

Applying for Secondary School September 2027

Choosing schools

- Visit for open evenings
- Have a good look around their website
- SEN- make special appointment
- Don't leave choice to your child
- Keep an open mind
- Remember your child is an individual- know their strengths and weaknesses

Where do our children go?

2024- 2026

- ▣ Nicholas Breakspear
- ▣ Loreto College
- ▣ Bishop Hatfield Girls' School
- ▣ Onslow St Audrey
- ▣ Chancellors
- ▣ Stanborough
- ▣ Queen Elizabeth Boys'
- ▣ St Alban's Boys' School
- ▣ Verulam Boys' School
- ▣ St Albans Girls' School
- ▣ St Columba's Catholic College
- ▣ St Michael's Catholic Girls' Grammar School
- ▣ Ridgeway Academy
- ▣ Mount Grace
- ▣ Townsend, St Albans

Deadlines

Absolute deadline is 31st October 2026

SIFs must be sent to schools by 31st October 2026

Application forms and supplementary information forms (SIFs) are found on:
www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

❑ **Making an application**

- ❑ When you apply, you should list 4 schools in order of preference (we sometimes call this your "ranked" schools).
- ❑ Research schools to help you make the right school preferences for your child.
- ❑ This includes looking at a school's admission rules (how they work out who will be offered a place).

- ❑ PUT DOWN 4 SCHOOLS in order of preference
- ❑ Be realistic and make 1 a local school
- ❑ Do not name independent schools on this form
- ❑ Can be filled in online or a paper copy
- ❑ Paper copy must be posted or delivered to the admissions team
- ❑ Computers available in school for online applications
- ❑ Mrs Waugh available for support/advice

Voluntary Aided / Academy Catholic Schools

- Apply online

Send to the school:

- Loreto: SIF (Form A) and Baptism Certificate
- Nicholas Breakspear : SIF and Baptism Certificate and Certificate of Practice
- John Henry Newman: SIF, Certificate of Catholic Practice, Baptism Certificate

Nicholas Breakspear

700 children applied for 180 places

YOU MUST SEND SIF, BAPTISM CERTIFICATE and
CERTIFICATE of CATHOLIC PRACTICE

No child without a Certificate of Catholic
Practice was successful

No Catechumens or Eastern Christians got in

No baptised Catholics without a CCP who
weren't a sibling got in

No appeals were successful

Think very carefully about your choice 2 school

Go to the open evenings

Open Evenings

Please check the Hertfordshire website for dates

Non Catholic Schools with a SIF

It will come up as a red question when you apply online

Chancellor's

Townsend School : SIF and if possible Worship letter from church

Must fill in a SIF as well as apply online

Schools with a test

- You will receive a letter that says if they have scored high enough in the tests to be eligible to be considered.
- THIS DOES NOT MEAN THEY WILL BE OFFERED A PLACE
- Eg QE boys: over 1000 boys eligible (score over 210) Score needed to be offered a place 232
- Make sure you apply for a local school as one of the 4

Test results

- Some test results will come in after 31st October eg Parmiter's, Watford Grammar
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- You have until 4th December to request a change of rank or preference due to aptitude test results

Independent Schools

- Each has their own application form and admissions criteria.
- Do not name independent / private schools on the Hertfordshire form
- Apply for 4 state schools as usual
- Offers usually happen later than Hertfordshire
- Accept your offer school while finding out about other schools
- All independent schools will ask for a reference. It is written by me and will be honest!

What happens next?

DON'T PANIC!

- 31st October 2026 – Deadline for applications
- **1 March 2027** – when school place allocations were released. County will have emailed you (if you confirmed your email address).
- You can also [login to the admissions system](#) to check.
- **15 March** is the deadline to accept or decline your offer.
- If you don't accept or decline, County may offer your place to someone else. They'll then offer you a place at the nearest school that still has places.
- We advise you to accept the place offered so your child definitely has a school in September. This doesn't affect your chances of getting a school you prefer later, either through the continuing interest process, or through a [school place appeal](#).
- Automatic Continuing Interest List if not offered first choice community school
- 31st March 2027 last date to register an appeal