

Admissions to schools

A guide for parents and carers

2027/28



Dorset residents apply online at:
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/apply-school-place
or call 01305 221060



Scan here



Introduction



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the Dorset School Admissions Guide.

Starting or moving school is an important milestone in your child's life and we want to make sure you have all the information you need to help you fill in your application.

We are very proud of our schools in Dorset, but don't just take our word for it, visit your preferred schools and see what they can offer your child. As well as explaining how you apply for a place, this guide also tells you how school places are allocated, when you'll find out the result of your application and what happens next. It is really important that you apply on time and include all the relevant information, as filling in the application form incorrectly could lead to your child not being allocated their preferred place.

We hope you find this guide useful and wish your child all the best for the future.

Cllr Clare Sutton

Dorset Council Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Early Help

School admissions team contact details

Dorset Council
School Admissions
County Hall, Colliton Park
Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Telephone: 01305 221060

Email: admissions@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

To contact other departments connected with children's services, or for information on free school meals, elective home education, extended schools and the family information service, please contact **01305 221000** or visit **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**
For school uniform grants please contact schools directly.

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Children with special educational needs or disability

It is not possible for a parent to apply for a place at a special school, within a specialist resource centre or learning centre through this application process.

If your child has an education, health and care plan (EHCP) the school application and placement process will be dealt with through the special educational needs disability team. Parents must contact the special educational needs disability team in their locality office:
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-early-help-send-team

Chesil locality

01305 762400 / chesillocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Dorchester locality

01305 224220 / dorchesterlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

East Dorset locality

01202 868224 / eastlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

North Dorset locality

01258 474036 / northlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Purbeck locality

01929 557000 / purbecklocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

West Dorset locality

01308 425241 / westlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

The Local Offer website gives further information regarding the local provision for children and young people with a disability or special educational needs. More information can be found on
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/localoffer



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Important things to think about:



You can list (in order of preference) up to three schools on your application. Many schools are regularly oversubscribed and there is no guarantee of a place at your catchment, nearest or preferred school, so it is important to think carefully about the schools you are applying for.



Places are offered based on the school's admissions policy, so your child's chances of being offered a particular school are not increased by only naming one school on your application. We strongly advise putting three preferences on your application and we will always try to offer your highest preference school.

We recommend that you name your catchment school as one of your preferences.

It is important to make realistic school preferences (such as including your catchment school) because priority for a place is given to those who have named the school as a preference on their application form. If we cannot allocate your child a place at any of your preferred schools, they will be offered a place at an alternative school at the end of the allocation process. This could mean travelling a considerable distance if all of your local schools are full.



If you apply for a school which is not your catchment or nearest school (known as 'parental preference') you will be responsible for organising and paying for your child's travel to and from school for the time that they remain at the school, even if your circumstances change. There is also no guarantee of a place for any siblings you later wish to attend this school and no guarantee of a place at a linked (receiver) school, so your child may not transfer with other children in their year group.

Living in or moving into a catchment area, having a sibling link, attending a nursery or attending a feeder school does not guarantee a place at a local/preferred school. You need to be aware of any likely alternative schools which may be offered and the implications of this on your family if you move to an area where schools are full. You can contact the school admissions team to check place availability on **01305 221060**.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Things to do:

Look at the school's website and prospectus:

These should tell you about the school's aims and objectives, curriculum (subjects studied), policies and out of school activities available. If you do not have internet access, contact the school to request a copy.

Visit the school:

Schools hold open days/evenings so that you can look around the school and meet the staff (dates can usually be found on the school's website). If you would like to visit but are unable to go to an open day/evening, contact the school to arrange a tour with a member of staff.

Read the school's OFSTED report:

The Office For Standards in Education (OFSTED) inspect schools. You can view their most recent inspection reports online at: **www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports**

If you do not have internet access, contact the school to request a copy.

Read the school's oversubscription policy:

This policy explains how places are allocated when there are more applications for a particular school than places available (this is known as oversubscription). You can find the policies on our website: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies**

Look at the school performance tables:

This information includes details of levels of achievement and attendance. You can search for information relating to a particular school on the Department for Education's website: **www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

What is my catchment school...?

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-catchment-areas

Dorset school admissions - what I need to know before applying

School organisation

There are two different school organisation systems within Dorset:

Two tier

The two tier system operates in:

Beaminster, Blandford, Bridport, Gillingham, Lyme Regis, Lytchett and Upton, Purbeck, Shaftesbury, Sherborne, Sturminster Newton and Weymouth and Portland (Chesil).

Atlantic Academy, Portland is an all-through school from Reception up to Year 11.

Primary school

Ages 4-11
Reception - Year 6

Infant school

Ages 4-7
Reception - Year 2

Junior school

Ages 7-11
Year 3 - Year 6

Secondary school

Ages 11-16
(11-18 if the school has a sixth form) Year 7+

Three tier

The three tier system operates in:

Corfe Mullen, Dorchester, Ferndown and West Moors, Wimborne and Cranborne and Verwood.
St Ives Primary School within the Ferndown and West Moors Pyramid is a Primary School up to Year 6.

The following Middle Schools have a small point of entry at Year 7 (in addition to the normal point of entry for Year 5):

Allenbourn, Emmanuel, Lockyer's and St Michael's.

Dorset Studio School is a Secondary School starting at Year 7.

First school

Ages 4-9
Reception - Year 4

Middle school

Ages 9-13
Year 5 - Year 8

Upper school

Ages 13-18
Year 9+



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Dorset Schools and Pyramids*

What is my catchment school...?
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Dorset school admissions - what I need to know before applying

Sherborne Pyramid
Sherborne Abbey CE Primary School
All Saints CE VC Primary School (Bishops Caundle)
Buckland Newton CE Primary School
St Andrew's CE Primary School
St Mary's CE Primary School (Bradford Abbas)
Sherborne Primary School
Thornford CE Primary School
Trent Young's CE Primary School
The Gryphon School (Secondary)

Gillingham Pyramid
St George's CE VA Primary School (Bourton)
Gillingham Primary School
Milton on Stour CE VA Primary School
St Gregory's CE Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Marnhull)
Stower Provost Community Primary School
Wyke Primary School
St Mary the Virgin CE School (Gillingham)
Gillingham School (Secondary)

Sturminster Newton Pyramid
Hazelbury Bryan Primary School
Okeford Fitzpaine Primary School
Shillingstone Primary School
St Nicholas Primary School
Stalbridge Primary School
William Barnes Primary School
Sturminster Newton High School

Shaftesbury Pyramid
The Abbey CE VA Primary School
St Andrew's CE Primary School (Fontmell Magna)
Motcombe Primary School
Shaftesbury CE Primary School
Shaftesbury School (Secondary)

Blandford Pyramid
Archbishop Wake CE Primary School
Blandford St Mary CE Primary School
Downlands Community Primary School
Dunbury Church of England Academy
Durweston CE VA Primary School
Milldown CE Primary School
Pimperne CE VC Primary School
Spetisbury Hall & Sloper's CE Primary School
The Blandford School (Secondary)

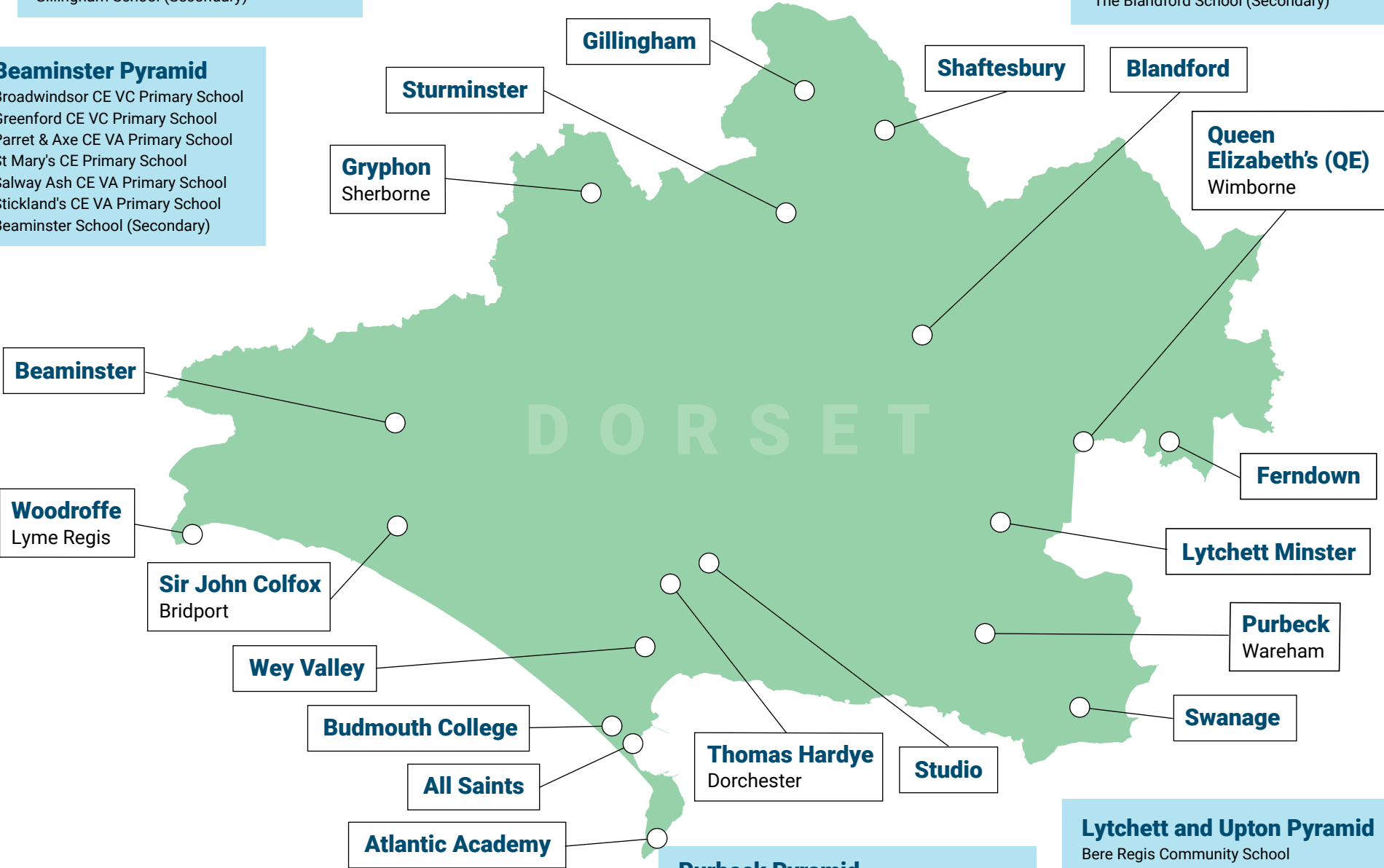
Corfe Hill Pyramid
Henbury View Community First School
Rushcombe Community First School
Sturminster Marshall Community First School
Lockyer's Middle School
Allenbourn Middle School

Lyme Regis Pyramid
Charmouth Primary School
St Michael's CE VA Primary School
Marshwood CE Primary School
Thorncombe St Mary's CE Primary School
The Woodroffe School (Secondary)

Beaminster Pyramid
Broadwindsor CE VC Primary School
Greenford CE VC Primary School
Parret & Axe CE VA Primary School
St Mary's CE Primary School
Salway Ash CE VA Primary School
Stickland's CE VA Primary School
Beaminster School (Secondary)

Bridport Pyramid
Bridport Community Primary School
Burton Bradstock CE VC Primary School
Loders CE VC Primary School
Powerstock CE VA Primary School
St Mary's CE Primary School
St Catherine's Catholic Primary School
Symondsbury CE VA Primary School
Thorner's CE VA Primary School
The Sir John Colfox (Secondary)

Weymouth & Portland Pyramid
Beechcroft St Paul's CE Primary School
Bincombe Valley Primary School
Chickerell Primary Academy
Conifers Primary School
Holy Trinity CE VC Primary School
Portesham CE VA Primary School
Radipole Primary School
St Andrew's CE Primary School
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School
St John's CE Primary School
St Nicholas & St Laurence CE Primary School
Southill Primary School
St George's Primary School (Portland)
Wyke Regis Infant School
Wyke Regis Junior School
All Saints CE Academy (Secondary)
Budmouth Academy (Secondary)
Atlantic Academy Portland (All-through)
Wey Valley Academy (Secondary)



Dorchester Pyramid
Broadmayne Community First School
Cerne Abbas CE VC First School
Cheselbourne Village School
Damers Community First School
Frome Valley CE First School
Manor Park CE VC First School
Milborne St Andrew First School
Piddle Valley CE First School
The Prince of Wales School
Puddletown CE First School
St Mary's CE VC First School (Charminster)
St Mary's Catholic First School (Dorchester)
Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School
Dorchester Middle School
St Mary's CE Middle School
St Osmund's CE Middle School
The Thomas Hardye School (Upper)
The Dorset Studio School (Secondary) (point of entry is Year 7)

Purbeck Pyramid
Bovington Academy
Corfe Castle CE Primary School
Wareham St Mary CE Primary School
St George's VA Primary School (L'ton Matravers)
St Mark's CE Primary School
St Mary & St Joseph Catholic Primary School
St Mary's RC Primary School
Stoborough CE VA Primary School
Swanage Primary School
Lulworth & Winfrith CE VC Primary School
Wool CE VA Primary School
The Purbeck School (Secondary)
The Swanage School (Secondary)

Lytchett and Upton Pyramid
Bere Regis Community School
Lytchett Matravers Primary School
Sandford St Martin CE VA Primary School
Upton Community Infant School
Upton Community Junior School
Lytchett Minster School (Secondary)

Wimborne Pyramid
Colehill First School
Cranborne CE First School
Hayeswood First School
Pamphill CE First School
Sixpenny Handley First School
St James CE First (Alderholt)
St James CE First (Gaunt's Common)
St John's CE First School
Wimborne First School
Wimborne St Giles CE First School
Witchampton CE First School
Allenbourn Middle School
Cranborne Middle School
St. Michael's CE Middle School
Queen Elizabeth's (QE) School
Emmanuel CE Middle School (feeder to QE)

Ferndown / West Moors Pyramid (including Verwood Schools)
Ferndown First School
Hampreston First School
Hillside First School
Oakhurst First School
Parley First School
St Ives Primary School
St Mary's CE First School
Three Legged Cross First School
Trinity CE First School
Verwood CE First School
Emmanuel CE Middle School
Ferndown Middle School
West Moors Middle School
Ferndown Upper School
Queen Elizabeth's (QE) School



Apply online:
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

* 'Pyramids' describe the schools in a given geographical area.

Did you know...?

If you apply online you will receive an email on national offer day confirming the outcome of your application.

Transfer - starting school for the first time, starting junior, middle, secondary or upper school

Transfer applications: Starting school for the first time

When does my child need to start school?

If your child's birth date is between:	Apply for a school place from:	Start school in:
1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023	September 2026	September 2027
1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024	September 2027	September 2028
1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025	September 2028	September 2029
1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026	September 2029	September 2030

- A child is of compulsory school age at the start of the school term following their 5th birthday. Parents have a legal duty to ensure their children receive suitable education, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise (this includes home education).
- There will be a school place available for your child to receive full-time education for the September following their fourth birthday.
- You will need to complete an application form to apply for a school place – it is not enough just to register your child's details with a nursery or school.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions



Applying to a non-Dorset school...? You will need to check the other Local Authority's late closing dates

Transfer - starting school for the first time, starting junior, middle, secondary or upper school

Transfer applications: closing dates

You must be a Dorset resident to complete this application form.

If you do not have a confirmed Dorset address but wish to apply for a Dorset school, please apply through the local authority admissions team in the area where you currently live.

If your child is due to start Secondary or Upper School

Moving to the next age range school in September 2027 (see page 7):

Application Closing Date	31 October 2026
Late Round Closing Date	28 February 2027
After 28 February 2027, applications will be considered as quickly as possible after the late round offer date (30 March 2027).	

If your child is due to start Primary, Infant, Junior or Middle School

Either starting school for the first time in Reception or moving to the next age range school in September 2027 (see page 7):

Application Closing Date	15 January 2027
Late Round Closing Date	15 April 2027
After 15 April 2027 applications will be processed as quickly as possible after the late round offer date (14 May 2027).	

Submitting your application by the first closing date gives your child the best possible chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

Late applications: If you send in your application after the first closing date, you will be considered for a place along with anyone else who has applied late, or is appealing for a place or was refused a place following the original closing date and asked to be added to the waiting list.

Remember: the school may already be full in your child's year group following allocations made in the previous round.

After the late round: If you apply after the late round closing date(s) your application will be considered after the late round offer dates.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

What is my catchment school...?

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-catchment-areas

Transfer - starting school for the first time, starting junior, middle, secondary or upper school

Before you apply

Useful information

Parental Responsibility

Certain legal rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority relating to care of a child.

- We will only consider one school admissions application. This should be completed by the person with parental responsibility who has care of the child for the majority of school days/ weeks (unless a Court Order states differently). If there is joint parental responsibility, you must indicate on the application that all those with parental responsibility are aware of and agree to the application being made.
- Information about parental responsibility is available online at **www.gov.uk/parental-rights-responsibilities**.
- Please refer to the Home Address section (page 27) for information about how we decide on a child's home address in cases of shared care.
- We will only discuss the application with the person(s) shown to have parental responsibility for the child, unless we have formal permission to contact another nominated person (such as a social worker, translator or other family member).
- In all cases, we have the right to request evidence and/or to take legal advice before processing an application.

Important: If a child lives with someone other than a close relative for 28 days or more, legally, Children's Services must be informed 01305 221498.

Catchment area:

A geographic area from which children may be given priority for admission to a particular school.

- Children living within a school's catchment area are ranked as a high priority for a place. There is, however, no guarantee of an offer of a place at your catchment school as it may be full or oversubscribed in your child's year group.
- If you do not name your catchment or nearest school as one of your preferences on your application form you are likely to be responsible for organising and paying for your child's school transport.
- To check your catchment school visit **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-catchment-areas** - please be aware that this is for guidance only, for confirmation of your catchment school, contact the school admissions team.



- The following schools do not have catchment areas: All Saints CE School (Weymouth), Budmouth College (Weymouth), Dorset Studio School (Dorchester) and all Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic schools.

Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Published admission number (PAN):

Each school has an agreed maximum total number of pupils for each of its year groups. This number is based on building space availability or (for some first/primary schools) on legal class size limits and has been agreed by the school's governing body. You can find out the published admission number for a particular school by checking our school pyramids information on pages 45-70 of this guide.

It may be possible for a school to exceed the published admission number, but this is considered on a case by case basis and only applies to the following situations:

- For schools which follow Dorset's admissions policy (see pages 33-34), if the last place within the published admission number is given to one of multiple birth siblings (e.g. twins or triplets), the other birth siblings will also be offered a place.
- If an error occurs and the child should have been offered a place.
- If a large group of families with children arrive in the area and it has not been possible to make an offer within the normal allocation of places because of short notice.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

How do we decide if...

We measure the shortest straight line (“as the crow flies”) distance from home address to the school building. We have a geographical mapping system which works out an easting and a northing for both the home and the school and calculates the distance between them. The final place will then be allocated to the person living the shortest distance from the school, within the relevant oversubscription criteria.

If there are two home addresses exactly the same distance from the school then a person with no connection to Dorset Council will draw lots to decide who is allocated the final place.

Oversubscription

Where there are more applications for a particular school than there are places available applications are ranked (ordered) according to the criteria they meet and a place offered to the child meeting the highest criteria in the oversubscription policy.

To check the oversubscription criteria for the type of school you are applying for, see the ‘Oversubscription Policy’ in the Useful information section of this guide (pages 33-34).

If you are applying for a school which has its own admissions policy, details of the policy can be found on **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies** or by contacting the school.

There is more information about how we determine criteria on pages 27-34.

Ability/aptitude tests:

Some schools offer a certain number of places based on a child’s ability or aptitude and have a test to decide who will be offered these places. Budmouth College (Weymouth) is the only Dorset school who holds these tests, but Grammar schools in neighbouring areas may also hold entrance tests.

- To find out more about this and apply for your child to take the test, contact the school or visit their website for full details of normal year of entry (transfer).
- You will need to complete a school admissions application form before the closing date – applying to take the test is not the same as applying for a school place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Feeder/receiver schools:

Some junior, middle, secondary and upper schools offer higher priority in their admissions policy to children who have attended a particular infant, first, primary or middle school. The lower age range school is called a feeder school and the higher age range school is a receiver school.

Feeder link will be considered where children have been attending during the previous year and are on the school roll at the application closing date.

- Attending a particular pre-school/nursery setting does not provide any priority of securing a place at an attached or neighbouring Dorset school - unless it is specifically named in the school's admission policy.
- There is no guarantee of an offer of a place at the receiver school as it may be full or oversubscribed in your child's year group.
- Independent schools are not feeder schools for state maintained schools.
- To find out about feeder/receiver schools in your local area, please see our 'School Pyramids' information on pages 45-70 of this guide.

Siblings:

A brother or sister (full, half, foster, step or adopted) living with parent/s or carer/s who are single, married or cohabiting, at the same home address.

- Please provide full details on your application form if your child has a sibling link to the schools you are applying for. We are unable to consider a child as having a sibling link if it has not been clearly stated on your application.
- If there is a shared care arrangement, please send us a copy of a solicitor's letter or Court Order (confirming that the children live together and stating their main carer and home address) as proof that the children are siblings.
- There is no guarantee that any siblings you later wish to attend the school will be offered a place, as the school may be full or oversubscribed in their year group.
- Please see the school's individual admissions policy for further information and details of how to meet their sibling criteria (**www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies**).

Children in (or previously in) care:

Children who have had a full or interim care order or children who are or have ever been accommodated under Section 20/22 of the Children Act 1989.

- Children who are or have been in care are usually given the highest priority for admission to Dorset schools.
- An application for a child in care should be completed by the person or local authority with responsibility for the child. Evidence that the child is or has ever been in care must be sent with the application form. This should be a copy of the adoption order and confirmation letter from the local authority that last looked after the child.

- Further information is available in our children in care guide, available online at: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-in-care**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Apply online: You will receive confirmation when your application has been submitted, which will include details of your preferences. You can log on and view your outcome on offer day.

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/allocations/school-allocations

Transfer - starting school for the first time, starting junior, middle, secondary or upper school

How to apply:

Before making your application, please ensure you have read the 'Important things to think about' section on page 5 of this guide and Useful information pages.

- You will receive two confirmation emails - one after you have registered your details to verify the account and the second as soon as you have submitted your application. Please keep a safe record of these emails.
- List up to 3 schools in order of preference. One of these schools should be your catchment school. You'll receive a confirmation email once you've submitted your application.
- Remember to keep a safe note of your username (the email address you used to register) and your password to access the result of your application. We cannot reset them for you if you forget them.

