

School admission appeals for reception year 2024/2025

The law states that infant classes must be limited to a maximum of 30 children which has an impact on how an appeal is considered. An appeal for a reception place can only be upheld in very limited circumstances.

There are 3 circumstances which an Independent Appeal Panel can uphold an appeal for a school; if an appeal does not satisfy any of these conditions then it cannot be upheld.

These conditions are:

- The admission of additional children would not breach the infant class size limit.
- The admission arrangements did not comply with admissions law or had not been correctly and impartially applied and the child would have been offered a place if the arrangements had complied or had been correctly and impartially applied.
- The panel decides that the decision to refuse admission was not one which a reasonable admission authority would have made in the circumstances of the case.

How to make an appeal

Parents whose applications for places are unsuccessful may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel set up in accordance with section 85(3) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing and must set out the reasons on which the appeal is made.

Appeals should be made to the Clerk to the Governors at the school address.

Parents/Carers have the right to make oral representations to the Appeal Panel. Infant classes are restricted by the legislation to 30 children. Parents should be aware that an appeal against refusal of a place in an infant class may only succeed if it can be demonstrated by one of the conditions above.

Timeline for appeals

- National Offer Day for Reception places is 16th April 2024.
- 30th April 2024 is the Deadline for acceptance or refusal of school offer.
- You will need to complete an appeal form which must be sent back to the school office addressed to the Clerk to the Governors by **12.00 noon** on Friday 3rd May 2024.
- Appeals will be heard end May / June 2024.
- You will receive at least 10 working days' notice of your appeals hearing time from the Clerk of the Independent Appeal Panel.
- The Clerk to the Independent Appeal Panel will write to you within 5 working days to notify you of the panels' decision.