

Starting Secondary School



Southwark Information Advice and Support (SIAS)

Impartial advice

Manage the Southwark Local Offer

Support with appeals

Work in partnership with families

The screenshot shows the 'LOCAL OFFER' website for the London Borough of Southwark. The header includes the title 'LOCAL OFFER' and a search bar with the text 'Enter keywords'. Below the header is a grid of 12 service categories, each with an icon and a label:

- Education (Icon: person at a whiteboard)
- Health (Icon: heart with checkmark)
- Care (Icon: three people with speech bubbles)
- Education, Health and Care Plan (Icon: person at a whiteboard with a checkmark)
- Youth Offer (Icon: '16-25' text)
- Transport (Icon: double-decker bus)
- Wellbeing (Icon: three people in a circle)
- Training and Drop ins (Icon: calendar)
- Leisure (Icon: person with a gear and a play button)
- Housing (Icon: house with hands holding it)
- Information, Advice and Support (Icon: person with arrows pointing out)
- Have your say (Icon: speech bubble)



Type of Schools

- **Academies**
Harris Academy, City of London Academy
- **Voluntary Aided**
Notre Dame, St. Thomas the Apostle (STAC)
- **Free School**
Haberdashers' Askes Borough Academy, Charter School ED
- **Resource Base Schools**
London Nautical School, City of London Academy

See the 'Education' section of www.Localoffer.southwark.gov.uk for more information



Special Schools

School

- Newlands Academy
- Highshore
- Spa School
- Tuke School

Type

- Social emotional & Mental Health
- Mixed Needs
- Autism Specialist
- Severe and Complex Needs




Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

- An Education, Health & Care plan (EHCP) is required in order to apply for a Resource Base or Special School
- There is a different school application process for children who have an EHCP



Year 5 Annual Review

- The secondary school transition/transfer should be discussed at the Year 5 Annual Review
 - Opportunity to discuss potential schools i.e. mainstream and specialist
 - The plan **MUST** be up to date and reflective of child's current needs:
 - This is the time to raise any concerns about the contents of the plan as this is what schools will be consulted on
- 

Choosing a School

- Check school websites for details of how children with individual needs are supported (Ofsted and SEND information reports)
- Visit as many schools as possible. Check websites in advance for details of alternative arrangements linked to Covid 19
- (For those with an EHCP) Do not limit your visits to a particular type of school, consider all options (mainstream and specialist)
- Make a note in advance of key factors important to you and your child
- Speak with staff, including the SENCo if possible, to get an understanding of how the school could support your child
- Note the pros and cons of each school to help you order your preferences

Applying with an EHCP

- Secondary Transfer pack will be sent out at the **beginning of September 2021**. This will be from the SEN (Special Educational Needs) Team
- If you have not received this by 21st September 2021, contact the SEN team or SIAS
- **Do not** complete the online application process managed by the School Admissions team
- You can submit **THREE** preferences
- Listing one school **does not** maximise chances
- The SEN team 'consult' with each of your school choices. This means that they ask schools if they feel able to meet your child's needs as described in the EHCP

Applying without an EHCP

- You will have to complete the E-admissions online form
- Preferences are considered individually
- You have **SIX** preferences
- It is advised that you use all six preferences
- Complete Supplementary Information forms (SIF) where required e.g. Faith school applications

 eAdmissions

In this section

School admissions home

Information & Guidance

Register to apply online

Edit your account

Login to your account

Find your nearest school

Local Authority details

eAdmissions tutorials



Applying without an EHCP: Oversubscription Criteria

If a community school is oversubscribed, preference will be given to applications from the following:

1. Children in public care (looked after children)
2. Children with siblings who are already on roll at the school
3. Children with exceptional medical, social or psychological needs, where it is agreed by the LA and the headteacher that these can best be addressed at a particular school
4. Children of permanent staff employed at the school
5. Children living nearest to the school

Other types of mainstream schools will have their own oversubscription criteria – published on their website

The Local Authority are likely to agree to your choice of school(s) unless they consider that any of the following applies:

(a) the school or other institution requested is unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or special educational needs of the child or young person concerned, or

(b) the attendance of the child or young person at the requested school or other institution would be incompatible with—

(i) the provision of efficient education for others, or

(ii) the efficient use of resources.

(From the Children & Families Act 2014)



Key Dates

EHCP

- Application deadline: **October 2021**
- Notification of offer: **January 2022**
- Final EHCP with school named: **15th February 2022**

Non-EHCP

- Application deadline: **31st October 2021**
- Notification of Offer: **1st March 2022**

Appeal Process (EHCP)

- Right to appeal – You have **2 months** from the date on the decision letter to appeal to tribunal
- Grounds of appeal:
 - Dispute the contents of the EHCP plan (You can enter into mediation)
 - Dispute the school allocated (Mediation does not apply on these grounds)



Appeal Process (without EHCP)

- Remain on the waiting list for highest preference schools
- Community School appeals are made to Southwark
- Academies and Free School appeals are made directly to the schools
- Each school set their own deadline as to when the appeal paperwork is to be submitted.



Final Pointers

- Think about how your child will fit into any of the schools you are considering
- The Year 5 Annual Review is the time to raise any concerns you have about the plan
- Visit as many schools as possible and make use of your three choices
- **DO NOT** apply through School Admissions – the application will be rejected and any school offers rejected

Checklist

1. Visits
2. Preference
3. Deadline
4. Offer and Appeals





SIAS Contact details

Tel: 0207 525 3104
Email: SIAS@southwark.gov.uk

Book a slot at the virtual drop in session
Tuesdays 9.30am-2pm:

<https://calendly.com/southwarkias>



Fairer future

Best start in life



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🌐 www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk

🐦 @localofferswk

We are funded by Southwark Council and operate as an impartial and independent service.



Southwark Information Advice and Support Team

We provide children, young people and parents with information and advice on services relating to special educational needs and disabilities. This includes:

- Advice for 0 to 25 year olds around education, health and social care
- Individual casework and representation for those who need it
- Help when things go wrong
- Drop in sessions at Sunshine House and Peckham Library (on the ground floor)
- Training, events and courses for children, young people and parents
- Signposting to other services via the local offer
- Working in partnership with local representative groups

Please contact us for more information.



www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk

www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk

LOCAL OFFER

LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

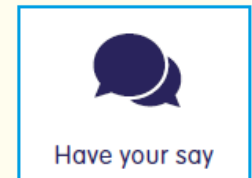
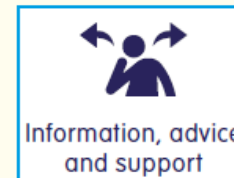
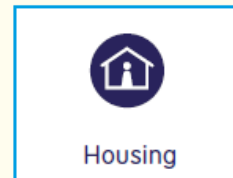
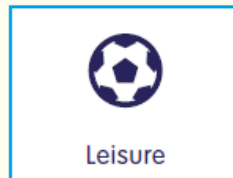
Southwark's Local Offer provides information about the services and opportunities available locally to children, young people and their families.

Please visit us at www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk or contact Southwark IAS if you prefer to speak to one of the team.

☎ 020 7525 3104

✉ localoffer@southwark.gov.uk

What the local offer can support you with:



www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk

