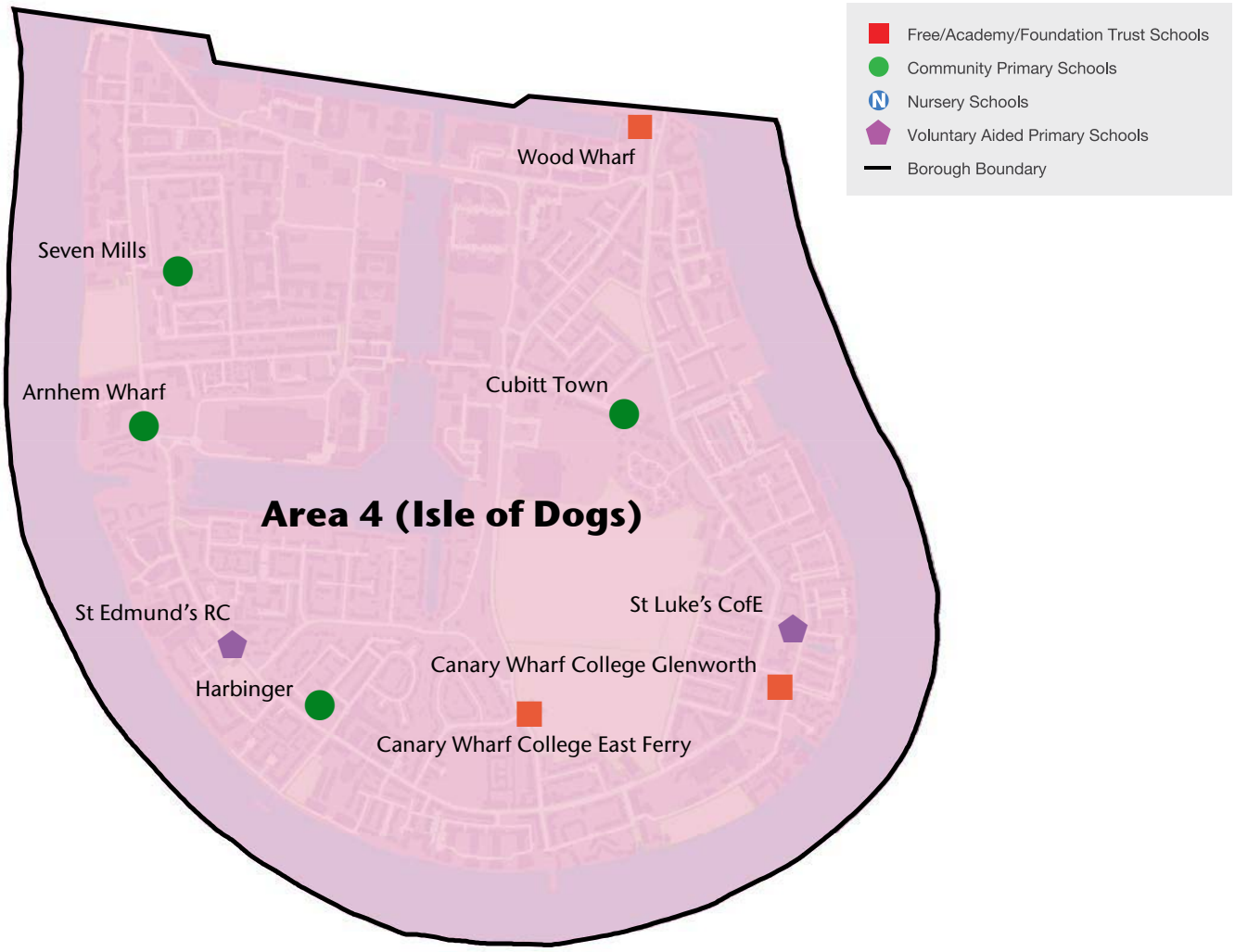
Area covered

- South of the railway line connecting Limehouse and Bromley by Bow
- West of River Lea
- East of Burdett Road and the River Thames
- North of South Dock Entrance

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 4 (Isle of Dogs)

4



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools:

2 Arnhem Wharf
19 Cubitt Town
27 Harbinger
46 Seven Mills

Voluntary primary schools:

51 St Edmund's RC
54 St Luke's CE

Academy/Free schools:

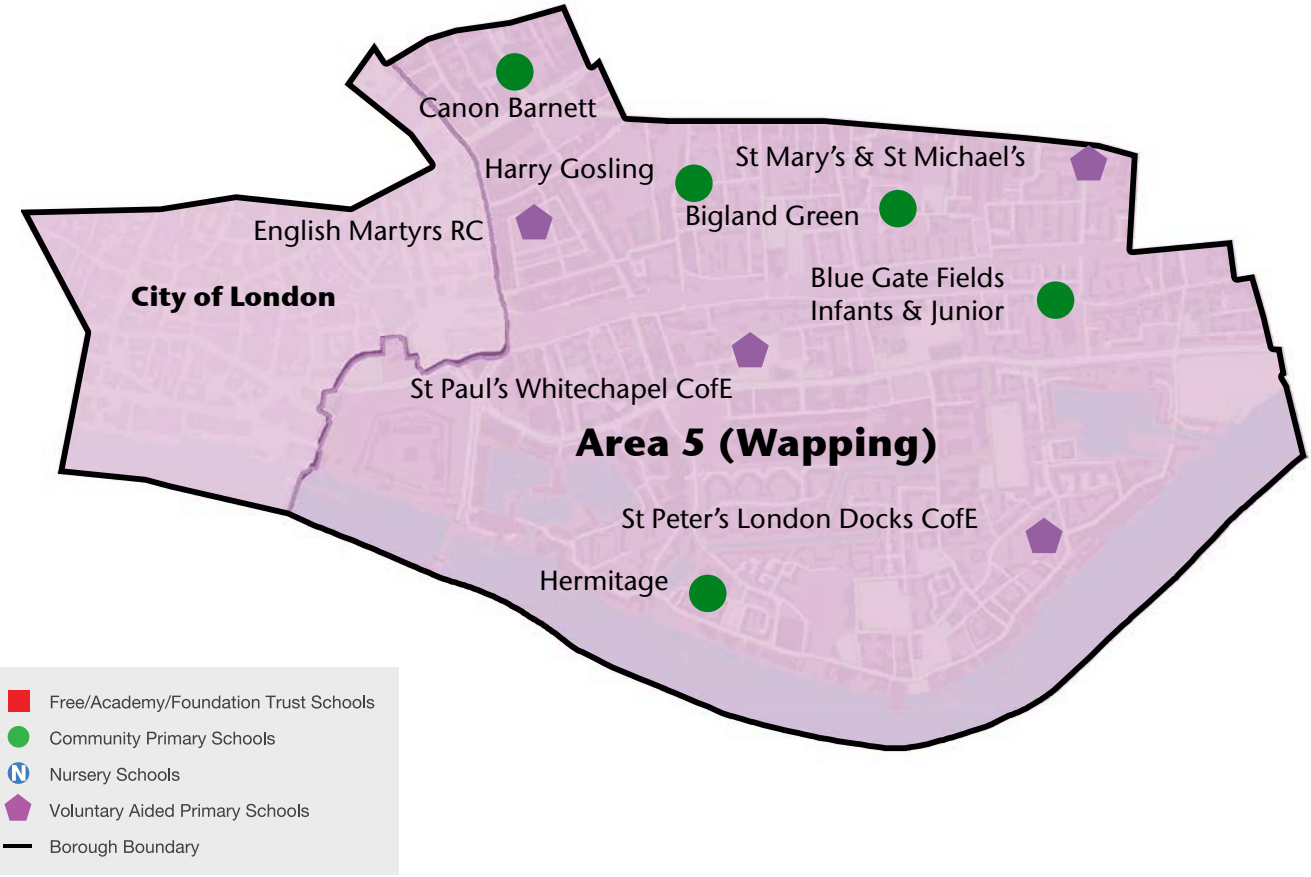
10 Canary Wharf College East Ferry
11 Canary Wharf College Glenworth
71 Wood Wharf
(uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