A paper application form can be requested by contacting **01305 221060** or you may download a paper copy from the Admissions website.

Is there anything else I need to do?

Yes - It is your responsibility to make sure you have sent in all the required evidence along with your application. We can only consider your application based on the evidence you have submitted and will not chase you for additional information.

You may have to complete an additional form if you want to apply to religious schools. This is an extra form (Supplementary Information Form or SIF) and not instead of the application form. For more information see 'Religious, faith or denominational' in the Useful information section of this guide (page 32). You should also view our website

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/supplementary-information-forms

Check whether you need to send

Proof of a new address

Copies of passports and visas

Proof of parental responsibility

Medical evidence

Baptismal certificates, letters or supplementary forms for a faith application

Child in care or vulnerable child proof



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

What if I change my mind?

If you need to change the schools you have applied for or the order in which you have listed them, please complete our “Changes to Submitted Application” form. This can be downloaded from our website, or contact **01305 221060** to request a copy.

Remember:

- Your change of preference application must be received by the relevant closing date(s) (see page 10)
- A school may be full in your child’s year group and we may not be able to offer your child a place at any of your new preference schools. If we can offer your child a place at any of your new preference schools, we will automatically withdraw the original place offered.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

How are transfer applications processed?

- 1 All application forms and supporting evidence sent before the closing date are entered into our database.
- 2 If required, application details are passed to other admissions authorities (such as schools who process their own applications or other local authority school admissions teams).
- 3 Schools preferenced on applications, are ranked (ordered) according to the admissions criteria for each school. To make sure applications are processed fairly, we do not consider your order of preference at this stage (this means that priority is given to those who meet the highest admissions criteria rather than to those who have named the school as their first preference).
- 4 Available places are allocated. We consider your order of preferences and will try to offer you the highest possible of your preferred schools.
- 5 If we have not been able to offer you any of your preferred schools and your child would be a Dorset resident without a school place, we will make an alternative offer. This will be the nearest school (considering transport) with an available place.
- 6 You will receive written confirmation of your application's outcome, including transport entitlement. Look out for an email or letter in the post.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

When will I find out the result of my application?

We will write to advise you of the result of your application and whether you qualify for school transport. **This offer letter will be emailed** (where we are not able to send your offer letter by email, we will post it to you) on the date shown below:

Transfer and starting school for the first time:

If your child is due to start Secondary or Upper School (moving to the next age range school in September 2027)

Application submitted:	Offer date:
On or before 31/10/2026	01/03/2027
On or before 28/02/2027	30/03/2027
After 28/02/2027	As soon as possible after 30/03/2027

If your child is due to start Primary, Infant, Junior or Middle School (either starting school for the first time in Reception or moving to the next age range school in September 2027)

Application submitted:	Offer date:
On or before 15/01/2027	16/04/2027
On or before 15/04/2027	14/05/2027
After 15/04/2027	As soon as possible after 14/05/2027

If you applied online by 31/10/2026 (secondary and upper school applications) or 15/01/2027 (primary infant, junior or middle school applications), you can log into your online account to view the result of your application. You will also receive an email later in the day with your offer letter. This letter will also detail any transport entitlement.

Important: We are unable to tell anyone the result of their application before the result dates given above.

If you decide that you would like your child to attend an induction day before you have been notified of the outcome of your application, this is done entirely at your risk.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

What should I do next?

Place offered letter:

- When you receive your offer of a Dorset school place, your letter will advise you that if you are happy with your offer you do NOT need to inform us as we will assume you are accepting the offer. We will inform the Dorset school that you are accepting the place. Your details will be passed to the school that you have been offered and they will be in contact with information about transfer/step up days and start dates etc. Once the school has informed you of the start date, then your child will be placed on roll at that school on the morning of the date you have been advised as the first day your child needs to attend.
- If your offer is for a school not in Dorset, you may need to confirm acceptance. You will need to check this with the offered school or the other local authority.

Waiting lists:

- You can only request for your child to be added to a particular school's waiting list if you have already applied for and been refused a place at this school.
- Once added to the waiting list, your child's name will remain on the list for the Autumn term only. Please confirm in writing before the start of the Spring school term if you would like your child's name to remain on the list. If the school has a waiting list, your child's name will remain on the list for the Spring and Summer terms.
- If a place becomes available, those on the waiting list will be considered along with any current applications and anyone with a pending appeal hearing. The place will be offered according to the relevant admissions policy.
- The children meeting the highest admission criteria for a particular school are placed at the top of the waiting list. This means that your child's position on the waiting list can change regularly, as it does not operate on a "first come, first served" basis.
- We will contact you immediately if we are able to offer your child a place.

Withdrawing an offer:

An offer will only be withdrawn if:

- It was based on an application that was fraudulent or deliberately misleading.
- It was made in error.
- It was made by someone who did not have the authority to offer a school place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

- A parent (having been issued with reminders from the school or admissions team and made aware of the consequences) failed to accept their school place within one week of the final reminder. This includes failure to respond to contact from the school regarding transition arrangements/"taster" sessions.
- We receive written confirmation from a parent that they wish to decline the school place offered.

Declining an offer:

If you decide to decline the place offered you must:

- **confirm this in writing** to the school admissions team (either by email or post); and
- advise us of the alternative educational arrangements you have made.

Your offer will then be withdrawn and the place may be offered to another child.

Appealing a decision

School admissions appeals:

If your child is not offered a place at your preferred school, you can submit an appeal against this decision to an independent appeals panel.

Important: Accepting a place at an alternative school will not in any way affect an appeal for your chosen school.

Infant Class Size Restrictions: If you are appealing for a place for a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 at a school which operates a class size of 30, this is known as an Infant Class Size appeal and is different to a standard appeal. Your refusal letter will make clear whether your appeal would be considered as an Infant Class Size appeal. **It is very rare for Infant Class Size appeals to be allowed.**

Further information about the school admissions appeals process (including a guide to appeals, timetable and application forms) can be found on our website:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-appeals or by contacting the Democratic Services team on **01305 224188**.

Some schools have their own independent appeals panels. Check if this applies to the school you are appealing for on their website. If it does, you should contact the school directly about appealing for a place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Apply online: You will receive confirmation when your application has been submitted.

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/allocations/school-allocations

In Year - moving school part way through the school year

In Year Applications:

If your child is moving into an existing year group, for example changing schools because of a house move or moving from one primary school into another primary school.

We do not encourage moving from one local school to another school mid-year because research shows it can have a negative effect on a child's progress. Consider whether it is necessary to move schools and speak to your child's current school before completing an application. If your child has already started their exam courses, it is unlikely that another school will be able to match your child's options or exam boards, which may affect their final grades.

You do not have to visit the school prior to an application or before you receive an outcome of your application.

- **You may make an In Year application at any time of year as there are no closing dates for this type of application.**
- **You do not need to be a Dorset resident to complete this type of application form.** However, if you are applying for a school in another county, please contact their school admissions team (see page 44 for neighbouring local authority contact details).
- **Some schools process their own applications.** You should contact the school directly to enquire about a place for your child. The school website will have details on how to apply. If you contact a school and they say they are full, you still should ask to make a formal application as they cannot refuse to allow you to make an application. The school must provide you with a written outcome letter confirming either an offer or why they are not offering a place and also advising you of your right to submit an appeal against this decision.
- **Please note we do not process applications for post-16 students (sixth-form, college or training)** rather you should contact the school or college directly for further information.
- Applications will be processed no more than half a term in advance of date place requested. If you are applying for a place for September 2027 (other than a point of entry) your application will be considered from June/July 2027.
- All In-Year applications will receive an outcome within 10-15 school days. If the application is to be referred to the In Year Fair Access process, then an outcome of that process may take a further 20 school days
- Once a place has been offered, we expect it to be taken up within 15 school days of your requested start date.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

How to apply:

Before making your application, please ensure you have read the 'Important things to think about section' on page 5 of this guide.

- List up to 3 schools in order of preference. One of these schools should be your catchment school. You'll receive a confirmation email once you've submitted your application.
- You will receive two emails - one after you have registered your details to verify the account and the second as soon as you have submitted your application. Please keep a safe record of these emails.

A paper application form can be requested by contacting **01305 221060** or you may download a paper copy from the Admissions website.

Oversubscription policy:

Where there are more applications for a particular school than there are places available, applications are ranked (ordered) according to the criteria they meet and a place offered to the child meeting the highest criteria in the oversubscription policy.

To check which type of school you are applying for and for more information about oversubscription criteria, see the relevant section in this guide (pages 33-34).

If you are applying for a school which has its own admissions policy, details of the policy can be found on **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies** or by contacting the school.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Before you apply - useful information

Catchment area:

A geographic area from which children may be given priority for admission to a particular school.

- Children living within a school's catchment area are ranked as a high priority for a place. There is, however, no guarantee of an offer of a place at your catchment school as it may be full or oversubscribed in your child's year group.
- If you do not name your catchment or nearest school as one of your preferences on your application form you are likely to be responsible for organising and paying for your child's school transport.
- To check your catchment school visit **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-catchment-areas** - please be aware that this is for guidance only, for confirmation of your catchment school, contact the school admissions team.
- The following schools do not have catchment areas: All Saints CE School (Weymouth), Budmouth College (Weymouth), Dorset Studio School (Dorchester) and all Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic schools.

Published admission number (PAN):

Each school has an agreed maximum total number of pupils for each of its year groups. This number is based on building space availability or (for some first/primary schools) on legal class size limits and has been agreed by the school's governing body. You can find out the published admission number for a particular school by checking our school pyramids information on pages 45-70 of this guide.

It may be possible for a school to exceed the published admission number, but this is considered on a case by case basis and only applies to the following situations:

- For schools which follow Dorset's admissions policy (see pages 33-34), if the last place within the published admission number is given to one of multiple birth siblings (e.g. twins or triplets), the other birth siblings will also be offered a place.
- If an error occurs and the child should have been offered a place.
- If a large group of families with children arrive in the area and it has not been possible to make an offer within the normal allocation of places because of short notice.
- If an unexpected event occurs in a school which means that it is necessary to place children urgently or temporarily into an alternative education provision.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Is there anything else I need to do?

Yes - It is your responsibility to make sure you have sent in all the required evidence along with your application. We can only consider your application based on the evidence you have submitted and will not chase you for additional information.

Check whether you need to send*
Proof of a new address
Copies of passports and visas
Proof of parental responsibility
Medical evidence
Baptismal certificates, letters or supplementary forms for a faith application
Child in care or vulnerable child proof
Information about siblings already on roll or with pending applications

* For more information, see the relevant sections in the 'Useful information' pages of this guide.

What if I change my mind?

If you need to change the schools you have applied for or the order in which you have listed them, please complete our "Changes to Submitted Application" form. This can be downloaded from our website, or contact 01305 221060 to request a paper copy.

Remember:

A school may be full in your child's year group and we may not be able to offer your child a place at any of your new preference schools.

After the outcome of your application:

We will contact you to confirm the result of your application. If you have been refused a place, we will explain the options available.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

In year fair access:

This is where an independent panel ensures that children who have no school place and meet the criteria set out in the In Year Fair Access policy quickly have access to education.

All applications that are referred to the In Year Fair Access protocol will receive an outcome within 20 days of the referral. All referrals will take place within a maximum of 15 days from the date of application.

Further information is available on our website:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies

What should I do next?

