Admissions to Secondary Schools in 2025. Frequently Asked Questions

This document includes answers to some questions that are frequently asked on secondary school offer date. If you do not live in Walsall, please contact your home local authority for information about your application.

Q. What is secondary school offer day?

A. Local authorities are required to ensure that all children that are resident in their local authority area, who are eligible to start secondary school in September 2025 and submit an on-time application are made a single offer of a school place on the same secondary National Offer Day. This normally falls on the 1st March or the next working day if 1st March falls over a weekend.

Q. When is the secondary offer date?

A. Monday 3rd March 2025.

Q. How will I be notified of the outcome of my application for a secondary school place?

A. You can log on to the Capita Admissions portal using your log in details from 8 am on Monday 3rd March 2025 and access the details of your offer.

Parents who submitted an on-time application to Walsall Council will receive notification of the outcome of their application by email on Monday 3rd March 2025. The emails are sent automatically by Capita, the local authority's automated admissions system, throughout the offer day, and we are unable to give a precise time when you will receive your email.

Q. I submitted my application after the closing date of 31st October 2024 when will I be notified of the outcome of my application for a secondary school place?

A. Late applicants who submitted their application after the national closing date of 31st October 2024 will receive details of the outcome of their offer by email after the offer date, in line with the timetable of key dates on the secondary admissions webpage: <u>Apply for a secondary school place -</u><u>Walsall Council</u>

Q. I haven't yet received the outcome of my application. What should I do?

A. If you are an on-time applicant and you have not received your offer email by Tuesday 4th March 2025 then please email the Admissions and Education Sufficiency Team at <u>schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk</u>

The team will be able to provide you with email confirmation of the outcome of your application subject to your request passing relevant data security checks. Please note confirmation of school offers will not be provided via telephone.

Q. My child did not get my first preference, how do I add their name to the waiting list for the school?

A. Your child's name will automatically be added to the waiting list for any Walsall secondary schools that were ranked more highly on your application than the school they have been offered. If you wish to be added to the waiting list for one of your preferred schools that falls outside of the Walsall Local Authority area then please contact the relevant Local Authority directly. Contact details below:

Local Authority	Contact Details
Birmingham LA	School Admissions and Fair Access Service, PO Box 16513, Birmingham, B2 2FF
Tel: (0121) 303 1888	Birmingham School Admissions
Dudley LA	People Services Directorate, School Admissions Service, The Council House,
Tel: 0300 555 2345	Priory Road, Dudley, DY1 1HF Dudley School Admissions
(Option 5 then Option 6)	
Sandwell LA	Admissions & Appeals Service, PO Box 16230, Sandwell Council House, Freeth
Tel: (0121) 569 6765	Street, Oldbury, B69 9EX Sandwell School Admissions
taffordshire LA	Schools Admissions & Transport Service, Staffordshire City Council, 2
Tel: 0300 111 8007	Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH Staffordshire Council
(Option for School	
Admissions & Transport)	
Wolverhampton LA	City of Wolverhampton Council Education, Admissions and Appeals, Civic
Tel: (01902) 551122	Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RR Wolverhampton School
	Admissions

Local Authority Contact Details

Q. When will the waiting lists be available?

A. Waiting lists for all schools, except for Walsall Academy, will be available from 21st March 2025. If after this date you wish to enquire about your child's position on a waiting list for a Walsall School then please email the Admissions and Education Sufficiency Team at <u>schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk</u>

The team will be able to provide you with email confirmation of your position on the relevant waiting list subject to your request passing relevant data security checks. Please note information about waiting list positions will not be provided via telephone.

Please note any enquiries about waiting list positions for Walsall Academy need to be made directly to the Academy.

Q. Do I need to notify the local authority that I want to accept the place that has been offered to my child?

A. No. Walsall Council will only make one offer to your child, unless it becomes possible to offer a higher ranked preference later in the process or you are successful at appeal. The school that is offered is the school that your child is expected to attend from September 2025. It is not necessary for you to contact Walsall Council to accept the offer.

Q. Can I refuse the place that has been offered to my child?

Walsall Council has a responsibility to ensure all children residing within Walsall have a school place. Therefore, we will not remove an offer of a school place unless other suitable education arrangements have been made. This includes:

- Securing a place at another school
- Enrolling in an independent school
- Registering for elective home education

If you have secured a different school place or elective home education, please provide confirmation in writing to <u>schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk</u> as soon as possible.

Q. Can I appeal for a place at one of my preferred schools?

A. You can appeal against the decision to refuse a place at any of the preferred schools on your application. All Walsall Secondary Schools are responsible for arranging their own admissions appeals so appeals for Walsall schools need to be submitted directly to the relevant school.

If you wish to appeal for a school outside of the Walsall Local Authority area, you should contact the Local Authority for that school.

Q. I am a Walsall resident, and my child is eligible to start secondary school in September 2025, but I haven't yet submitted an application. How can I submit my application and when will I find out the outcome?

A. Please submit a late application at the earliest possible opportunity through the school admissions pages of the Walsall Council website. Late offers will be made in line with the timetable of key dates on the secondary admissions webpage: <u>Apply for a secondary school place - Walsall Council</u>

Q. I need some advice or support about my application or my offer, who can I contact?

A. In the first instance please review this list of frequently asked questions as you may find that your questions is answered here. However, if you still require advice and support you can contact the Admissions and Education Sufficiency Team, by email at <u>schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk</u> or by telephone on 01922 652585.

Please note that the Admissions and Education Sufficiency Team receive a large volume of telephone calls and emails during the weeks following secondary offer day. Your calls and emails are important, and we appreciate that this can be an anxious time for children and their families. The team will endeavour to respond to all calls and emails as quickly as possible, but it may take up to 5 working days for you to receive a response to your enquiry.

If you do not live in Walsall, please contact the school admissions team for your home local authority to discuss your application. These details will have been provided in the offer email that you have received from your home local authority.