LOVE TOWER HAMLETS

TOWER HAMLETS

Starting **Primary School** in Tower Hamlets 2027

For children born between
1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023

Closing date for applications: **15 January 2027**
National offer day: **16 April 2027**
Apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**

Foreword by the Corporate Director

Dear parents and carers,

Starting primary school is a big moment for both parents and children. We know that you want your child to have the best start in life and choosing the right school for your child can be a difficult decision. This booklet is designed to help you make the right choice so that your child is happy and successful at school.

Inside you will find information about schools in Tower Hamlets, including addresses, phone numbers and maps showing the location of our schools. We have also tried to answer the most frequently asked questions.

It is a good idea to visit some schools and take the time to see the range of opportunities that are available before making up your mind. School staff are always pleased to meet new parents and carers. As long as you make an appointment first, they will be happy to show you around. All our schools produce brochures about themselves, so you may want to contact those you are most interested in to ask for a copy. For more information and advice, please contact The School Admissions Service on 0207 364 0573 or email **school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk**. We have multilingual as well as Bengali speaking admissions officers.

You should make your application online and, if you do not have a computer, you can access the internet at any of the borough's Idea Stores.

The website address is **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

The most recent national primary school results show that very high standards are common in schools across the borough.

Many schools in Tower Hamlets receive more applications than there are places available, so some children may not be offered a place at their preferred school(s). Please be aware of this when deciding which six schools to apply to in order of preference.

We are proud that Tower Hamlets schools are inclusive and that children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are educated well and thriving in our mainstream settings.

I am sure you have very high aspirations for your child and expect high levels of achievement as well as good behaviour and regular attendance.

The council and our schools look to work in partnership with parents and carers. Together we can ensure your child and all children in Tower Hamlets progress well and make the best of their time at school. You can be sure our teachers and other staff strive for nothing short of excellence and, working with you, we can achieve this for your child. Further information and support is available on **www.thfamilyinformationhub.co.uk**.

We look forward to your child attending one of our schools.

Yours sincerely

Steve Reddy
Corporate Director, Children's Services
London Borough of Tower Hamlets

This booklet explains how to apply for a place at a primary school in Tower Hamlets.

You will find this information useful if your child is due to start reception or you would like your child to transfer from one school to another.

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023, they should start reception in the 2027/28 school year.

You need to apply by 15 January 2027 to secure a place for your child in the 2027/28 school year.

Contents

SECTION 1

- Apply online 5
- The Pan London Coordinated Admissions System 6
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) / Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) 6
- Catchment area maps and schools list 7
- School catchment area 1 (Stepney) 8
- School catchment area 2 (Bow) 9
- School catchment area 3 (Poplar) 10
- School catchment area 4 (Isle of Dogs) 11
- School catchment area 5 (Wapping) 12
- School catchment area 6 (Bethnal Green) 13
- Reception admission 14
- Oversubscription criteria and tie-break 16
- Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria 17

SECTION 2

- Summary of last year's application and offers 19
- Application outcomes 20
- Frequently asked questions on reception admission 23
- Before you apply – dos and don'ts 24
- Primary schools in Tower Hamlets 25

SECTION 3

- In-year admissions, school transfer and moving from infant to junior 28

SECTION 4

- A step-by-step guide to applying online 29
- Useful contacts 33

Visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions** for more information.
Apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**

Key dates at a glance

From September 2026
Read this booklet and consider which schools you want to apply for. You can visit schools to help you decide.

1 September 2026 to 15 January 2027
Complete the application online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**
Apply for up to six schools in preference order. If you want to apply for a voluntary aided (church) school, you must also obtain and return the school's supplementary information form to them.

15 January 2027
This is the closing date for applications. Make sure you apply online by this date. Apply at www.eadmissions.org.uk.

January to April 2027
The School Admissions Service will process your application to decide at which school your child can be offered a place.