- South of South Dock Entrance
- North of River Thames

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

4 School catchment area 5 (Wapping)



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools:

5 Bigland Green
6 Blue Gate Fields Infants & Junior
12 Canon Barnett
28 Harry Gosling
29 Hermitage

Voluntary primary schools:

23 English Martyrs RC
55 St Mary & St Michael RC
58 St Paul's Whitechapel CE
59 St Peter's (London Docks) CE

Area covered

Tower Hamlets

- South of Wentworth Street (up to Osborn Street)
- South of Commercial Road (from Whitechurch Lane to Lukin Street)
- South of Poonah Street
- West of Lukin Street, Devonport Street and Brodlove Lane
- North of River Thames
- East of Trinity Square, Mansell Street and Middlesex Street

City of London

- South of Cornhill, Leadenhall Street, Aldgate High Street
- South of Harrow Place (from White Kennet Street)
- West of Middlesex Street, Mansell Street and Trinity Square
- North of River Thames
- East of King Williams Street

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 6 (Bethnal Green)

4

Schools in the catchment area

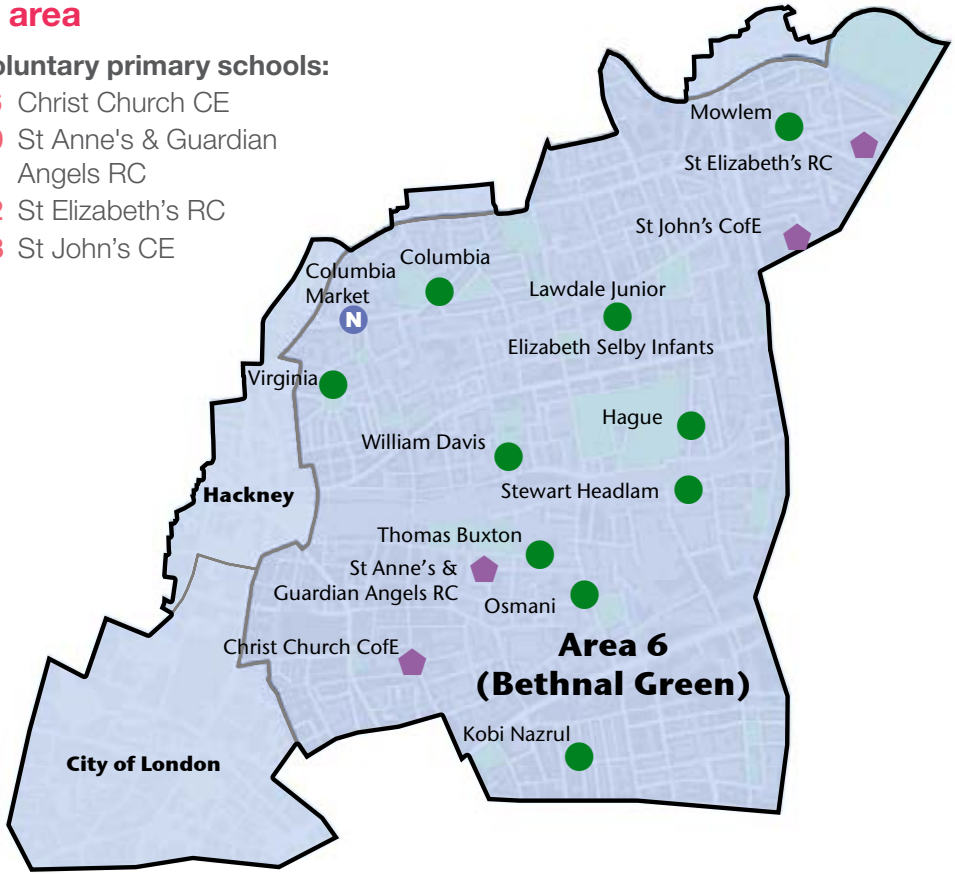
Community schools:

17 Columbia Market Nursery
18 Columbia
22 Elizabeth Selby Infant*
22 Lawdale Junior*
25 Hague
31 Kobi Nazrul
38 Mowlem
43 Osmani
64 Stewart Headlam
66 Thomas Buxton
67 Virginia
69 William Davis

*Linked infant and junior schools

Voluntary primary schools:

16 Christ Church CE
50 St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC
52 St Elizabeth's RC
53 St John's CE



Free/Academy/Foundation Trust Schools
Community Primary Schools
Nursery Schools
Voluntary Aided Primary Schools
Borough Boundary

Area covered

Tower Hamlets

- South of Hackney Road (from Shoreditch High Street to Goldsmiths Row), South of Teale Street Pritchard's Road and Regent's Canal
- West of Approach Road and Old Ford Road
- West of Cambridge Heath Road and Sidney Street
- North of Commercial Road (from Sidney Street to Whitechurch Lane)
- North of Wentworth Street (from Osborn Street to Middlesex Street)
- East of Middlesex Street, Norton Folgate and Boundary Street

