

Heathlands Primary Academy & Pre-School
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29 June 2026

Application to secondary school

Dear Year 5 parents

As we approach the end of the academic year, we are turning our attention to the next phase of your child's education. You will need to apply for secondary school spaces for year 7 in September. This application process opens on 1st September 2026 and closes in October 2026 for most schools. It is a much shorter application time than for entrance to primary school. All applications are online at BCP. Please check the admissions policy for your preference school.

I urge you to apply as early as possible to your chosen schools. For your child's year group there is a very high demand for places, therefore late applications may not get their first choice. Therefore, please apply on time. It is recommended that you choose a school near to your home as you are more likely to get this. If you apply for and are offered a place at a school which is not your local school, you will not usually qualify for free transport and will have to take on the costs yourself. Many schools are running open evenings, and we encourage you to look around your preference school as a minimum. We strongly suggest that you name four schools and that you think carefully about the order you request them as this can have an impact upon which one you may be offered.

The school you want the most must be named as your first preference.

Grammar Schools or Academic Placements

Should you wish for your child to take the Grammar entry test or Poole High's Academic Placement these deadlines are much earlier at the very start of September. Applications for these are already open. There is further information on the application process for testing process on the Grammar school's website;

<https://www.bournemouth-school.org/admissions-2/joining-year-7-in-september/>

<https://www.poolegrammar.com/join-our-school/admissions/admissions-to-year-7/>

<https://poolehigh.co.uk/admissions-home/expressly-academic-testing>

If you intend to apply to the Grammar school or academic placements you should name the grammar school or Poole High as one of your four choices. Taking the test does not guarantee a place. You should name other schools in case your child does not pass the test to get in.

We know that this process can be confusing so please see senior staff or contact the school office if you are unsure about anything and we will assist you.

Best wishes

Janine Harries

Headteacher

