

# Secondary School Transition Meeting



# Meeting Agenda

- Applying for a Secondary School Place
- Explain the transition process
- Timeline
- Support available



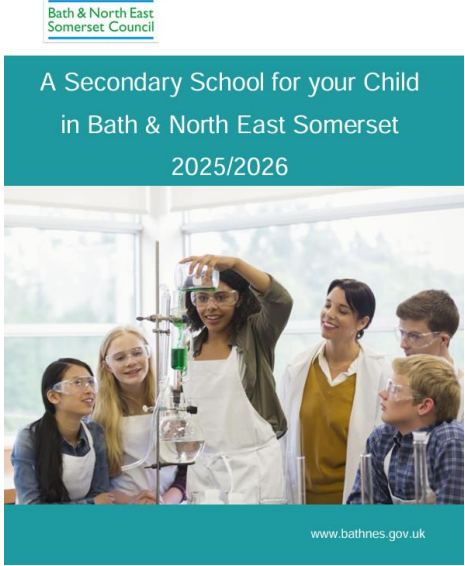
# Overview of the Transition Process

- Application deadlines
- Key dates (application opens, closing date, offer day)
- Methods of application (online portal, paper forms if applicable)
- Catchment areas, feeder schools, and admission criteria
- Appeals process (brief overview)

<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-secondary-school-place-year-7>

## Apply for a secondary school place (Year 7)

B&NES Secondary Admissions Booklet 2025 to 2026	Complete your school place application	Secondary admissions arrangements 2026 to 2027
Apply for an in-year school place	Deferred, delayed and accelerated school admissions	Secondary place allocation statements and appeals
Secondary admissions arrangements 2025 to 2026		



- Decide which schools you wish to consider making an application for your child to attend.
- Research schools (Website, OFSTED reports, Data etc.)
- Visit the schools you prefer (prepare key questions you would like to know).
- SEND/EHCP – arrange a time to talk to the SENDCo
- Check the admissions criteria for each school on your preference list.
- Decide in which order to place the schools on your preference list.
- Make the application before the closing date.



# 2026/27 Secondary School Transition Key Dates

**September 1, 2025:** Application process opens.

**October 31, 2025:** Closing date for applications.

**March 2, 2026:** National Offer Day for secondary school places.

## ***Important Notes:***

*Applications received after the deadline are considered late and will be processed after all on-time applications have been allocated.*

*The application process is coordinated by your local authority.*

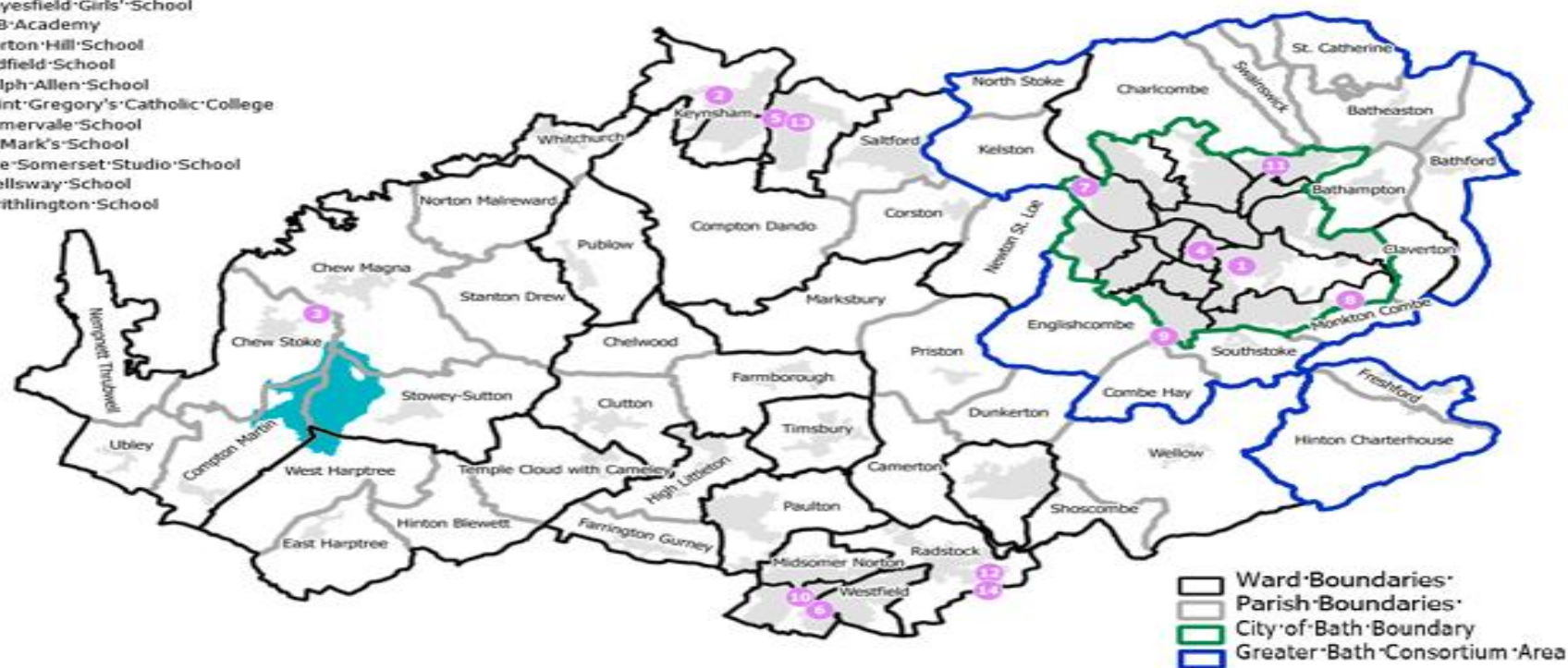
*You should apply online through your local authority's website.*