Hackney

- South of Ash Grove and Earlston Grove
- East of Fremont Street
- West and South of Christchurch Square
- North of Regent's Canal (up to Ash Grove)
- South of Dunloe Street (from Dawson Street to Columbia Road)
- West of Columbia Road
- North of Hackney Road
- East of Weymouth Terrace (from Hackney Road to 14 Dunloe Court)
- South of Cremer Street
- West of Hackney Road, Boundary Street and Shoreditch High Street
- North of Worship Street East of Scrutton Street, Christina Street, Gatesborough Street, Great Eastern Street and Curtain Road
- East of Shoreditch High Street (from Rivington Street to Waterson Street) and Nazrul Street City of London
- South of South Place, Sun Street, Appold Street and Worship Street
- West of Norton Folgate and Bishopsgate
- North of Cornhill
- East of Prince's Street and Moorgate

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

4 Nursery and primary schools in Tower Hamlets

Nursery and Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2022)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
Alice Model Beaumont Grove, E1 4NQ	1	1	Nursery 3-5	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	020 7790 5425	www.alicemodel.weebly.com
Arnhem Wharf (A) Arnhem Place, E14 3RP	4	2	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7515 4310	www.arnhemwharfprimaryschool.com
Bangabandhu (A) Wessex Street, E2 0LB	1	3	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 0580	www.bangabandhu.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Ben Jonson (A)* Harford Street, E1 4PZ	1	4	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 4110	www.benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bigland Green (A) Bigland Street, E1 2ND	5	5	Community 3-11	60	Yes	No	Yes	020 7702 7088	www.biglandgreen.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Blue Gate Fields Infants (A) King David Lane, E1 0EH	5	6	Community 3-7	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 3611	www.bluegatefieldsinfant.co.uk
Blue Gate Fields Juniors (A) King David Lane, E1 0EH	5	6	Community 7-11	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	020 7790 3616	www.bluegatefields-jun.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bonner (Bethnal Green) (A) Stainsbury Street, E2 0NF	1	7	Community 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1004	www.bonner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bonner (Mile End) (A) Ropery Street, E3 4QE	2	8	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1004	www.bonner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bygrove (A) Bygrove Street, E14 6DN	3	9	Academy 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7538 4925	www.bygrove.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Canary Wharf College East Ferry (S) East Ferry Road, E14 3BA	N/A	10	Free 4-11	48	No	No	Yes	020 7515 2328	www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk
Canary Wharf College Glenworth (S) Saunders Ness Road, E14 3EB	N/A	11	Free 4-11	48	No	No	Yes	020 7515 2328	www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk
Canon Barnett (A) Gunthorpe Street, E1 7RQ	5	12	Community 3-11	30	Yes	No	Yes	020 7247 9023	www.canonbarnett.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Cayley (A) Aston Street, E14 7NG	1	13	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 1490	www.cayley.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Children's House (A) Bruce Road, E3 3HL	2	14	Nursery 3-5	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 4662	www.childrenshouse.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Chisenhale (A) Chisenhale Road, E3 5QY	2	15	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2584	www.chisenhale.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Christ Church CE (S) (A) Brick Lane, E1 6PU	N/A	16	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 0792	www.christchurchprimarybricklane.org
Columbia Market Nursery Columbia Road, E2 7PG	6	17	Nursery 3-5	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 4518	www.columbiamarket.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Columbia Columbia Road, E2 7RG	6	18	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 3835	www.columbia.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Cubitt Town (A)** Manchester Road, E14 3NE	4	19	Community 3-7	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3373	www.cubitttowninf.co.uk
Culloden (A) Dee Street, E14 0PT	3	20	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7364 1010	https://cullodenacademy.paradigmtrust.org
Cyril Jackson (A) Three Colt Street, E14 8HH (North) Limehouse Causeway, E14 8BN (South)	3	21	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3737	www.cyriljackson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Elizabeth Selby+ linked with Lawdale Junior School (A) Old Bethnal Green Road, E2 6PP	6	22	Community 3-7	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6187	www.elizabethselby.school
English Martyrs RC (S) St Mark Street, E1 8DJ	N/A	23	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7709 0182	www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Globe (A) Gawber Street, E2 0JH	1	24	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1738	www.globeschool.org.uk
Hague Wilmot Street, E2 0BP	6	25	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 9574	www.hague.towerhamlets.sch.uk

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(A) Accessible school – see page 28 for more information. +Linked infant and junior schools.

Nursery and primary schools in Tower Hamlets

4

Nursery and Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2022)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
Halley (A) Halley Street, E14 7SS	1	26	Community 3-11	30	Yes	No	Yes	020 7265 8061	www.halley.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Harbinger Cahir Street, E14 3QP	4	27	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1924	www.harbingerschool.co.uk
Harry Gosling (A) Fairclough Street, E1 1NT	5	28	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7481 1650	www.harrygoslingprimary.co.uk
Hermitage (A) Vaughan Way, E1W 2PT	5	29	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	0207 702 1037	www.hermitage.towerhamlets.sch.uk
John Scurr (A) Cephas Street, E1 4AX	1	30	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	0207 790 3647	www.johnscurr.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Kobi Nazrul (A) Settles Street, E1 1JP	6	31	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7375 3626	www.kobinazrul.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Lansbury Lawrence Cordelia Street, E14 6DZ	3	32	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	No	020 7987 4589	www.lansburylawrence.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Lawdale+ linked with Elizabeth Selby Infant School Mansford Street, E2 6LS	6	22	Community 7-11	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6258	www.lawdaleschool.com
Malmesbury (A) Coborn Street, E3 2AB	2	33	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 4299	www.malmesbury.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Manorfield (A) Wyvis Street, E14 6QD	3	34	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1623	www.manorfield.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Marion Richardson Senrab Street, E1 0QF	1	35	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 1441	www.marionrichardson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Marner Devas Street, E3 3LL	3	36	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2938	www.marner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mayflower (A) Upper North Street, E14 6DU	3	37	Community 3-11	50	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2782	www.mayflower.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mowlem (A) Mowlem Street, E2 9HE	6	38	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8249 6880	www.mowlem.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Old Church (A) Walter Terrace, E1 0RJ	1	39	Nursery 3-5	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 2824	www.oldchurch.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Old Ford Wrights Road, E3 5LD	2	40	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1503	https://oldfordacademy.paradigmtrust.org
Old Palace St Leonards Street, E3 3BT	2	41	Community 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3020	www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk
Olga (A) Lanfranc Road, E3 5DN	2	42	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8981 7127	www.olga.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Osmani Vallance Road, E1 5AD	6	43	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 8909	www.osmani.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Our Lady & St Joseph (S) (A) Wades Place, E14 0DE	N/A	44	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 3764 8860	www.olsj.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Rachel Keeling (A) Morpeth Street, E2 0PS	1	45	Nursery 3-5	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	020 8980 5856	www.rachelkeeling.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Seven Mills Malabar Street, E14 8LY	4	46	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2350	www.sevenmills.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Sir William Burrough Salmon Lane, E14 7PQ	N/A	47	Academy 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2147	www.sirwilliamburrough.net
Solebay Solebay Street, E1 4PW	1	48	Academy 4-11	50	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2414	https://solebayacademy.paradigmtrust.org
St Agnes RC (S) Rainhill Way, E3 3ER	N/A	49	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3076	www.st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC (S) (A) Underwood Road, E1 5AW	N/A	50	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 6327	www.stannesschool.org.uk
St Edmund's RC (S) (A) Westferry Road, E14 3RS	N/A	51	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2546	www.st-edmunds-school.org