Place offered:

Once you have received an offer of a school place you must contact the school to organise for a start date. Your child will be placed on roll on the first day that they attend the school. If you do not attend the school within 15 school days of the offer being made you may be advised that the place will be withdrawn.

Waiting lists:

- You can only request for your child to be added to a particular school's waiting list if you have already applied for and been refused a place at this school and the school holds a waiting list.
- If a place becomes available, those on the waiting list will be considered along with any current applications and anyone with a pending appeal hearing. The place will be offered according to the relevant admissions policy.
- The children meeting the highest admission criteria for a particular school are placed at the top of the waiting list. This means that your child's position on the waiting list can change regularly, as it does not operate on a "first come, first served" basis.
- We will contact you immediately if we are able to offer your child a place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Withdrawing an offer:

An offer will only be withdrawn if:

- It was based on an application that was fraudulent or deliberately misleading.
- It was made in error.
- It was made by someone who did not have the authority to offer a school place.
- A parent (having been issued with reminders from the school or admissions team and made aware of the consequences) failed to accept their school place within one week of the final reminder. This includes failure to respond to contact from the school regarding transition arrangements/"taster" sessions.
- We receive written confirmation from a parent that they wish to decline the school place offered.

Appealing a decision

School admissions appeals:

If your child is not offered a place at your preferred school, you can submit an appeal against this decision to an independent appeals panel.

Important: Accepting a place at an alternative school will not in any way affect an appeal for your chosen school.

Infant Class Size Restrictions: If you are appealing for a place for a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 at a school which operates a class size of 30, this is known as an Infant Class Size appeal and is different to a standard appeal. Your refusal letter will make clear whether your appeal would be considered as an Infant Class Size appeal. **It is very rare for Infant Class Size appeals to be allowed.**

Further information about the school admissions appeals process (including a guide to appeals, timetable and application forms) can be found on our website:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-appeals or by contacting the Democratic Services team on **01305 224188**.

Some schools have their own independent appeals panels. Check if this applies to the school you are appealing for on their website. If it does, you should contact the school directly about appealing for a place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Useful information

Home address:

The address where a child resides all or the majority of school days/weeks.

If there is a dispute over a child's home address, we will use the address to which Child Benefit is paid. If Child Benefit is not received, we will use the home address given on the child's General Practitioner (doctor's) record. Please refer to the parental responsibility section (page 29) for information about who should complete a child's application form in cases of shared care.

Remember:

Please make it clear on your application whether you are applying from your current or your new address. We can only base your application on a new address if you have supplied us with appropriate evidence of this address.

- If you move address after submitting your application, you must send us evidence of your new address in order for us to process your application based on this address. Your application will be based on your confirmed address at the closing date.
- If you move address before your child starts at their new school, please tell us your new address and date of move so that we have correct contact details for you and can reassess any transport entitlement.

UK residents

Important: If you or your child have recently moved or are due to move into or within Dorset, you must send us evidence of your new address. This should be one of the following:

Type of house move	Evidence we need
Property sale	A solicitor's letter confirming exchange of contracts on your property sale and purchase.
Property rental	A copy of your new tenancy agreement (giving property address, date, duration of tenancy), signed by yourself and your new landlord as well as notice to quit your current property. The new tenancy agreement must be signed and dated before the closing date, but can have a start date later than the closing date.
Moving to live with a friend or relative	A letter from your friend/relative confirming the arrangements and date that you will be moving to live with them as well as proof of their address (such as a recent council tax or utility bill). Your application can only be based on this address once you are actually living there.
Child moving from one parent/carer to live with another on a long-term basis	Written confirmation from both parents (or from parent/previous carer and new carer) of the new arrangements as well as proof of the new address (such as a copy of a recent council tax or utility bill).
Armed services or crown servants	Posting order or official letter stating the date you are due to move and unit postal address or quartering area.
Domestic abuse/violence refuge	Written confirmation (from refuge staff) that you are living in the refuge due to domestic abuse/violence.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions



Moving to live in the UK?

- If you are a British or Irish citizen living abroad, including outside of the UK and Northern Ireland, you need to send us copies of passports or citizen cards, proof of a UK address where you will be resident and date of arrival in the UK for yourself and your child. We can process your application as soon as we have received these.
- If you are a citizen from any other country or jurisdiction, you need to send us copies of passports, appropriately endorsed visas, proof of a UK address where you will be resident and date of arrival in the UK for yourself and your child. We can only process your application once your child is living in the UK. Original passports and visas must be shown at the school when your child starts.
- We will process applications from asylum seekers on a case by case basis, working with other agencies as necessary

UK Service Personnel

- In line with Dorset Council policy, school admissions will work within the Armed Forces Covenant. If you think that the AFC will apply to you, then please ensure you make it clear on your application for a school place and for school transport.

We will comply with other policies and codes such as The Armed Forces Covenant and Special Educational Needs legislation **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions



Parental Responsibility

Certain legal rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority relating to care of a child.

- We will only consider one school admissions application. This should be completed by the person with parental responsibility who has care of the child for the majority of school days/ weeks (unless a Court Order states differently). If there is joint parental responsibility, you must indicate on the application that all those with parental responsibility are aware of and agree to the application being made.
- Information about parental responsibility is available online at **www.gov.uk/parental-rights-responsibilities**.
- By submitting the application, you are confirming that all those with parental responsibility are in agreement with the application.
- If we receive a further application from someone else with PR, we will ask you both to determine which application should be considered. The other application will then be withdrawn.
- If you cannot agree, you will need to seek legal advice and if necessary resolve the issue through the court system, for example to obtain a 'Specific Issues Order'.
- If no agreement is reached the application for transfer will be suspended until such time as agreement is reached. You should be aware that failure to reach an agreement may mean your child will not have a school place or there are no longer places at your preferred schools.
- Please refer to the Home Address section (page 27-28) for information about how we decide on a child's home address in cases of shared care.
- We will only discuss the application with the person(s) shown to have parental responsibility for the child, unless we have formal permission to contact another nominated person (such as a social worker, translator or other family member).
- In all cases, we have the right to request evidence and/or to take legal advice before processing an application.

Important: If a child lives with someone other than a close relative for 28 days or more, legally, Children's Services must be informed 01305 221498.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Catchment area:

A geographic area from which children may be given priority for admission to a particular school.

- Children living within a school's catchment area are ranked as a high priority for a place. There is, however, no guarantee of an offer of a place at your catchment school as it may be full or oversubscribed in your child's year group.
- If you do not name your catchment or nearest school as one of your preferences on your application form you are likely to be responsible for organising and paying for your child's school transport.
- To check your catchment school visit **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-catchment-areas** - please be aware that this is for guidance only. For confirmation of your catchment school, contact the school admissions team.
- The following schools do not have catchment areas: All Saints CE School (Weymouth), Budmouth College (Weymouth), Dorset Studio School (Dorchester) and all Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic schools.

Feeder/receiver schools:

Some junior, middle, secondary and upper schools offer higher priority in their admissions policy to children who have attended a particular infant, first, primary or middle school. The lower age range school is called a feeder school and the higher age range school is a receiver school. Feeder link will be considered where children have been attending during the previous year and are on the school roll at the application closing date.

- Attending a particular pre-school/nursery setting does not guarantee a place at an attached or neighbouring school - unless it is specifically named in the school's admission policy.
- There is no guarantee of an offer of a place at the receiver school as it may be full or oversubscribed in your child's year group.
- Independent schools are not feeder schools for state maintained schools.
- To find out about feeder/receiver schools in your local area, please see our 'School Pyramids' information on pages 45-70 of this guide.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Children in (or previously in) care:

Children who have had a full or interim care order or children who are or have ever been accommodated under Section 20/22 of the Children Act 1989.

- Children who are or have been in care are usually given the highest priority for admission to Dorset schools.
- An application for a child in care should be completed by the person or local authority with responsibility for the child. Evidence that the child is or has ever been in care must be sent with the application form. This should be a copy of the adoption order and confirmation letter from the local authority that last looked after the child.
- Further information is available in our children in care guide, available online at: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-in-care**.

Siblings:

A brother or sister (full, half, foster, step or adopted) living with parent/s or carer/s who are single, married or cohabiting, at the same home address.

- Please provide full details on your application form if your child has a sibling link to the schools you are applying for. We are unable to consider a child as having a sibling link if it has not been clearly stated on your application.
- If there is a shared care arrangement, please send us a copy of a solicitor's letter or Court Order (confirming that the children live together and stating their main carer and home address) as proof that the children are siblings.
- There is no guarantee that any siblings you later wish to attend the school will be offered a place, as the school may be full or oversubscribed in their year group.
- Please see the school's individual admissions policy for further information and details of how to meet their sibling criteria (**www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies**).

Children of UK service personnel:

UK service personnel or crown servants

- Dorset Council complies with the Armed Forces Covenant.
 - For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting to the area or crown servants returning from overseas to live in the area, we will allocate a place in advance of a family's arrival in the area.
 - In order to do so, we require an official letter giving a relocation date and unit postal address/quartering area address for a service child.
 - Children of UK service personnel may also be an exception to the published admission number of a school.
- www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/2026-to-2027-school-admissions-policies**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Religious, faith or denominational:

Some schools offer higher priority in their admissions criteria for applications made on religious/faith grounds.

- **Important:** Please check the admissions policy of the school you wish to apply for. Each policy will clearly state the evidence you need to send in order for us to consider your application under religious /faith criteria. It will also show whether the school would like you to complete a supplementary information form.
- Supplementary information forms (also known as SIFs) are used by schools to confirm your connection with a particular religious faith. These forms can be downloaded from the following page on our website: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/supplementary-information-forms** and should be returned directly to the school.

Medical needs or disability:

The local authority is all inclusive and will meet all legislative requirements to accommodate children within their educational setting as appropriate to their need.

- If your child has special educational needs, a disability or a medical condition that requires special adaptations, equipment or management (but does not have an education, health and care plan or a statement of special educational needs), you should contact prospective schools to discuss the facilities and support available. SEND Information Advice and Support Service may be able to help and further information about this service can be found by visiting www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or by telephoning 01305 221000.
- If you are applying for a particular school on exceptional medical grounds, you will need to provide written evidence in support of your application from an appropriate health professional stating that your preferred school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of your child.

The Local Offer website gives further information regarding the local provision for children and young people with a disability or special educational needs.

More information can be found on **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/localoffer**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Oversubscription policy:

This explains how places are allocated when there are more applications for a particular school than there are places available.

Applications are ranked (ordered) according to the criteria they meet and a place offered to the child meeting the highest criteria in the oversubscription policy.

Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Dorset Council is the admission authority for these schools, therefore the schools use Dorset Council's admissions policy .

Foundation, Voluntary Aided, Trust Foundation, Academy, Free School, Studio School. The governors of these schools are responsible for setting their own admission policies. These schools may choose to use Dorset Council's admissions policy or develop their own admissions policy:

To check which type of school you are applying for, see the 'category' column in our published schools directory on pages 31-58 of this guide. If you are applying for a school which has its own admissions policy, details of the policy can be found on **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies** or by contacting the school.

