

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION SYSTEM

**Southwark LA Schemes for Co-ordination of Admissions to
Reception in September 2011**

PRIMARY

Updated November 2009

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Southwark LA Scheme for Co-ordination of Admissions to
Reception in September 2011

Definitions used in the template schemes

“The Application Year”	the academic year in which the parent makes an application ie. in relation to the academic year of entry, the academic year preceding it
“the Board”	the Pan-London Admissions Executive Board, which is responsible for the Scheme
“the Business User Guide (BUG)”	the document issued annually to participating LAs setting out the operational procedures of the Scheme
“the Common Application Form”	this is the form that each authority must have under the Regulations for parents/carers to use to express their preferences, set out in rank order
“the London E-Admissions Portal”	the common online application system used by the 33 London LAs and Surrey County Council
“the Equal Preference System”	the model whereby all preferences listed by parents on the Common Application Form are considered under the over-subscription criteria for each school without reference to parental rankings. Where a pupil is eligible to be offered a place at more than one school within an LA, or across more than one participating LA, the rankings are used to determine the single offer by selecting the school ranked highest of those which can offer a place
“the Highly Recommended Elements”	the elements of the Template Scheme that are not mandatory but to which subscription is strongly recommended in order to maximise co-ordination and thereby simplify the application process as far as possible
“the Home LA”	the LA in which the applicant/parent/carer is resident
“the Local Admission System”	the IT module for administering admissions in

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(LAS)”	each LA and for determining the highest offer both within and between participating LAs
“the Maintaining LA”	the LA which maintains a school to which an applicant/parent/carer has applied
“the Mandatory Elements”	those elements of the Template Scheme to which authorities must subscribe in order to be considered as ‘Participating Authorities’ and to benefit from use of the Pan-London Register
“the Notification Letter”	the agreed form of letter sent to applicants on the Prescribed Day which communicates any determination granting or refusing admission to a primary school, which is attached as Schedule 2
“the Prescribed Day”	the day on which outcome letters are posted to parents/carers. For primary schools: A date determined annually by the Board.
“the Pan-London Register (PLR)”	the database which will sort and transmit application and outcome data between the LAS of each participating LA
“the Pan-London Timetable”	the framework for processing of application and outcome data, which is attached as Schedule 3
“the Participating LA”	any LA that has indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement that they are willing to incorporate, at a minimum, the mandatory elements of the Template LA Scheme presented here.
“the Qualifying Scheme”	the scheme which each LA is required to formulate in accordance with the School Admissions (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2008 for co-ordinating arrangements for the admission of children to maintained primary schools and academies.

PAN LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SYSTEM

**Southwark Scheme for Co-ordination of Admissions to
Reception in September 2011**

All the numbered sections contained in this scheme are mandatory, except those marked with an which are highly desirable.*

Applications

1. Applications from residents of Southwark will be made on this LA's Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line. This will include all the fields and information specified in Schedule 1 to this Southwark Scheme. These will be supplemented by any additional fields and information which are deemed necessary by Southwark to enable the admission authorities in the LA area to apply their published oversubscription criteria.
2. *Southwark LA will take all reasonable steps to ensure that every parent/carer who is resident in Southwark and has a child in a nursery class within a maintained school, either in Southwark or any other maintaining LA, receives a copy of Southwark's admissions booklet and Common Application Form, including details of how to apply online. The admissions booklet will also be available to parents/carers who do not live in Southwark, and will include information on how they can access their home LA's Common Application Form.
3. The admission authorities within Southwark will not use supplementary information forms except where the information available through the Common Application Form is insufficient for consideration of the application against the published oversubscription criteria. Where supplementary information forms are used by the admissions authorities within Southwark, the LA will seek to ensure that these only collect information which is required by the published oversubscription criteria, in accordance with paragraph 1.83 of the School Admissions Code.
4. Where supplementary information forms are used by admission authorities in Southwark, they will be available on Southwark's website. Such forms will advise parents and carers that they must also complete their home LA's Common Application Form. Southwark LA's admission booklet and website will indicate which schools in Southwark require supplementary forms to be completed and where they can be obtained.
5. Where an admission authority in Southwark receives a supplementary information form, Southwark LA will not consider it to be a valid application unless the parent/carer has also listed the school on their

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home LA's Common Application Form, in accordance with paragraph 3.7 of the School Admissions Code.