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(A) Accessible school – see page 28 for more information. +Linked infant and junior schools.

4 Nursery and primary schools in Tower Hamlets

Nursery and Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2022)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
St Elizabeth's RC (S) (A) Bonner Road, E2 9JY	N/A	52	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3964	www.st-elizabeth.uk
St John's CE (S) Peel Grove, E2 9LR	N/A	53	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1142	www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Luke's CE (S) Saunder Ness Road, E14 3EB	N/A	54	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1753	www.st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Mary & St Michael RC (S) (A) Commercial Road, E1 0BD	N/A	55	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 4986	www.st-marymichael.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Paul's With St Luke's CE (S) (A) Leopold Street, E3 4LA	N/A	56	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4624	www.spsl.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Paul's Way Trust Wallwood Street, E14 7BW	3	57	Academy 3-16	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1883	www.spwt.net
St Paul's Whitechapel (S) Wellclose Square, E1 8HY	N/A	58	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7480 6581	www.st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Peter's (London Docks) CE (S) (A) Garnet Street, E1W 3QT	N/A	59	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7488 3050	www.stpetersprimary.org.uk
St Saviours CE (S) (A) Chrisp Street, E14 6BB	N/A	60	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4889	www.stsaviorsschool.org.uk
Stebon Wallwood Street, E14 7AD	3	61	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4237	www.stebon.org.uk
Stepney Greencoat CE (S) Norbiton Road, E14 7TF	N/A	62	Voluntary 4-11	30	No	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3202	www.stepneygreencoat.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Stepney Park (A) Smithy Street, E1 3BW	1	63	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7884 5225	www.stepneypark.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Stewart Headlam Tapp Street, E1 5RE	6	64	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	No	020 7247 1201	www.stewartheadlam.towerhamlets.sch.uk
The Clara Grant Knapp Road, E3 4BU	3	65	Academy 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	No	020 7987 4564	www.claragrant.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Thomas Buxton (A) Buxton Street, E1 5AR	6	66	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 3816	www.thomasbuxton.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Virginia Virginia Road, E2 7NQ	6	67	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6195	www.virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Wellington (A) Wellington Way, E3 4NE	2	68	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2413	www.wellington.towerhamlets.sch.uk
William Davis Wood Close, Cheshire St, E2 6EU	6	69	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 1511	www.williamdavis.org.uk
Woolmore Woolmore Street, E14 0EW	3	70	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2778	www.woolmore.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Wood Wharf 20 Brannan Street, E14 9ZR	4	71	Academy 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 7790 6327	www.mulberrywoodwharf.org

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Accessible schools

These are schools that have wheelchair access that enable the national curriculum to be taught and children to be able to access other important areas of the school. Other facilities such as a hygiene room with grab rails, an adapted toilet, a low sink, a changing bench, and room for a hoist may be available.

If your child has any mobility issues, please speak to the special educational needs (SEN) coordinator at your child's current nursery or to the SEN team by calling **020 7364 4880**.

Appendix A – Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

5

Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

Tower Hamlets Council seeks to operate an admissions system that provides equal and fair opportunities to all applicants. This includes having due regard to children living in areas where there are limited options in applying for a local school place.

School catchment area

A school catchment area is a geographically defined boundary used to help provide children with fairer access to a local school and ensure all schools in an area have an equal share of children.

A child living in the school's catchment area will, therefore, be given priority over a child living outside of the school's catchment area. This does not affect admission categories where children with a statement of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are considered before any other admission. Catchment areas also do not affect Looked After children who are given priority in the admission policy. Other exceptional cases, such as medical and social reasons, will also be given priority before children living in the catchment area.

There are six school catchment areas for admission to Tower Hamlets community schools. The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), St Paul's Way Trust Primary School, Bygrove Primary School, Stebon Primary School and The Clara Grant Primary School also use these catchment areas in their admissions criteria. Each catchment area has several schools that you can choose from.

Maps of each catchment area and the schools within them can be found on pages 19-25.

To find out which catchment area you live in, view the maps on pages 19-25 or visit: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

Nearest school within the catchment area

Higher priority is given to children who apply to the nearest school within their catchment area. This reduces the possibility of a family having to undertake an unreasonable journey to school and provides equal opportunity for families living in parts of the borough where there are a limited number of schools. Please see the examples on the next page which show how this works in practice.

'Tie-break' criteria

When there are more children within one of the admission priorities than there are places remaining at the school, the council must decide who to offer places to. The tie-break gives priority to children that live the shortest walking distance from the school.

For example, a school may have 25 places remaining once all children for whom the school is the nearest school in the catchment area, but there are 30 other children who have applied and live within the same catchment area. The 25 children that live closest to the school will be offered a place and the five children that live furthest from the school will not be offered a place.

