

Appeals Guidance for School

If the school receives more applications from parents/carers than it has places available, not every child can be successful in securing a school place. The Trust will use its admissions criteria, also known as oversubscription criteria, to decide which children to allocate places to.

Parents/carers have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel if they are dissatisfied with an admissions decision of the Trust. The appeal panel will be independent of the Trust. The arrangements for appeals will be in line with the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education. The decision of the panel is binding on all parties.

Parents can only appeal once for any academic year unless there has been a change in circumstances relevant to the application.

September 2025 entry

Appeals for children refused a place at a preferred school for admission to Reception class in September 2025 will be heard according to the following statutory timescales:

Offer	Appeals lodged by	Appeals heard by
16/04/2025	by 20 May 2025	within 40 school days
	after 20 May 2025	within 30 school days

For further details please use the following links:

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/27937/Timelines-and-important-dates-for-primary-school-applications>

[What happens after primary school offer day on Wednesday 16 April 2025 - Durham County Council](#)

[Appeal against the offer of a school place - Durham County Council](#)