*You will be informed of the outcome of your application on National Offer Day*



# Map of Bath & North East Somerset Schools

1. Beechen Cliff School
2. Broadlands Academy
3. Chew Valley School
4. Hayesfield Girls' School
5. IKB Academy
6. Norton Hill School
7. Oldfield School
8. Ralph Allen School
9. Saint Gregory's Catholic College
10. Somervale School
11. St Mark's School
12. The Somerset Studio School
13. Wellsway School
14. Writhlington School



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- 90% of local families are usually successful in gaining a place at their first preference school.
- B&NES have now expanded the application to include **5 preference**. This does not reduce the chances of you being offered your first-choice school.



**Equal preference in school admissions** means that when allocating school places, each preference listed by a parent is given equal consideration, regardless of its order. This system ensures that a school doesn't know which preference it is for any given applicant, and that the order of preferences only becomes relevant if a child qualifies for multiple schools.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- Equal Consideration:**

- When a school reviews applications, it treats all preferences (first, second, third, etc.) equally. They don't prioritise based on the preference order.

- No Knowledge of Preference Order:**

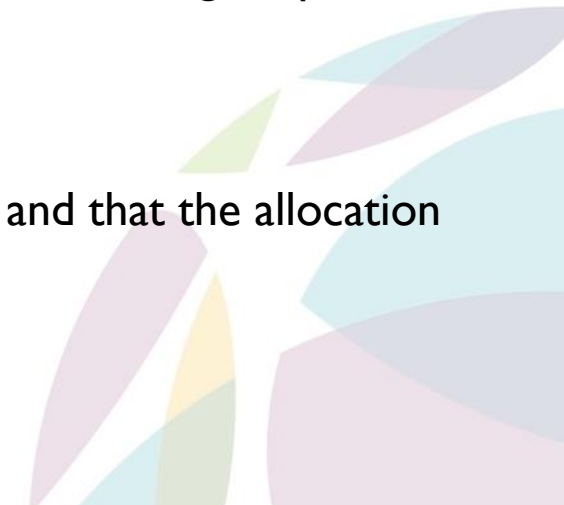
- Schools don't know if they are your first, second, or third choice during the initial assessment.

- Tie-breaker:**

- The preference order only comes into play if a child qualifies for multiple schools. In that case, the higher preference school is allocated.

- Fairness:**

- This system aims to be fair, ensuring that all preferences are given a fair chance of success, and that the allocation process is not biased by the order in which schools are listed.





# Transition Process – Supported by Somerdale

- Somerdale has a good working relationship with all of the local feeder schools (Keynsham & Bath).
- Secondary schools will not discuss transition with Somerdale until the secondary school places are confirmed.
- Somerdale will work with each school discussing pupils needs (SLT, Year 6 teacher, SENDCo, Learning Mentor).



# Transition Process – Supported by Somerdale

- Secondary school transition leads will visit the school and meet with the Y6 teacher & Somerdale Team. They will also meet with the children.
- Most secondary schools will offer transition events at their school. Some secondary schools run events at Somerdale.



# Transition Process – Supported by Somerdale

- Enhanced transition will be discussed and provided for children if required.



# What can you do to support getting your child ready for Secondary School?

- Support the Year 6 process – there will be more home learning and higher expectations.
- Understand that the school's approach will be slightly more secondary in Year 6 – we are doing this for a reason.
- Talk positively and honestly with your children about secondary school – they are amazing places!