5 Appendix A – Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

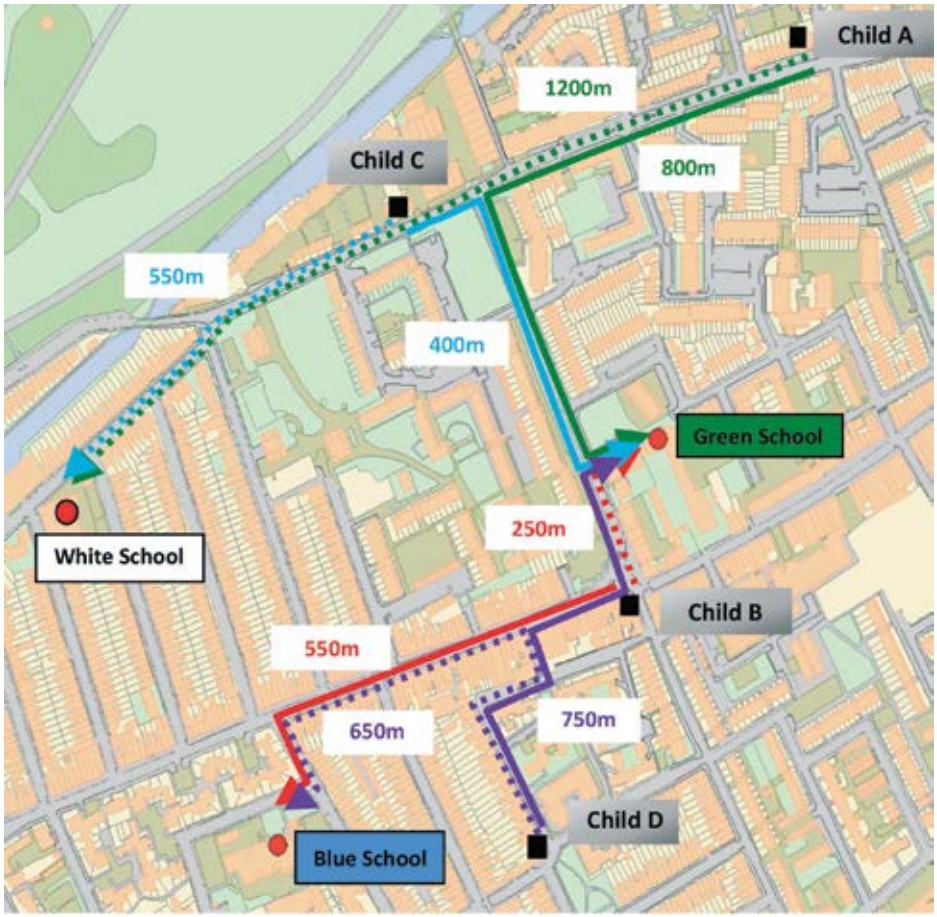
Example 1

In this tie-break example, Child A, Child B, Child C and Child D have all applied to Green School.

Green School is the nearest school for Child A, Child B and Child C. The nearest school for Child D is Blue School.

Given that Green School is Child A, Child B and Child C's nearest school, their applications will have higher priority than Child D's.

The highest priority would be given to Child B who lives 250m away from Green School, followed by Child C, who lives 400m away and then Child A, who lives 800m away. These children would, therefore, be ranked in order of priority as follows:



Admissions Criteria	Ranking Order
Priority 5 – nearest school in catchment area	1. Child B 2. Child C 3. Child A
Priority 6 – catchment area	4. Child D

Note: Although Child D lives closer to Green School than Child A, Child A will have higher priority because Green School is Child A's nearest school.

Example 2

This example is similar to the first one, but here Child B has decided not to apply to Green School, which is Child B's nearest school.

Even though Child B lives closer to Green School than the other children, Child B would not be considered for a place at Green School, because no application was made. The ranking in order of priority would therefore be as follows:

Admissions Criteria	Ranking Order
Priority 5 – nearest school in catchment area	1. Child C 2. Child A
Priority 6 – catchment area	3. Child D

Note: Child B's applications to Blue and White School would not be considered under the nearest school criterion because neither of these schools are Child B's nearest school.

Appendix B – Summary of last year's application and offers

5

The table below shows the number of applications and offers made for a reception place at schools that use the admissions criteria for Tower Hamlets community schools that received more applications than places available for the 2021/22 school year. If a community school does not appear on this list, it means that the school was able to offer a place to every child that applied or those that applied were offered a place at a higher preference school.

Last year, every child who had an older sibling already attending a community school was offered a place at the same school if an application was made on time. You can also see that very few places were offered to children who live outside of the catchment area for the school.

School	Number of applications	Number of places available (PAN)	SEN / EHCP	Looked After Children	Medical or Social	Sibling	Children of Staff	Nearest School in Catchment Area	Catchment Area	Distance (outside of Catchment Area)	Tie-break cut off distance (metres)	Total Offered
Arnhem Wharf	187	90	0	0	1	28	0	14	44	3	3872	90
Bigland Green	199	60	0	0	1	40	0	19	0	0	348	60
Blue Gate Fields Infant	174	90	0	0	1	46	0	37	4	2	558	90
Bygrove	166	30	2	0	1	10	0	3	14	0	525	30
Cayley	137	60	0	0	1	35	0	12	12	0	1059	60
Chisenhale	157	45	0	1	0	18	0	12	14	0	936	45
Columbia	139	60	0	0	1	29	0	24	6	0	475	60
Cubitt Town Infants	174	90	0	1	1	39	1	37	8	3	3929	90
Cyril Jackson	142	60	1	0	1	22	1	20	11	4	982	60
Elizabeth Selby	92	60	0	1	1	25	0	21	12	0	663	60
Malmesbury	169	60	1	2	0	37	0	5	15	0	976	60
Manorfield	152	90	0	0	0	47	0	17	22	4	1685	90
Marion Richardson	98	60	1	0	1	30	0	20	6	2	1685	60
Marner	172	90	0	0	4	43	2	17	10	13	1755	90
Mayflower	258	50	0	0	0	32	0	18	0	0	405	50
Mowlem	58	30	1	1	1	15	0	12	0	0	602	30
Olga	201	90	2	0	1	35	0	10	29	13	2529	90
Seven Mills	100	30	3	0	1	35	0	11	0	0	514	30
Stepney Park	141	90	0	0	1	51	0	38	0	0	546	90
The Clara Grant	123	60	2	0	1	32	0	25	0	0	570	60
Virginia	80	30	0	0	0	15	0	9	6	0	1426	30

5 Appendix C – A step by step guide to applying online

To start your online application please visit:

www.eadmissions.org.uk

You can also use the link from the council's website:
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions

eAdmissions LONDON

Registration

Go to **www.eadmissions.org.uk** This will take you to the welcome page – click on 'Create a new account' – see figure 1.