Rank	Dorset Council Oversubscription Policy	Further informaton
Highest 1	Children who are or have been in care or are looked after by the local authority	Page 34 (footnote 1)
2	Children who the authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social needs and where there is a need for a place at one specific school	Page 34 (footnote 2)
3	Children who live within the school's catchment area and will have a sibling attending the school at the time they would be due to start	Pages 28 & 30 & 34 (footnote 3)
4	Children living in the school's catchment area who are attending the preferred school's recognised maintained feeder school during the previous year and are on that school's roll at the time of application.	Pages 28 & 29 & 34 (footnote 4)
5	Children living within the school catchment area	Page 30
6	Children living outside the school's catchment area who will have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission	Pages 30 & 34 (footnote 3 & 5)
7	Children living outside the catchment area who attend the preferred school's recognised feeder school during the previous year at the time of the application	Pages 29 & 34 (footnote 5)
8	Children living outside the school's catchment area who wish to attend a Church of England voluntary controlled school on religious/faith grounds	Page 34 (footnote 6)
9	Children of staff who have at least two years continuous service at the school or have been recruited to meet a demonstrable skills shortage at the closing date of the application and intend to still be employed at the school at the time their child would be due to start. The term "children" includes those non-blood related but resident through marriage, civil partnerships or family cohabitation	Page 34 (footnotes 7 & 8)
10	All other children living outside the catchment area (known as distance criteria)	Page 30



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Oversubscription policy footnotes:

1. A "Child in Care" means any child who is in the care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. A child who was "previously a Child in Care" means a child who after being Looked After became subject to an Adoption Order under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, a Residence Order under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 or Special Guardianship Order under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989.
2. Applications will only be considered under this category if there is evidence provided such as a Child Protection Order, Children in Need document or a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional. The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child. The local authority is all inclusive and will meet all legislative requirements to accommodate children within their educational setting as appropriate to their need.
3. The term 'sibling' means full brother or sister, half or step brother or sister, adoptive brother or sister and other non-blood related children who live with married or cohabiting parents in the same household and relates to all year groups provided by the school. In the case of an infant school the sibling link will apply to the related junior school and vice versa. Sibling link will only be considered if it is clearly stated on the application form.
4. This feeder school criteria only applies to children attending the recognised feeder Infant School and are applying to the recognised receiver Junior School. This applies to Upton Infant & Junior School and Wyke Regis Infant & Junior School.
5. This does not include independent schools, pre-schools or nurseries.
6. In order to qualify for consideration under this category, parents/guardians will need to show that at least one adult family member and the child to whom the application relates to have been attending their local church at least once a month for a minimum of a year prior to the closing date for applications. The application must also be supported by a written statement from the vicar/priest/minister or leader of the church confirming this. In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship, the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance, will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.
7. The term 'children' includes full, half, step, adopted and those non-blood related but resident through marriage, civil partnerships or single family co-habitation arrangements at the time of application or deadline.
8. Staff are defined as all Dorset Council employed teaching and support staff at the preferred school. 'Children of staff' refers to situations where the staff member is the natural parent, the legal guardian or a resident step parent. If applicants wish to be considered under this criterion then a letter from the Headteacher confirming the above applies to the applicant must be provided at the time of application.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Compulsory school age:

A child is of compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their fifth birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on the prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

A child is entitled to a full time place in the September following their fourth birthday.

Attending school part-time:

You can request for your child to go to school part-time until he or she is of compulsory school age, when they must then attend school full time. Please contact the school directly to discuss this option.

Delaying a child's entry to school:

Your child's school start date can be delayed (known as deferred entry) until he or she reaches compulsory school age or until the start of the final term of the academic year for which the place was offered - whichever comes first. Please contact the school directly to discuss this option, as your child's start date must be agreed with the Headteacher.

The vast majority of children start school full time in September, as it is beneficial for all pupils to undergo the induction process and establish friendships within the group.

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that a child of compulsory school age takes up the place that has been offered by the relevant prescribed date.

If a child whose fifth birthday falls after the start of the final term of the academic year and the child has not taken up the place by this date, the place will be withdrawn and the family will be responsible for applying for a new school place.



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Summer born protocol:

The term 'summer born' is used to refer to children born from 1 April to 31 August. These children are not required to start school until a full school year after the point at which they could first have been admitted.

There are two options for families if they do not wish their 4 year old to start on the 1st September after their 4th birthday:

1. Decide that their child will start school the September after their 5th birthday but go into Year 1 - missing the reception year.
2. Make a **request** to the Admissions Authority for the school that they wish their child to attend, asking that they start school the September after their 5th Birthday but be placed in the reception cohort.

Full details on Summer Born for schools where Dorset Council is the Admissions Authority are available in the Dorset Council - Primary Co-ordinated Scheme para 6 - [dorset-council-admissions-arrangements-for-community-and-vc-schools-27-28](#). The admissions arrangement for all other schools will detail their processes for managing applications under the summer born protocol.

In both cases the parent/carer must still make an application for a September start after their 4th birthday and follow the processes detailed in the above Guidance.

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Back or forward yearing:

This is when a child is educated in a year group outside of their normal age group, with children who are either a year younger or a year older than themselves.

- There are long term issues for the pupil and school that arise from the decision to back or forward year a pupil. Dorset's policy states that children should, wherever possible, be educated within their normal age group.
- If you believe your child would benefit from being educated outside of their normal age group, please approach the Headteacher of their current school to discuss the options available.
- If you are interested in backyearing for a child who has not yet started school, you should apply for a school place for the September after they turn 4 years of age and then approach the Headteacher of the school(s) you are considering for advice.
- If you are moving to the area and your child has already been moved back or forward a year, please state this clearly on your application form. We will require confirmation of this from your child's current school.
- Further information is available on our website:
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions-policies



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Post 16 (sixth form, college, training)

School leaving age:

Since summer 2015 young people in England are required by law to continue in education or training until their 18th birthday. Young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training once they finish Year 11, this could be through:

- Full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider
- Full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training
- An apprenticeship

You can find out more about the raising of the education participation age on the Department for Education website: **www.education.gov.uk**

Sixth forms and further education colleges:

Further education colleges and school sixth forms offer a range of A Level, vocational and other courses. Each sixth form and college will have its own admissions policy, admissions number for external applicants and entry requirements.

Please contact the school or college directly for further information or to apply for a place for your child – school sixth forms and colleges process their own applications.

Dorset Council does not provide any free transport to these pupils attending sixth from.

Full details on Post 16 transport can be found in the Post 16 Home to School transport policy: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-transport**



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Schools with Year 10 points of entry

Students who are due to enter Year 10 in September should also be aware of other opportunities within the area. There are University Technical Colleges which have courses that start in Year 10.

University Technical Colleges are set up by universities and businesses and specialise in one or two technical subjects. At GCSE they offer a similar curriculum to a typical secondary or upper school, including the basics of English and Maths, as well as their specialist subject. You should also look at the GCSE curriculum at your child's current school, to help consider what the best option is for the next two years of your child's education.

All schools have a statutory duty to secure impartial careers guidance for all Year 8 to Year 13 students to inspire young people to fulfil their potential and to make them aware of all opportunities open to them. We strongly recommend that your child discuss their options with a Careers Adviser in their current school or college.

For more information on the courses and how to apply please contact these institutions directly.

UTC or Studio School Name	Address	Website
South Devon University Technical College	South Devon UTC, Kingsteignton Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2QA Tel: 01626 240201	www.southdevonutc.org.uk



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions



If your child qualifies for free school meals, not only will they receive a healthy meal every school day, but they'll also get:

- access to free holiday clubs (Holiday Activities & Food Programme)
- extra money for their school towards more teachers and activities (Pupil Premium)

From September 2026, all children with a parent/carer who gets any level of Universal Credit can have free school meals. You need to apply for this from 1 June 2026.

There will be 2 levels of eligibility: **Expanded** and **Targeted**.

Expanded free school meals are for families receiving Universal Credit with earnings over £7,400 per year. They cover free school meals only.

Targeted free school meals for families who get:

- Universal Credit and earn less than £7,400 per year
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- the guarantee element of Pension Credit
- households with families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- Families in the Targeted group may be able to access further related benefits, for example, pupil premium and free holiday activities and food (HAF) programme.

It's easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at Apply for free school meals - Dorset Council [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 in England automatically get free school meals. If you think you meet the above criteria, please still complete an application for free school meals when your child starts school to ensure you don't miss out on additional support.

Please note: Transitional protections will end on 31 August 2026. If your child currently gets free school meals, you must reapply from 1 June 2026 to continue receiving them from 1 September 2026.

If your circumstances have changed since your last application, you may no longer be eligible. If you do not qualify, your child will stop receiving free school meals after 31 August 2026.

If you have any questions, please email freeschoolmeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions



free

school meals

&

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

If your child qualifies for free school meals, they will have a **healthy meal every school day**, and can get:

- access to **free holiday activities within the HAF Programme**
- **additional funding for their school** (Pupil Premium)
- **holiday food vouchers**

Even if your child automatically qualifies for universal infant free school meals, please still apply to access the above benefits.

It's easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at **dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals** or email **freeschoolmeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

For details of the HAF Programme, please visit **dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/haf-programme** or email **holidayactivities@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**



Scan
here

School transport information

Full details on Home to School Transport can be found in a separate guide available on our website **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-transport**.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care plan please contact your locality Special Educational Needs Disability team to apply for or discuss school transport.

Entitled (free) school transport

When we write to tell you the outcome of your application for a school place, we will also let you know whether you are entitled to free transport. Please check this letter before making an application for transport.

Distance:

Some children are automatically entitled to free transport, either based on distance from the school or the safety of the route between home and school. The table below shows which children qualify based on distance from the school:

Start of:	End of:	School type:	Distance from school	Measured by:
Reception	Year 4	Catchment or nearest	2 or more miles	Shortest walking distance
Year 5	Year 11	Catchment or nearest	3 or more miles	Shortest walking distance

Travelling to a school which is not your catchment or nearest school...?

If you apply for a school which is not your catchment or nearest school (known as 'parental preference') you will be responsible for organising and paying for your child's travel to and from school for the time that they remain at the school, even if your circumstances change. If the nearest school (or nearest alternative) is in another council area, we cannot allocate the school place (the other council will have to do this) but will consider it for transport. If we offer a place at a Dorset school, when there is a place in the neighbouring area, this will not be the nearest placement and will not be eligible for free school transport. For more information go to:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-transport



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Universal Credit and Free School Meals:

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit and your income is below the £7,400 threshold you may qualify for transport under the extended rights criteria if your child falls into one for the categories below:

- **Year 5 or 6** and attending their catchment or nearest school with a home address two miles or more (shortest available walking distance) from the school
- **Years 7 to 11** and attending one of their three nearest schools (which includes schools in neighbouring authorities) with a home address two miles or more (shortest available walking distance) but less than six miles (shortest available driven route) from the school
- **Years 7 to 11** and attending their nearest religious/faith school which you applied for on religious/faith grounds with a home address between 2 miles (shortest available walking distance) and 15 miles (shortest available driven route) from the school

The above extended rights eligibility criteria are only applicable for those in receipt of **Targeted** Free School Meals. This is in accordance with the statutory guidance from the Department for Education, **Travel to school for children of compulsory school age May 2026**.