6. *Applicants will be able to express a preference for six maintained primary schools or Academies within and/or outside the Home LA
7. The order of preference given on the Common Application Form will not be revealed to a school within the area of Southwark in accordance with paragraph 1.76 of the School Admissions Code. However, where a parent /carer resident in Southwark expresses a preference for schools in the area of another LA, the order of preference for that LA's schools will be revealed to that LA in order that it can determine the highest ranked preference in cases where an applicant is eligible for a place at more than one school in that LA's area.
8. Southwark LA undertakes to carry out the address verification process set out in its entry in the Business User Guide. This will in all cases include validation of resident applicants against Southwark LA's nursery and primary school data and the further investigation of any discrepancy. Where Southwark LA is not satisfied as to the validity of an address of an applicant whose preference has been sent to a maintaining LA, it will advise the maintaining LA no later than **18 February 2011**.
9. Southwark LA will confirm the status of any resident child for whom it receives a Common Application Form stating s/he is a 'Child Looked After' and will provide evidence to the maintaining LA in respect of a preference for a school in its area by **28 January 2011**.
10. Southwark LA will advise a maintaining LA of the reason for any preference expressed for a school in its area, in respect of a resident child born outside of the correct age cohort, and will forward any supporting documentation to the maintaining LA by **28 January 2011**.

Processing

11. Applicants resident within Southwark LA must return the Common Application Form, which will be available and able to be submitted on-line, to this LA by **Saturday 15 January 2011**.
12. Application data relating to preferences for schools in other participating LAs will be up-loaded to the PLR by **18 February 2011**. Supplementary information provided with the Common Application Form will be sent to maintaining LAs by the same date.
13. All preferences for schools within Southwark LA will be considered by the relevant admission authorities without reference to rank order in accordance with the School Admissions Code. When the admission authorities within this LA have provided a list of applicants in criteria order to Southwark LA, this LA shall, for each applicant to its schools for whom more than one potential offer is available use the highest ranked

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preference to decide which single potential offer to make. This is the 'Equal Preference System'.

14. *Southwark LA will accept late applications only if they are late for a good reason. *Examples of what will be considered as good reason include: when a single parent/carers has been ill for some time, or has been dealing with the death of a close relative; a family has just moved into the area or is returning from abroad (proof of ownership or tenancy of a property within this LA will be required in these cases).* Other circumstances will be considered and each case decided on its own merits.
15. Where such applications contain preferences for schools in other LAs, Southwark LA will forward the details to maintaining LAs via the PLR as they are received. Southwark LA will accept late applications which are considered to be on time within the terms of the home LA's scheme.
16. The latest date for the upload to the PLR of late applications which are considered to be on-time within the terms of the home LA's scheme is **18 February 2011**.
17. Where an applicant moves from one participating home LA to another after submitting an on-time application under the terms of the former home LA's scheme, the new home LA will accept the application as on-time up to **28 February 2011**, on the basis that an on-time application already exists within the Pan-London system.
18. Southwark LA will participate in the application data checking exercise scheduled between **21 and 28 February 2011**.
19. All preferences for schools within Southwark LA will be considered by the relevant admission authorities without reference to rank order in accordance with paragraphs 1.76 and 2.16 of the School Admissions Code. When the admission authorities within Southwark LA have provided a list of applicants in criteria order to Southwark LA, this LA shall, for each applicant to its schools for whom more than one potential offer is available, use the highest ranked preference to decide which single potential offer to make. [This is the 'Equal Preference System'.]
20. Southwark LA will carry out all reasonable checks to ensure that pupil rankings are correctly held in its LAS before uploading data to the PLR.
21. Southwark LA will upload the highest potential offer available to an applicant for a maintained school or academy in this LA to the PLR by **16 March 2011**. The PLR will transmit the highest potential offer specified by the Maintaining LA to the Home LA.
22. The LAS of Southwark local authority will eliminate, as a Home LA, all but the highest ranked offer where an applicant has more than one potential offer across Maintaining LAs submitting information within

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deadline to the PLR. This will involve exchanges of preference outcomes between the LAS and the PLR (in accordance with the iterative timetable published in the Business User Guide) which will continue until notification that a steady state has been achieved or until **18 March 2011** if this is sooner.