If you have previously applied using the online system you will be able to log in without the need for registration.

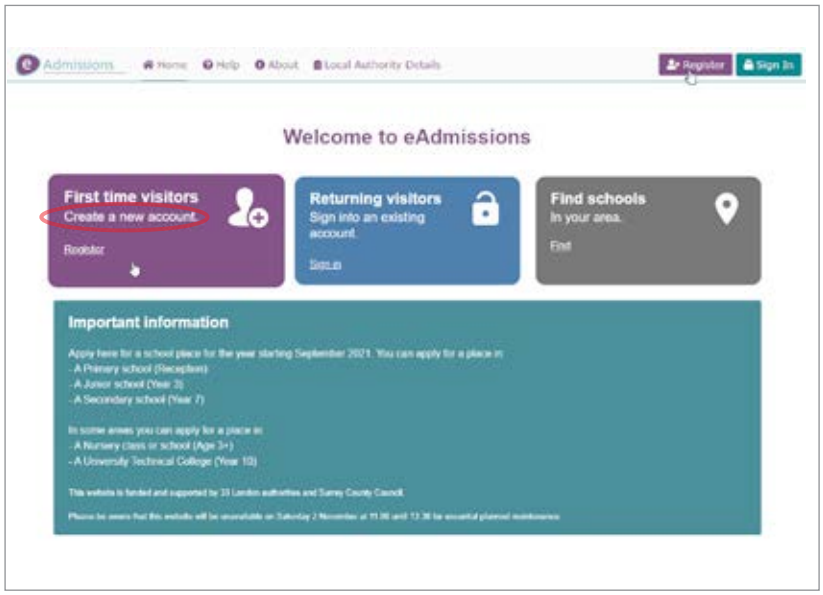


Figure 1

Then enter your details and click "Continue' – see figure 2.

You will then need to create a password (please note the password for future reference).

You will receive confirmation that your USO account has been set up and will be sent a reminder of your username – see figure 3.

You will need to validate your email address by clicking on the link in the email that is sent to you.

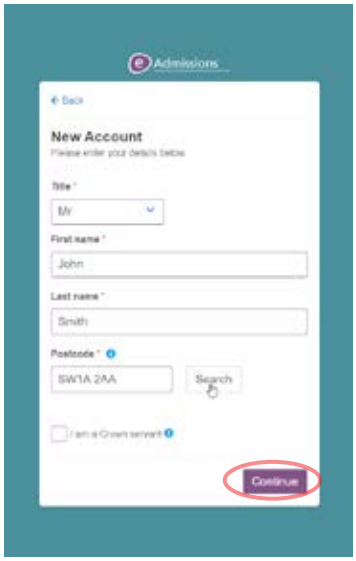


Figure 2

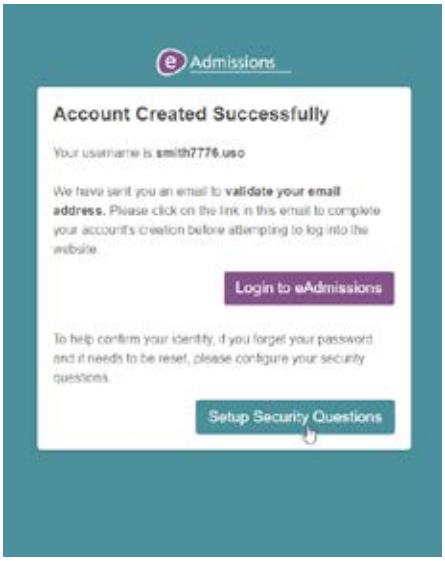


Figure 3

Appendix C – A step by step guide to applying online

5

Start an application

You can now log in with your email or username and will be directed to the home page – see figure 4.

From here you can make a new application, edit an existing application, view the details of any application already submitted and view the outcome of your application once it is available.

Click on 'Start Application' to begin.

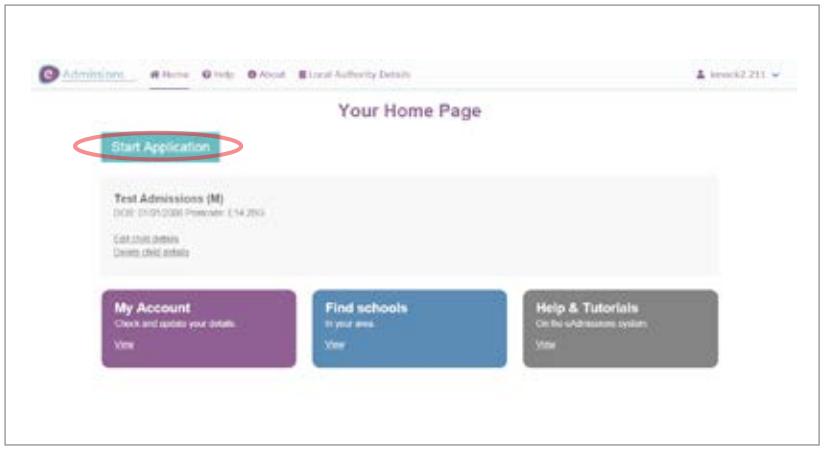


Figure 4

Stage 1 – Child details

Fill in your child's details and then click 'Save and continue' – see figure 5.

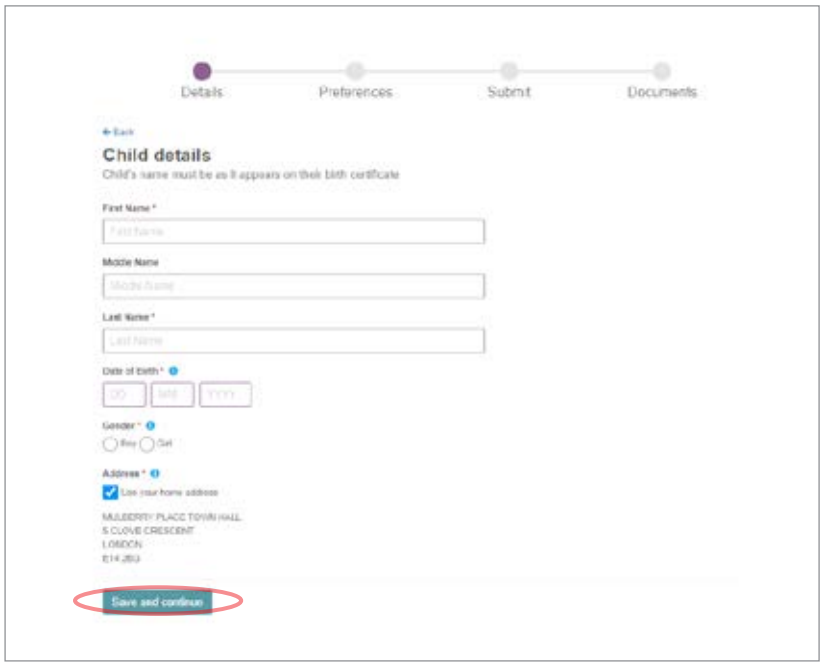


Figure 5

5 Appendix C – A step by step guide to applying online

Stage 2 – School preferences

Here you can apply for up to six schools, in Tower Hamlets and/or other boroughs. You should select the schools in order of preference, with the first selected school being your first preference and so on.