The entitlement criteria can also be viewed on our website:

[Home to School Travel Assistance Eligibility Policy for Children and Young People Attending School September 2026 to August 2027 - Dorset Council](#)



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

Other county school admissions teams and useful contacts

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

Civic Centre, Bourne Avenue,
Bournemouth BH2 6DY
School Admissions Tel: 01202 127963
Children's Information Service
Tel: 01202 123222
Website: www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk
Email: school.admissions@bcpccouncil.gov.uk
Email: Children's Information Service
cis@bcpccouncil.gov.uk

Devon County Council

Room L60, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter
EX2 4QG
Tel: 0345 155 1019
Website: www.devon.gov.uk
Email: admissions@devon.gov.uk

Hampshire County Council

The Castle, Winchester Hampshire, SO23 8UG
Tel: 0300 555 1377
Website: www.hants.gov.uk
Email: admissions.team@hants.gov.uk

Somerset County Council

County Hall, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4DY
Tel: 0845 456 4038
Website: www.somerset.gov.uk
Email: schooladmissions@somerset.gov.uk

Wiltshire County Council

School Admissions, County Hall Trowbridge,
Wilts, BA14 8JN Tel: 01225 713010
Website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk
Email: admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk

Department for Education (DfE)

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Square,
Westminster, London, SW1 3BT
Website: www.education.gov.uk

Independent Schools Council (ICS)

Independent Schools Council St Vincent
House, 30 Orange Street, London, WC2H 7HH
Website: www.isc.co.uk

Local Government Ombudsman

LGO Advice Team
PO Box 4771, Coventry CU4 0EH
Tel: 0300 061 0614
Website: www.lgo.org.uk

OfSTED

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Plymouth Roman Catholic Diocese

Cardinal Newman House, Wonford Road,
Exeter, EX2 4PF
Tel: 01392 671320
Website: www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk

Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocese

Park Place Pastoral Centre, Winchester Road,
Fareham, PO17 5HA
Tel: 01329 835363
Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education

Diocesan Education Centre, The Avenue,
Wilton Salisbury, SP2 0FG
Tel: 01722 746948
Website: www.salisbury.anglican.org/schools

Winchester Diocesan Board of Education

1st Floor, Peninsula House, Wharf Road,
Portsmouth, PO2 8HB
Tel: 02392 899657
Website: www.winchester.anglican.org



Apply online:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions

NB - This information is accurate as of 1 September 2026

Beaminster Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Broadwindsor CE Primary School Drimpton Road, Broadwindsor, Beaminster, DT8 3QL	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 868376 www.broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk	VC	15	Beaminster School
Greenford CE Primary School Chilfrome Lane, Maiden Newton, Dorchester, DT2 0AX	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01300 320644 www.greenford.dorset.sch.uk	VC	20	Beaminster School
Parrett and Axe CE Primary School Fairoak Way, Mosterton, Beaminster, DT8 3JQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 868492 www.mosterton.dorset.sch.uk	VA	20	Beaminster School
St Mary's CE Primary School Clay Lane, Beaminster, DT8 3BY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 862201 www.stmarysbeaminster.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Beaminster School
Salway Ash CE Primary School Salway Ash, Bridport, DT6 5JE	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 488302 www.salwayash.dorset.sch.uk	VA	15	Beaminster School
Stickland's CE Primary School Summer Lane, Evershot, Dorchester, DT2 0JP	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 83287 www.sticklands.dorset.sch.uk	VA	17	Beaminster School
Beaminster School (Specialism: Technology) Newtown, Beaminster, DT8 3EP	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01308 862633 www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk	VC	126	N/A

Blandford Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Archbishop Wake CE Primary School Black Lane, Blandford Forum, DT11 8SW	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 453120 www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk	Academy	60	The Blandford School
Blandford St Mary CE Primary School, Birch Avenue, Blandford St Mary, Blandford Forum, DT11 9QD	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 453331 www.blandfordstmary.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	The Blandford School
Downlands Primary School College Rd, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, DT11 8BG	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 453348 www.downlandsschool.org	C	45	The Blandford School
The Dunbury School Dolway Lane, Winterborne Whitechurch Blandford Forum, DT11 0AW (see footnote below)	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 880501 www.dunbury.dsat.org.uk	Academy	20	The Blandford School
Durweston CE Primary School Durweston, Blandford Forum, DT11 0QA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 452277 www.durweston.dsat.org.uk	Academy	20	The Blandford School
Milldown CE Primary School Milldown Rd, Blandford, DT11 7SN	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 452456 www.milldown.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	The Blandford School
Pimperne CE Primary School Newfield Road, Pimperne, Blandford, DT11 8WF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 452025 www.pimperne.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Blandford School

Footnote: The Dunbury School is a federated school and uses premises at Winterborne Kingston and Winterborne Whitechurch.

Blandford Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Spetisbury CE Primary School High Street, Spetisbury, Blandford, DT11 9DF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 452107 www.spetisbury.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	The Blandford School
The Blandford School (Specialism: Technology) Milldown Rd, Blandford, DT11 7SQ	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01258 451121 www.blandfordschool.org.uk	VC	210	N/A

Bridport Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Bridport Primary School St Andrew's Rd, Bridport, DT6 3BJ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 422846 https://www.bridportprimaryschool.co.uk	Academy	30	The Sir John Colfox School
Burton Bradstock CE Primary School Church Street, Burton Bradstock, Bridport, DT6 4QS	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 897369 www.burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Sir John Colfox School
Loders CE Primary School Loders, Bridport, DT6 3SA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 423418 www.loders.acornacademy.org	Academy	12	The Sir John Colfox School
Powerstock CE Primary School Powerstock, Bridport, DT6 3TB	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 485380 www.powerstock.dorset.sch.uk	VA	10	The Sir John Colfox School
St Mary's CE Primary School Skilling Hill Rd, Bridport, DT6 5LA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 423065 www.stmarybridport.co.uk	Academy	30	The Sir John Colfox School

Bridport Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
St Catherine's Catholic Primary School Bridport Pymore Rd, Bridport, DT6 3TR	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 423568 www.stcatherinesbridport.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Sir John Colfox School
Symondsbury CE Primary School Symondsbury, Bridport, DT6 6HD	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 423502 www.symondsbury.dorset.sch.uk	VA	15	The Sir John Colfox
Thorner's CE Primary School Litton Cheney, Dorchester, DT2 9AU	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01308 482410 www.thorners.dorset.sch.uk	VA	12	The Sir John Colfox
The Sir John Colfox School (Specialism: Languages) Ridgeway Estate, Bridport, DT6 3DT	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01308 422291 www.colfox.org	Academy	150	N/A

Corfe Mullen Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Henbury View First School Hillside Rd, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, BH21 3TR	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 659179 www.henburyview.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Lockyer's Middle School
Rushcombe First School Hanham Rd, Corfe Mullen, BH21 3PX	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 695722 www.rushcombe.co.uk	C	60	Lockyer's Middle School
Sturminster Marshall First School High Street, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4AY	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01258 857348 www.sturminstermarshall.dorset.sch.uk	C	15	Lockyer's Middle School
*Lockyer's Middle School Blandford Rd, Corfe Mullen, BH21 3HQ	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 692779 www.lockyersmid.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	132 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Corfe Hills School
*Allenbourn Middle School East Borough, Wimborne, BH21 1PL (see footnotes 1 and 2 below)	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 886738 www.allenbournmiddle.org	Academy	152 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Corfe Hills School/ Queen Elizabeth's School

* In addition to the Year 5 normal point of entry, these schools also have a point of entry at Year 7

Footnote 1: Merley First School is a recognised feeder school to Broadstone Middle School and Allenbourn Middle School. However, a formal agreement also exists for the children of parents living in Merley with Allenbourn Middle School.

Footnote 2 : Allenbourn Middle School is a recognised feeder school to Corfe Hills School and Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne.

Poole Schools with links to Corfe Hills

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#Broadstone First School Tudor Rd, Broadstone, Poole, BH18 8AA	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 694376 www.broadstonefirstschool.co.uk	Broadstone Middle School
#Merley First School Oakley Straight, Merley, Wimborne, BH21 1SD (see footnote 1 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 888455 www.merleyfirstschool.com	Broadstone Middle School/Allenbourn Middle School
#Springdale First School Springdale Rd, Broadstone, BH18 9BW (see footnote 2 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 692700 www.springdale.poole.sch.uk	Lockyer's Middle School/Broadstone Middle School
#Broadstone Middle School Dunyeats Rd, Broadstone, BH18 8AE (see footnotes 1 and 2 below)	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 696121 www.bmsweb.co.uk	Corfe Hills School
#Corfe Hills School Higher Blandford Rd, Broadstone, BH18 9BG	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01202 006666 www.corfehills.net	N/A

Footnote 1: Merley First School is a recognised feeder school to Broadstone Middle School. However, a formal agreement also exists for the children of parents living in Merley with Allenbourn Middle School.

Footnote 2: Springdale First School is a recognised feeder school to Broadstone Middle School and Lockyer's Middle School.

#Schools not maintained by Dorset LA. For further information please contact BCP LA.

Dorchester Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Broadmayne First School Knighton Lane, Broadmayne, DT2 8PH	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 852471 www.broadmayne.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	St Mary's Middle School
Cerne Abbas CE First School Duck Street, Cerne Abbas, DT2 7LA	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01300 341319 www.cerneabbas.dorset.sch.uk	VC	15	Dorchester Middle School
Cheselbourne Village School Cheselbourne, Dorchester, DT2 7NT	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01258 837306 www.cheselbourne.dorset.sch.uk	C	12	St Mary's Middle School
Damers First School Liscombe St, Poundbury, Dorchester, DT1 3DF	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 264924 www.damers.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	90	Dorchester Middle School
Frome Valley CE First School School Drive, Crossways, Dorchester, DT2 8WR	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 852643 www.fromevalley.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Mary's Middle School
Manor Park CE First School Mellstock Avenue, Dorchester, DT2 2BH	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 268741 www.manorpark.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	St Osmunds's Middle School
Milborne St Andrew First School Hopsfield, Milborne St Andrew, Blandford, DT11 0JE	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01258 837362 www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	23	St Mary's Middle School
Piddle Valley CE First School Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, DT2 7QL	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01300 348219 www.piddlevalley.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	23	St Mary's Middle School
The Prince of Wales School Maiden Castle Rd, Dorchester, DT1 2HH	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 257120 www.princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	Dorchester Middle School

Dorchester Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Puddletown CE First School High Street, Puddletown, Dorchester, DT2 8FZ	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 848206 www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Mary's Middle School
St Mary's CE First School West Hill, Charminster, Dorchester, DT2 9RD	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 263880 www.charminster.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Osmunds's Middle School
St Mary's Catholic First School Lucetta Lane, Dorchester, DT1 2DD	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 262258 www.stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Osmunds's Middle School
Winterbourne Valley CE First School Winterbourne Abbas, Dorchester, DT2 9LW	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01305 889297 www.winterbournevalley.dorset.sch.uk	VA	15	Dorchester Middle School
Dorchester Middle School Queen's Avenue. Dorchester, DT1 2HS	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01305 265651 www.dorchestermid.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	150	The Thomas Hardy School
St Mary's CE Middle School Puddletown, Dorchester, DT2 8SA	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01305 848293 www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk	Academy	120	The Thomas Hardy School
St Osmund's CE Middle School Barnes Way, Rothesay Rd, Dorchester, DT1 2DZ	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01305 262897 www.stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	180	The Thomas Hardy School
The Thomas Hardy School (Specialism: Science/SEN/Humanities) Queen's Avenue, Dorchester, DT1 2ET	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01305 266064 www.thomas-hardye.net	Academy	450	N/A
Dorset Studio School Kingston Maurward Dorchester, DT2 8PY	11-16	Tel: 01305 215215 www.dorsetstudioschool.co.uk	Studio	75	N/A

Ferndown and West Moors Pyramid (including Verwood schools)

