



Secondary Offer Day 2026

Monday 2nd March 2026



How offers made

Online applicants

- Parents should be able to access offer online through parent portal
- E-mail notification to communicate offer
- This is done directly by the software provider, and we understand that it will be from midnight
- Parent to accept / decline place within two weeks.

Telephone / paper form applicants

- If provided an e-mail address and requested, then will receive offer by e-mail
- Where communication preference was post – letter via 2nd class post sent out 02.03.2026

Parental preference

- Details of allocation for September 2026 embargoed until National Offer Day
- Allocation will be published on Offer Day
- [Previous school place allocations \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- [School admissions information booklets \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- Most parents do get parental preference (Primary 2025 – 1st pref – 93.6% any pref -98.9%, Secondary 2025 -1st pref 94.8% any pref 98%)
- If parent has received an offer of a school that wasn't a preference then it is because we were unable to offer a preference school (sometimes as only one preference) so offered the next nearest school with a vacancy after all other parents' preferences considered.

Key messages for schools

- Clear accurate information based on policy/ ref to CE website
- Seek advice from Admissions team if you are unsure or believe there could have been an error
- Encourage parents to be patient and realistic – they should contact the Admissions team if e.g. wish to go on waiting list but backfilling will not usually start until at least 2-3 weeks after so parents contacting with queries could delay this. If we are able to offer a place from a waiting list then we will contact them.
- Don't raise parental expectations or make promises. All offers will need to go through the Admissions team.
- Advise parents of options e.g. waiting lists, other schools, appeals
- Support through social media – help dispel myths/ share key dates e.g. waiting lists
- For some schools we expect there to be movement after Offer Day.
- Please share with us about appeals. We may be able to support e.g. making parent aware of other options.
- 'Applications and Offers' will be available on the 02.03.2026, please be aware that this may not be a true reflection of your final offers as parents have until 16.03.2026 to accept or decline their offer. **Please do not share with parents directly the communication of their offer/refusal and instead redirect them to the Admissions team.**

Key messages for parents

- Accept place unless you have made other arrangements
- Make late application as soon as possible if not previously applied
- Request to go on waiting lists
- Notify the Admissions team of any changes e.g. changes in address that may affect your application
- Think about how your child will travel to school
- Have a plan B
- If unsuccessful, accept the offer to secure a place and have right to appeal
- Sources for support for parents
 - Family Information Service (FIS)
 - Admissions X
 - School Admissions telephone number 0300 123 5012.

CE School Admissions
@CE_Admissions



- fis.east@cheshireeast.gov.uk
- 0300 123 5033

Key Contacts

Admissions Team

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Any questions?