You can add a school in one of three ways:

1. By selecting the borough of the school using the dropdown list and then selecting the school.
2. By selecting your school from its location on a map.
3. By searching for the school by using keywords.

Click on 'Continue' – see figure 7.

For each school selected you will be asked to provide the following information:

1. Sibling information – you should click on the relevant box and fill in the details if your child has a brother or sister already at the school.
2. Exceptional medical or social reasons – you should tick the relevant box if there are medical or social reasons for your child to attend a particular school. You will be required to provide documentary evidence to support this.
3. Additional reasons – this is for you to give additional reasons for wanting a particular school.

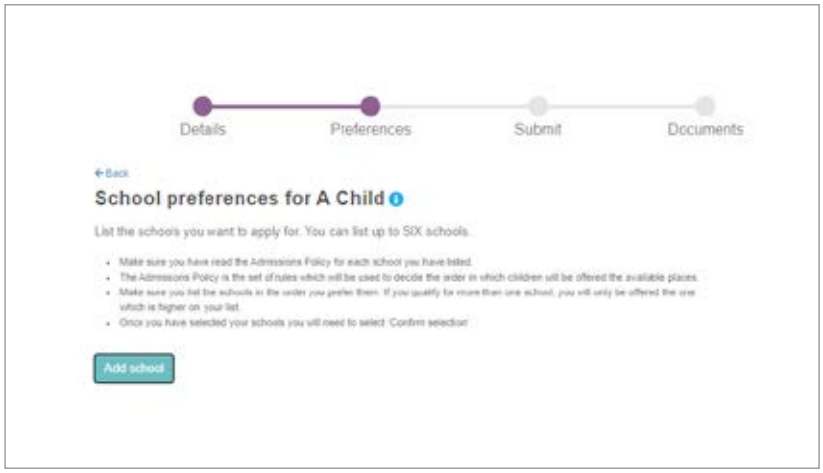


Figure 6

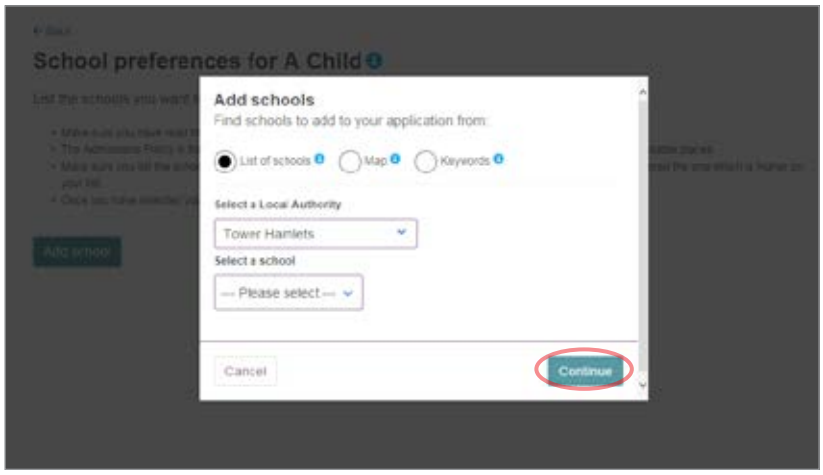


Figure 7

Appendix C – A step by step guide to applying online

5

Stage 3 – Check and submit

When you have entered all the required information, you will be prompted to check that the information is accurate and then asked to submit application – see figure 8.

Even if you submit it straight away, you can still make changes later, right up until the closing date.

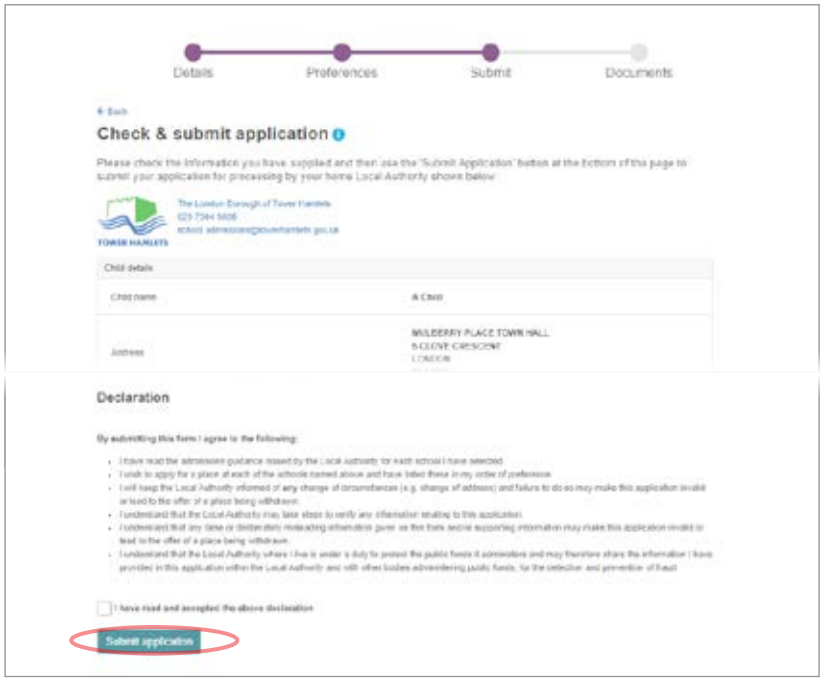


Figure 8

Confirmation

Once you have submitted an application, you will see the confirmation page, with a reference number. Please keep your reference number for any enquiries. You will also be sent an email to confirm that your application has been submitted.