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Ferndown First School Church Rd, Ferndown, BH22 9FB	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 873747 www.fernfirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Ferndown Middle School
Hampreston CE First School Hampreston , Wimborne, BH21 7LX (see footnote 1 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 573074 www.hamprestonfirstschool.com	Academy	30	Ferndown Middle School
Oakhurst First School Shaftesbury Rd, Ferndown, BH22 0DY	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 871577 www.oakhurst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	West Moors Middle School
Parley First School Glenmoor Rd, Ferndown, BH22 8QE	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 874400 www.parley.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Ferndown Middle School
St Ives Primary School Sandy Lane, Ringwood, BH24 2LE (see footnote 3 below)	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01425 475478 www.stives.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Please see Footnote 3
St Mary's CE First School, West Moors Station Rd, West Moors, Ferndown, BH22 0JF	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 874838 www.stmaryswestmoors.org	Academy	30	West Moors Middle School
Three Legged Cross First School Church Rd, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, BH21 6RF	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 822460 www.3lxschool.com	Academy	20	West Moors Middle School
Hillside First School Hillside Rd, Verwood, BH31 7HE (see footnote 2 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 822737 www.hillsidefirstschool.org	Academy	60	Emmanuel Middle School
Verwood CE First School Howe Lane, Verwood, BH31 6JF (see footnote 2 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 822652 www.verwoodfirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Emmanuel Middle School

Ferndown and West Moors Pyramid (including Verwood schools)

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Trinity CE First School Coopers Lane, Verwood, BH31 7PG (see footnote 2 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 821704 www.trinityverwood.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	Emmanuel Middle School
Ferndown Middle School Peter Grant Way, off Church Rd, Ferndown, BH22 9UP	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 876556 www.fernmid.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	150	Ferndown Upper School
West Moors Middle School Heathfield Way, West Moors, Ferndown, BH22 0DA	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 872474 www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk	C	64	Ferndown Upper School
*Emmanuel CE Middle School Howe Lane, Verwood, BH31 6JF (see footnote 2 below)	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 828100 www.emmanuel.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	124 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Ferndown Upper School/Queen Elizabeth's School
Ferndown Upper School (Specialism: Arts) Cherry Grove, Ferndown, BH22 9EY (see footnote 2 below)	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01202 871243 www.fernup.dorset.sch.uk	C	300	N/A
Queen Elizabeth's CE School (Specialism: Sports) Blandford Rd, Wimborne Minster, BH21 4DT (See footnote 2)	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01202 885233 www.queenelizabeths.com	Academy	360	N/A

* In addition to the Year 5 normal point of entry, these schools also have a point of entry at Year 7

Footnote 1: Some children from Hampreston CE VA First School at the age of 9+ may seek admission to St Michael's CE Middle School on denominational grounds.

Footnote 2 : At the age of 13+ parents living in the Verwood area are given the opportunity to express a preference for their child to attend Ferndown Upper School or Queen Elizabeth's School as their catchment area school.

Footnote 3: St. Ives Primary School - The School is fully operating as a Primary School. Parents may still apply to join a Middle School at the end of Year 4 and will have to make an application. Alternatively parents may wish to remain at the school and then at the end of Year 6 make an application for a Year 7 place in another school.

Gillingham Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Gillingham Primary School School Rd, Gillingham, SP8 4QR	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 823245 www.gillinghamprimary.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Gillingham School
Milton on Stour CE Primary School Milton on Stour, Gillingham, SP8 5QD	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 822588 www.milton.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	20	Gillingham School
St Gregory's CE Primary School New Street, Marnhull, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1PZ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 820206 www.stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	24	Gillingham School
St George's CE Primary School Church Track, Bourton, Gillingham, SP8 5BN	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 840409 www.bourton.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	17	Gillingham School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School Old Mill Lane. Marnhull, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1JX	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 820417 www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	Gillingham School
St Mary the Virgin CE Primary School Pheasant Way, Shaftesbury Rd, Gillingham, SP8 4LP	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 824446 www.stmarygillingham.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Gillingham School
Stower Provost Primary School Woodville, Stour Provost, Gillingham, SP8 5LX	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 838370 www.stowerprovost.dorset.sch.uk	C	21	Gillingham School
Wyke Primary School Deane Avenue, Gillingham, SP8 4SH	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 825665 www.gillinghamwyke.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Gillingham School
Gillingham School Hardings Lane, Gillingham, SP8 4QP (see footnote below)	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01747 822222 www.gillingham-dorset.co.uk	Academy	270	N/A

Wiltshire schools with links to Gillingham

School Address	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#Whitesheet CE VA Primary School Butts Lane, Kilmington, BA12 6RB (KS1) Chapel Lane, Zeals, BA12 6NL (KS2)	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 840394 www.whitesheet.wilts.sch.uk	Gillingham School
#Hindon St Mary's and St John's CE VA Primary School School Lane, Hindon, Salisbury, SP3 6EA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 820260 www.hindonce.wilts.sch.uk	Gillingham School
#Mere Primary School Springfield Rd, Mere, Warminster, BA12 8EW	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 860515 www.mereschool.co.uk	Gillingham School

Footnote 1: The catchment area for Gillingham School includes a defined area of South West Wiltshire.

Schools not maintained by Dorset LA. For further information contact Wiltshire LA.

Lyme Regis Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Charmouth Primary School Lower School Lane, Charmouth, DT6 6LR	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01297 560591 www.charmouth.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Woodroffe School
Marshwood CE Primary School Marshwood, Bridport, DT6 5QA	4-11 Two tier	Tel:01297 678224 www.marshwood.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	10	The Woodroffe School
St Michael's CE Primary School Kingsway, Lyme Regis, DT7 3DY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01297 442623 www.stmichaels.dsat.org.uk	Academy	27	The Woodroffe School
Thorncombe St Mary's CE Primary School Thorncombe, Chard, TA20 4NE	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01460 30535 https://stmarys.acornacademy.org	Academy	11	The Woodroffe School
The Woodroffe School (Specialism: Visual Arts) Uplyme Rd, Lyme Regis, DT7 3LX (see footnote below)	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01297 442232 https://woodroffeschool.org	F	150	N/A

Devon school linked to Lyme Regis

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#Mrs Ethelston's CE VA Primary School Pound Lane, Uplyme, Lyme Regis, DT7 3TT	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01297 442210 www.uplyme-mrsethelstons.devon.sch.uk	The Woodroffe School

Footnote 1: The catchment area for The Woodroffe School includes a specific area of East Devon.*

#Schools not maintained by Dorset LA. For further information please contact Devon LA.

Lytchett and Upton Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School	Academy Policy
Bere Regis Primary School Southbrook, Bere Regis, Wareham, BH20 7DB	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 471334 www.bereregis.wessex.ac	Academy	30	Lytchett Minster School	Wessex
Lytchett Matravers Primary School Wareham Rd, Lytchett Matravers, Poole, BH16 6DY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01202 622378 www.lmpsdorset.org	Academy	60	Lytchett Minster School	HET
Sandford St Martin's CE VA Primary School Sandford, Wareham, BH20 7BN	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 552949 www.sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk	VA	45	Lytchett Minster School	Own
Upton Infant School Guest Rd, Upton, Poole, BH16 5LQ	4-7 Two tier	Tel: 01202 622367 www.uptoninf.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	90	Upton Junior School	HET
Upton Junior School St Martin's Rd, Upton, Poole BH16 5NQ	7-11 Two tier	Tel: 01202 622649 www.uptonjun.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	96	Lytchett Minster School	HET
Lytchett Minster School Post Green Road, Lytchett Minster, Poole, BH16 6JD	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01202 622413 www.lytchett.org.uk	F	260	N/A	Own

Purbeck Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School	Academy Policy
Bovington Academy Holt Rd, Bovington, Wareham, BH20 6LE	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 462744 www.bovington-aspirations.org	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	Own
Corfe Castle CE Primary School East Street, Corfe Castle, Wareham, BH20 5EE	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 480428 www.corfecastle.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Purbeck School	CLP
Lulworth and Winfrith CE VC Primary School School Lane, West Lulworth, Wareham, BH20 5SA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 400330 www.lulworthwinfrith.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Purbeck School	CLP
St George's CE VA Primary School High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 422973 www.stgeorgeslangton.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Purbeck School	CLP
St Mark's CE Primary School High Street, Swanage, BH19 2PH	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 422949 www.stmarksswanage.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	CLP
St Mary's Catholic Primary School Northbrook Road, Swanage, BH19 1QE	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 424909 www.stmarysswanage.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	Plymouth CAST
St Mary and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Folly Lane, Wool, BH20 6DS	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 462565 www.smsjwool.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Purbeck School	Plymouth CAST
Stoborough CE VA Primary School Corfe Rd, Stoborough, Wareham, BH20 5AD	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 552974 www.stoborough.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	CLP
Swanage Primary School Mount Scar, Swanage, BH19 2EY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 422424 www.swanageprimary.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	CLP

Purbeck Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School	Academy Policy
Wareham St Mary CE Primary School Streche Rd, Wareham, BH20 4PG	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 552517 www.warehamstmary.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Purbeck School	CLP
Wool CE Primary School High Street, Wool, BH20 6BT	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01929 462569 www.woolprimary.com	Academy	15	The Purbeck School	CLP
The Purbeck School Worgret Rd, Wareham, BH20 4PF	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01929 550077 www.purbeck.wessex.ac	Academy	180	N/A	Wessex
The Swanage School High Street, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 2PH	11-16 Two tier	Tel: 01929 500599 www.theswanageschool.co.uk	Free/ Academy	72	N/A	Own

Note: All Islands in Poole Harbour come under the responsibility of Dorset LA with the exception of Pergins (currently uninhabited) and operate with in the following catchment areas: Brownsea Island – Lilliput CE Infant School, Baden Powell & St Peters C E Junior School /Poole High School Round, Green Furzey and Long Islands - Corfe Castle CE Primary School/The Purbeck School
Gigger (currently uninhabited) - The Wareham St Mary Primary School/The Purbeck School
Drove (currently uninhabited) - Swanage Primary School/The Purbeck School
For further information on transport entitlements for the Poole Harbour Islands please contact Dorset School Admissions Team

Shaftesbury Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
The Abbey CE Primary School St James Street, Shaftesbury, SP7 8HQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 852620 www.abbeyschool.org.uk	VA	30	Shaftesbury School
St Andrew's CE Primary School West Street, Fontmell Magna, Shaftesbury, SP7 0PF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 811500 www.standrewsfontmell.co.uk	Academy	30	Shaftesbury School
Motcombe CE Primary School Motcombe, Shaftesbury, SP7 9NT	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 852018 www.motcombe.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Shaftesbury School
Shaftesbury CE Primary School Wincombe Lane, Shaftesbury, SP7 8PZ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 852901 www.shaftesburyprimary.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Shaftesbury School
Shaftesbury School Salisbury Rd, Shaftesbury, SP7 8ER (see footnotes 1 and 2 below)	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01747 854498 www.shaftesburyschool.com	Academy	200	

Wiltshire schools with links to Shaftesbury

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#St John's CE VC Primary School Weaveland Rd, Tisbury, Salisbury, Salisbury, SP3 6HJ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 870675 www.st-johntisbury.wilts.sch.uk	Shaftesbury School
#Chilmark and Fonthill Bishop CE VA Primary School The Street, Chilmark, Salisbury, SP3 5AR	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01722 716348 www.chilmarkfonthillbishop.wilts.sch.uk	Shaftesbury School
#Semley CE VA Primary School Semley, Shaftesbury, SP7 9AU	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01747 830427 www.semley.wilts.sch.uk	Shaftesbury School

Footnote 1: The catchment area for Shaftesbury School includes a defined area of south west Wiltshire.

Footnote 2: A 6th form has been established at Sturminster Newton High School in partnership with Shaftesbury School.
Schools not maintained by Dorset LA. For further information please contact Wiltshire LA.