23. Southwark LA will not make an additional offer between the end of the iterative process and 4 April 2011 which may impact on an offer being made by another participating LA.
24. Notwithstanding paragraph 23, if an error is identified within the allocation of places at one of this LA's schools, this LA will attempt to manually resolve the allocation to correct the error. Where this impacts on another LA (either as a home or maintaining LA) Southwark LA will liaise with that LA to attempt to resolve the correct offer and any multiple offers which might occur. However, if another LA is unable to resolve a multiple offer, or if the impact is too far reaching, Southwark LA will accept that the applicant(s) affected might receive a multiple offer.
25. Southwark LA will participate in the offer data checking exercise scheduled between **21-28 March 2011** in the Pan-London timetable in Schedule 3A.
26. Southwark LA will send a file to the E-Admissions portal with outcomes for all resident applicants who have applied online no later than **28 March 2011**. (33 London LAs & Surrey only).

Offers

27. Southwark LA will ensure, so far as is reasonably practical, that each resident applicant who cannot be offered a preference expressed on the Common Application Form receives the offer of an alternative school place. This offer will be at the nearest appropriate school with capacity based on home to school distance (as a straight line measurement). The result of applications will be posted out first class on **4 April 2011**. Applicants who did not qualify for any of the schools named on their CAF will be:
 - Notified of the outcome of their application
 - Advised on the right of appeal for those schools
 - Advised where possible how to apply for their child's name to be added to the waiting list/s of those schools
 - Offered a place at a school with a vacancy in Southwark Council
 - Advised of contact details for neighbouring authorities where alternative vacancies may be available.
28. Southwark LA will inform all resident applicants of their highest offer of a school place and, where relevant, the reasons why higher preferences were not offered, whether they were for schools in the Home LA or in other participating LAs.

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29. Southwark LA's outcome letter will include the information set out in Schedule 2.
30. **On 4 April 2011**, Southwark LA will send by first class post notification of the outcome to resident applicants.
31. *Southwark LA will provide nursery and primary schools with destination data of its resident applicants by the end of the Summer term **2011**.

Post Offer

32. Southwark LA will request that resident applicants accept or decline the offer of a place by **19 April 2011**, or within two weeks of the date of any subsequent offer.
33. *Where an applicant resident in Southwark LA accepts or declines a place in a school maintained by another LA by **19 April 2011**, Southwark LA will forward the information to the maintaining LA by **26 April 2011**. Where such information is received from applicants after **19 March**, Southwark LA will pass it to the maintaining LA as it is received.
34. Southwark LA will inform the home LA, where different, of an offer for a maintained school or Academy in Southwark LA's area which can be made to an applicant resident in the home LA's area, in order that the home LA can offer the place.
35. When acting as a maintaining LA, Southwark LA will not inform an applicant resident in another LA that a place can be offered. Admission authorities within this LA will not inform any applicant that a place can be offered in advance of such notification being sent to the applicant by Southwark LA.
36. Southwark LA will offer a place at a maintained school or Academy in the area of another LA to an applicant resident in its area, provided that the school is ranked higher on the Common Application Form than any school already offered.
37. Where Southwark LA is informed by a maintaining LA of an offer which can be made to an applicant resident in this LA's area which is ranked lower on the Common Application Form than any school already offered, it will inform the maintaining LA that the offer will not be made.
38. Where Southwark LA, acting as a home LA, has agreed to a change of preference order for good reason, it must inform any maintaining LA affected by the change. In such cases, paragraphs 36 and 37 shall apply to the revised order of preferences.
39. * Southwark LA will inform the home LA, where different, of any change to an applicant's offer status as soon as it occurs.