It is advisable to print a copy of your application for your information.

Note: The last submitted application will be processed as your final application. If you have applied online, please do not fill out a paper application.

Thank you for applying online.

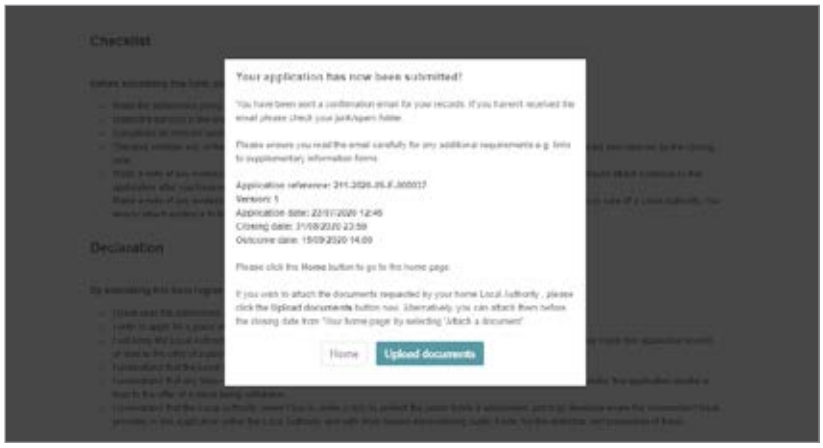


Figure 9

5

Definition of words used in this booklet

Academy	An academy is a publicly funded school which operates outside of local authority control. It is funded directly by central government and does not have to follow the national curriculum. It can choose its own curriculum, as long as it is 'broad and balanced'.
Admission	Entry to school.
Admission authority	The organisation that draws up the admission arrangements and sets out the admission criteria for the schools it maintains. The local authority is the admission authority for community schools. Each voluntary, academy or free school is its own admission authority. All admission authorities within an area liaise closely to coordinate their admission arrangements.
Admission number	The number of places available at a school for each year group.
Admission criteria	Conditions set by the admission authority, which are used to decide whether or not a place can be offered to a child when a school receives more applications than place available.
Appeal	The independent process for questioning a decision not to offer your child a place at the school you have applied for.
(CAF) common application form	The name of the local authority form used by anyone applying for a school place.
Community schools	Schools maintained only by the local authority. The local authority is responsible for admitting children to these schools.
(DfE) Department for Education	The central government department responsible for setting appropriate laws and guidance to help educate children and young people in England and Wales.
E-admissions	The online portal where parents submit their application for a reception place – www.eadmissions.org.uk
Equal preference system	A model where all applications are treated equally in accordance with the admissions policy. Therefore, if a school receives more applications than it has places available, the admission criteria will be applied to each application with no consideration given to whether or not the school is the first, second or third preference.
Free school	Free schools are schools which are set up by groups of parents, teachers, charities, trusts, religious and voluntary groups. They are funded in the same way as academies – directly from central government.
Governing bodies	Responsible for making sure that the school is managed in line with laws and follows policies in line with the conditions set by the Department for Education.
Infant, junior or primary schools	Infant schools provide education for children aged four to seven, junior schools for children aged seven to 11, and primary schools for children aged four to 11.
In-year admissions	In-year admission is where a child starts school at a time other than the normal point of entry.
Local authority	The council is responsible for many services and this includes providing education across schools within the local authority's boundaries.
Voluntary aided schools	Voluntary aided schools are either Church of England or Roman Catholic schools. Each schools governing body is responsible for admitting children to their school.

Useful contacts

5

Useful contacts

Pupil Services
Town Hall, Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
London E14 2BG

Tel: 020 7364 5006
Fax: 020 7364 4311
Email: school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Website:

- www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions
- www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance

Early Years Service
Tel: 020 7364 1553
Email: early.years@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Special Educational Needs
Tel: 020 7364 4880
Email: sen@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Tower Hamlets Family Information, Advice and Support Service (formally Parents Advice Centre)
Tel: 020 7364 6489

Useful websites

- www.eadmissions.org.uk
- www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk
- www.gov.uk/dfe
- www.ofsted.gov.uk
- www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Information and Support for Families

The Family Information Service (FIS)
The FIS provides free, impartial information and advice on a comprehensive range of services for children, young people and their families. As well as a Brokerage Service to support parents/carers in finding suitable childcare.

Tel: 020 7364 6495
Email: fis@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can also access information online at Tower Hamlets Local offer: www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk

Working together – giving families a voice

Tower Hamlets Parent and Carer Council
The Parent and Carer Council (the PCC) is Tower Hamlets' main family forum. The PCC provides a platform where parents can share information about education, health and community safety in the borough and collectively help shape the services that are available to families in the borough.

For further information and to find out how to join the PCC:
Visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/parentcouncil
Email: parentcouncil@towerhamlets.gov.uk

or call the Family Information Service on:
Tel: 020 7364 6495

Free access to computers at our Idea Stores

Please be aware that at the time of publication, the re-opening of Idea Stores following the lockdown means that only the Idea Stores at Chrisp Street and Whitechapel are open. You may also need to book a time to visit or to use the computers that have internet access. Bringing your own device to use the wifi is not currently available, so please check the website www.ideastore.co.uk to keep up to date on which services are available, or other Idea Stores that may be open.

Idea Store Chrisp Street
1 Vesey Path
East India Dock Road
London E14 6BT

Idea Store Whitechapel
321 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BU

Contact details for surrounding London authorities

Barking and Dagenham
Tel: 020 8215 3004
www.lbbd.gov.uk/admissions

Camden
Tel: 020 7974 1625
www.camden.gov.uk

City of London
Tel: 020 7332 1002
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

Greenwich
Tel: 020 8921 8043
www.greenwich.gov.uk

Hackney
Tel: 020 8820 7000
www.hackney.gov.uk

Islington
Tel: 020 7527 5515
www.islington.gov.uk

Lewisham
Tel: 020 8314 8282
www.lewisham.gov.uk

Newham
Tel: 020 8430 2000
www.newham.gov.uk

Redbridge
Tel: 020 8708 3139
www.redbridge.gov.uk

Southwark
Tel: 020 7525 2910
www.southwark.gov.uk

Westminster
Tel: 020 7745 6433
www.westminster.gov.uk

For information and guidance on school attendance, school travel support, free school meals and school clothing grant please visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

Starting Primary School in Tower Hamlets 2022
Apply online at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**