Sherborne Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
All Saints CE Primary School Giles Lane, Bishops Caundle, Sherborne, DT9 5NQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01963 23450 www.bishopscandle.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	17	The Gryphon School
Buckland Newton CE Primary School Buckland Newton, Dorchester, DT2 7BY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01300 345393 www.bucklandnewton.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Gryphon School
St Andrew's CE Primary School Stonyacres, Yetminster, Sherborne, DT9 6LS	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 872430 www.yetminster.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	The Gryphon School
St Mary's CE Primary School Mill Lane, Bradford Abbas, Sherborne, DT9 6RH	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 476515 www.bradfordabbasprimary.co.uk	Academy	17	The Gryphon School
Sherborne Abbey CE Primary School Lenthay Rd, Sherborne, DT9 6AQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 812318 www.sherborneabbey.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	The Gryphon School
Sherborne Primary School Harbour Way, Sherborne, DT9 4AJ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 812619 www.sherbornepri.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	48	The Gryphon School
Thornford CE Primary School Boot Lane, Thornford, Sherborne, DT9 6QY	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 872706 www.thornford.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	The Gryphon School
Trent Young's CE Primary School Trent, Sherborne, DT9 4SW	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01935 850496 www.trentyoungs.dsat.org.uk	Academy	20	The Gryphon School
The Gryphon CE School Bristol Rd, Sherborne, DT9 4EQ	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01935 813122 www.gryphon.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	240	N/A

Somerset school with links to The Gryphon School:

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#Charlton Horethorne CE Primary School Charlton Horethorne, Sherborne, DT9 4NL	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01963 220345 office@charltonhorethorne.somerset.sch.uk	The Gryphon School

Sturminster Newton Pyramid

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Hazelbury Bryan Primary School Droop, Sturminster Newton, DT10 2ED	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 817492 www.hazelburybryanprimaryschool.co.uk	C	15	Sturminster Newton High School
St Nicholas CE Primary School Station Rd, Child Okeford, Blandford Forum, DT11 8EL	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 860581 www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	25	Sturminster Newton High School
Shillingstone CE Primary School Augustan Avenue, Blandford Forum, DT10 0TX	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 860446 www.shillingstone.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	Sturminster Newton High School
Stalbridge Primary School Duck Lane, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, DT10 2LP	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01963 362487 www.stalbridge.dorset.sch.uk	F	30	Sturminster Newton High School
William Barnes Primary School Bridge Street, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1BZ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01258 472257 www.williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	Sturminster Newton High School
Sturminster Newton High School Bath Rd, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1DT (see footnote below)	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01258 472642 www.mysnhs.net	Academy	120	N/A

Footnote: Sturminster Newton High School's 6th form has been established through a partnership with Shaftesbury School.

Weymouth and Portland Area

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Beechcroft St Paul's CE Primary School Corporation Rd, Weymouth, DT4 0LQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 783500 www.beechcroft.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	No named receiver school
Bincombe Valley Primary School Culliford Way, Littlemoor, Weymouth, DT3 6AF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 832329 www.bincombe.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	Wey Valley Academy
Chickerell Primary Academy Rashley Rd, Chickerell, Weymouth, DT3 4AT	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 783876 www.chickerell.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	No named receiver school
Conifers Primary School Radipole Lane, Weymouth, DT4 0QF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 771289 www.conifers.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	No named receiver school
Holy Trinity CE VC Primary School Cross Rd. Weymouth, DT4 9QX	4-11 Two tier	Tel:01305 783200 www.holytrinitypri.dorset.sch.uk	VC	60	No named receiver school
Portesham CofE Primary School Winters Close, Portesham, DT3 4HP	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 871283 www.portesham.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	15	Budmouth Academy
Radipole Primary School Radipole Lane, Weymouth, DT3 5HS	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 783353 www.radipole.dorset.sch.uk	C	60	Wey Valley Academy
St Andrew's CE Primary School Littlemoor Rd, Preston, Weymouth, DT3 6AA	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 832346 www.standrewswey.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	Wey Valley Academy
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School Hardy Avenue, Weymouth, DT4 0RH	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 782600 www.staugustines.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	No named receiver school

Weymouth and Portland Area

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
St George's Primary School Clarence Rd, Portland, DT5 2BD	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 820520 www.stgeorgesportland.dorset.sch.uk	F	60	Atlantic Academy
St John's CE Primary School Coombe Avenue, Weymouth, DT4 7TP	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 785711 www.stjohns.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	Wey Valley Academy
St Nicholas and St Laurence CE Primary School Broadway, Weymouth, DT3 5DQ	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 812534 www.stnlwey.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	Wey Valley Academy
Southill Primary School Sycamore Rd, Southill, Weymouth, DT4 9UF	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 773144 www.southill.dorset.sch.uk	C	30	No named receiver school
Wyke Regis Infant School Shrubbery Lane, Weymouth, DT4 9LU (See footnote 1 below)	4-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 782470 www.wykeregisfed.dorset.sch.uk	C	60	Wyke Regis CE VC Junior School
Wyke Regis CE Junior School High Street, Wyke Regis, DT4 9NU (See footnote 1 below)	7-11 Two tier	Tel: 01305 786041 www.wykeregisfed.dorset.sch.uk	VC	60	No named receiver
All Saints CE Academy Sunnyside Rd, Wyke Regis, DT4 9BJ	11-16 Two tier	Tel: 01305 783391 www.allsaints-academy.co.uk	Academy	120	N/A
Budmouth Academy Chickerell Rd, Weymouth, DT4 9SY (see footnote 2 below)	11-18 Two tier	Tel: 01305 830500 www.budmouth-aspirations.org	Academy	260	N/A

Weymouth and Portland Area

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Atlantic Academy Maritime House, West Way, Southwell, Business Park, DT5 2NA	4-19 Two tier	Tel: 01305 820262 www.atlantic-aspirations.org	Academy	Reception 60 (60 additional places will be available in Year 7)	N/A
Wey Valley Academy Dorchester Rd, Weymouth, DT3 5AN	11-16 Two tier	Tel: 01305 817000 www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk	Academy	210	N/A

Footnote 1: Both Wyke Regis Infant and Junior Schools operate as a federated school.

Footnote 2: Up to 30 students are admitted to Budmouth Academy on the basis of academic ability.

Note: Weymouth College, Cranford Avenue, Weymouth, DT4 7LQ is the tertiary college which provides education for students aged 16+. It also offers special educational provision for students with moderate to severe learning difficulties. Contact telephone number is 01305 761100.

Wimborne and Cranborne Pyramid (including Verwood schools)

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Colehill First School Pilford Heath Rd, Colehill, Wimborne, BH21 2LZ	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 882506 www.colehillfirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Michael's CE Middle School
Cranborne CE First School and Nursery Water Street, Cranborne, BH21 5QB	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01725 517439 www.cranbornefirst.dsat.org.uk	Academy	25	Cranborne Middle School
Hayeswood First School Cutlers Place, Colehill, Wimborne, BH21 2HN	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 882379 www.hayeswood.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	St Michael's CE Middle School
Pamphill CE First School Pamphill Green, Wimborne, BH21 4EE	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 883008 www.pamphillfirstschool.org	Academy	15	Allenbourn Middle School
St James' CE First School and Nursery Alderholt Park Lane, Alderholt, Fordingbridge, SP6 3AJ	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01425 653063 www.alderholt.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Cranborne Middle School
St James' CE First School Gaunts Common, Wimborne Minster, BH21 4JN	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01258 840669 www.stjames.dsat.org.uk	Academy	25	St Michael's CE Middle School
St John's CE First School St John's Hill, Wimborne Minster, BH21 1BX	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 883675 www.stjohnswimborne.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	30	Allenbourn Middle School
Sixpenny Handley First School and Nursery Common Rd, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5NJ	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01725 552356 www.sixpennyhandleyschool.co.uk	Academy	25	Cranborne Middle School

Wimborne and Cranborne Pyramid (including Verwood schools)

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
Wimborne First School and Nursery Campanula Way, Wimborne, BH21 4FW	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 882532 www.wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Allenbourn Middle School
Wimborne St Giles CE First School and Nursery Wimborne St Giles. Wimborne Minster, BH21 5LX	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01725 517347 www.wimbornestgiles.dsat.org.uk	Academy	15	Cranborne Middle School
Witchampton CE First School Witchampton, Wimborne, BH21 5AP	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01258 840684 www.witchampton.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	14	Allenbourn Middle School
Hillside First School Hillside Rd, Verwood, BH31 7HE	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 822737 www.hillsidefirstschool.org	Academy	60	Emmanuel Middle School
Trinity CE First School Coopers Lane, Verwood, BH31 7PG	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 821704 www.trinityverwood.dsat.org.uk	Academy	30	Emmanuel Middle School
Verwood CE First School and Nursery Howe Lane, Verwood, BH31 6JF	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 822652 www.verwoodfirst.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	60	Emmanuel Middle School
*Allenbourn Middle School East Borough, Wimborne, BH21 1PL (see footnotes 2 and 3 below)	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 886738 www.allenbournmiddle.org	Academy	152 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Queen Elizabeth's School/Corfe Hills School
Cranborne Middle School Damerham Rd, Cranborne, Wimborne, BH21 5RP	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01725 517348 www.cranbornemid.dorset.sch.uk	C	64	Queen Elizabeth's School
*St Michael's CE Middle School Colehill Lane, Colehill, Wimborne, BH21 7AB	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 883433 www.stmichaelsmiddle.org	Academy	150 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Queen Elizabeth's School

* In addition to the Year 5 normal point of entry, these schools also have a point of entry at Year 7

Wimborne and Cranborne Pyramid (including Verwood schools)

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Category	Admission Number	Usual Receiver School
*Emmanuel CE Middle School Howe Lane, Verwood, BH31 6JF (see footnote 1 below)	9-13 Three tier	Tel: 01202 828100 www.emmanuel.dorset.sch.uk	Academy	124 (Y5) 15 (Y7)	Queen Elizabeth's School/Ferndown Upper School
Queen Elizabeth's CE School (Specialism: Sports) Blandford Rd, Wimborne Minster, BH21 4DT	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01202 885233 www.queenelizabeths.com	Academy	360	N/A

* In addition to the Year 5 normal point of entry, these schools also have a point of entry at Year 7

Poole schools with links to Wimborne

School	Age/Tier	Telephone/Website	Usual Receiver School
#Merley First School Oakley Straight, Merley, BH21 1SD (see footnote 2 below)	4-9 Three tier	Tel: 01202 888455 www.merleyfirstschool.com	Allenbourn Middle School/Broadstone Middle School
#Corfe Hills School Higher Blandford Rd, Broadstone, BH18 9BG	13-18 Three tier	Tel: 01202 006666 www.corfehills.net	N/A

Footnote 1: At the age of 13+ parents living in the Verwood area are given the opportunity to express a preference for their child to attend Ferndown Upper School or Queen Elizabeth's School as a catchment area school. **Footnote 2:** Merley First School is located in the Corfe Mullen educational pyramid and is the recognised feeder school to Broadstone Middle School and Allenbourn Middle School. However, a formal arrangement exists for children of parents living in Merley with Allenbourn Middle School. **Footnote 3:** Allenbourn Middle School is the recognised feeder school to Queen Elizabeth's School and Corfe Hills School.

#Schools not maintained by Dorset LA. For further information please contact BCP LA.

The information provided above is to the best of our knowledge correct but may be subject to change. Updates will be provided on the School Admissions website or by telephoning **01305 221060**.

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