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40. Southwark LA will accept new applications (including additional preferences) from home LAs for maintained schools and academies in its area.
42. Waiting lists for all primary schools in Southwark will be held by this LA until the **31 August 2010**, after this date any existing waiting lists will then be returned to our schools.

**PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME
SCHEDULE 1**

**Minimum Content of Common Application Form for
Admissions to Reception in September 2011**

Child's details:

Surname
Forename(s)
Middle name(s)
Date of Birth
Gender
Home address
Name of current school
Address of current school (if outside home LA)

Parent's details:

Title
Surname
Forename
Address (if different to child's address)
Telephone Number (Home, Daytime, Mobile)
Email address
Relationship to child

Preference details (x 6 recommended):

Name of school
Address of school
Preference ranking
Local authority in which the school is based

Additional information:

Reasons for Preferences (including any medical or social reasons)
Does the child have a statement of SEN? Y/N*
Is the child a 'Child Looked After'? Y/N
If yes, name of responsible local authority
Surname of sibling
Forename of sibling
DOB of sibling
Gender of sibling
Name of school sibling attends

Other:

Signature of parent or guardian
Date of signature

* Where an LA decides not to request this information on the CAF, it must guarantee that no statemented pupil details will be sent via the PLR.

PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME

SCHEDULE 2

Template Outcome Letter for Admissions to Year 7 and Reception in September 2011

From: Home LA

Date: **4 April 2011**

Dear Parent/carer

Application for a Primary School

I am writing to let you know the outcome of your application for a primary school. Your child has been offered a place at X School. The school will write to you with further details.

I am sorry that it was not possible for your child to be offered a place at any of the schools which you listed as a higher preference on your application form. For each of these schools there were more applications than places and other applicants has a higher priority than your child under the school's published admission criteria.

Offers which could have been made for any schools which you placed lower in your preference list, were automatically withdrawn under the co-ordinated admission arrangements, as a higher preference has been offered.

If you would like more information about the reason that your child was not offered a place at any school, you should contact the admission authority that is responsible for admissions to the school within the next few days. Details of the different admission authorities for schools in the borough of X are attached to this letter. If the school is outside the borough of X, the admission authority will either be the borough in which the school is situated, or the school itself.

You have the right of appeal under the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 against the refusal of a place at any of the schools for which you have applied. If you wish to appeal, you must contact the admission authority for the school within the next few days to obtain the procedure and the date by which an appeal must be received by them.

Please would you confirm that you wish to accept the place at X School by completing the reply slip below. If you do not wish to accept the place, you will need to let me know what alternative arrangements you are making for your child's education.

If you wish to apply for any school other school, in this borough or elsewhere, you must obtain an application form from this office.

Your child will automatically be placed upon Southwark primary school waiting lists.

*Please return the reply slip to me by **9 April 2011**. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me on _____.*

Yours sincerely

(First preference offer letters should include the paragraphs in italics only)

**PAN-LONDON CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS SCHEME
SCHEDULE 3B**

Timetable for Admissions to Reception in September 2011

Sat 15 Jan 2011	Statutory deadline for receipt of applications
Fri 28 Jan 2011	Deadline for the transfer of application information by the Home LA to the PLR (ADT file)
Fri 18 Feb 2011	Deadline for the upload of late applications to the PLR
Mon 21 - Fri 25 Feb 2011	Checking of application data
Wed 16 Mar 2011	Deadline for the transfer of potential offer information from the Maintaining LAs to the PLR (ALT file).
Fri 18 Mar 2011	Final ALT file to PLR
Mon 21- Fri 27 Mar 2011	Checking of offer data
Mon 28 Mar 2011	Deadline for on-line ALT file to portal
Mon 4 April 2011	Offer letters posted.
Tues 19 April 2011	Deadline for receipt of acceptances
Tues 26 April 2011	Deadline for transfer of acceptances to maintaining LAs