16 April 2027
You will receive an email informing you of the outcome of your application. If you are offered a place at a school, the school will write to you to confirm the arrangements for you to accept the place.

30 April 2027
Deadline for you to confirm acceptance of a place, directly with the school you have been offered. You can also add your child's name to any other school's waiting list.

17 May 2027
Deadline for making an appeal for admission to a preferred school/s.

June 2027
Appeals heard.

September 2027
Your child starts school.

Apply online 1

If you live in Tower Hamlets you need to apply using the online application form. You can apply between 1 September 2026 and 15 January 2027 at www.eadmissions.org.uk

When to make your application

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 you should apply for a primary school place from 1 September 2026 – the closing date is 15 January 2027.

What you should do before you apply

Starting primary school in the reception year is an important stage in your child's life. It is important that you carefully consider which schools to apply to.

You should visit your local schools to help you decide. You can make an appointment by contacting each of them directly. You should also look at:

- the school's prospectus (information about how the school runs)
- the school's most recent Ofsted inspection report (www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports)
- the school's performance results (www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance).

You should also consider the likelihood of being offered places at the schools you prefer. This booklet explains the application process and how school admission decisions are made.

How to apply

It is a simple and easy way to submit your child's application. You will then be able to:

- Search for schools in Tower Hamlets and across London
- Access information about schools and links to school websites
- Make changes to your application up until the closing date 15 January 2027
- Receive notification of the outcome of your application by email.

How do I get started?

You will need an email address. You can register for a free email account with a number of providers.

I have an email address, what next?

Visit **www.eadmissions.org.uk** to register or you can use the link from the Tower Hamlets website at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

Who can help me with my online application?

- Guidance on how to apply online is in this booklet – see page 29.
- The School Admissions Service can offer advice and answer any questions on 020 7364 0573 or at school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk
- Tower Hamlets Transitions Support Team provides information and advice about the admissions process to help families manage change and make informed decisions
  Email: transitions@towerhamlets.gov.uk
  Telephone: 020 7364 1533.

Free access to computers at our Idea Stores

Please check **www.ideastore.co.uk** to keep up to date on which services are available, or other Idea Stores that may be open.

Primary admissions parents' session

Join the School Admissions Service and the Transitions Support Team from the Family Information Advice and Support Service (formerly Parents Advice Centre) for a presentation on Primary admissions – sessions run throughout the application phase from September to January.

Visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions** and reserve your place today.

Get information on Primary admissions and ask questions to the School Admissions Service and the Transitions Support Team.

1 The Pan London Coordinated Admissions System

Tower Hamlets Local Authority, along with the 32 other London boroughs and Local Authorities that border the capital, is part of the Pan London Coordinated Admissions Scheme, which coordinates admissions to primary schools across London.

The aim of the scheme is that as many parents as possible receive an offer at one of their preferred schools – it also ensures everyone is notified of their offer on the same date. For the 2027/28 academic year, this is 16 April 2027. This helps to make sure that no-one receives more than one offer.

How does the scheme work?

Parents list the schools that they want to apply to on one form, ranking them in order of preference. The school they most want should be listed first, followed by the next one they prefer and so on. This is important because only one offer is made and it will be from the highest ranked school (by parents' preference) that is able to make an offer. The form must then be returned to the Local Authority for the borough in which the child lives for processing.

The Local Authorities that take part in the Pan London Coordinated Admissions Scheme use a computerised system to share the details of applications. They will then coordinate the offers of places to try to make sure that nobody gets offered more than one school place. The decision on whether a school place can be offered is made by the admission authority for the school.

Where there are more applications than there are places available, the school's published oversubscription criteria is used to decide which applicants can be offered places. Any other schools applied to remain confidential before the decisions are made.

Local Authorities hold the offer for the highest preference on the parent's form where a place can be offered and release all other lower preferences, so that these can be offered to others. Potential offers are then exchanged between Local Authorities until they are in a position to make the single best offer to parents using all available places.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) / Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

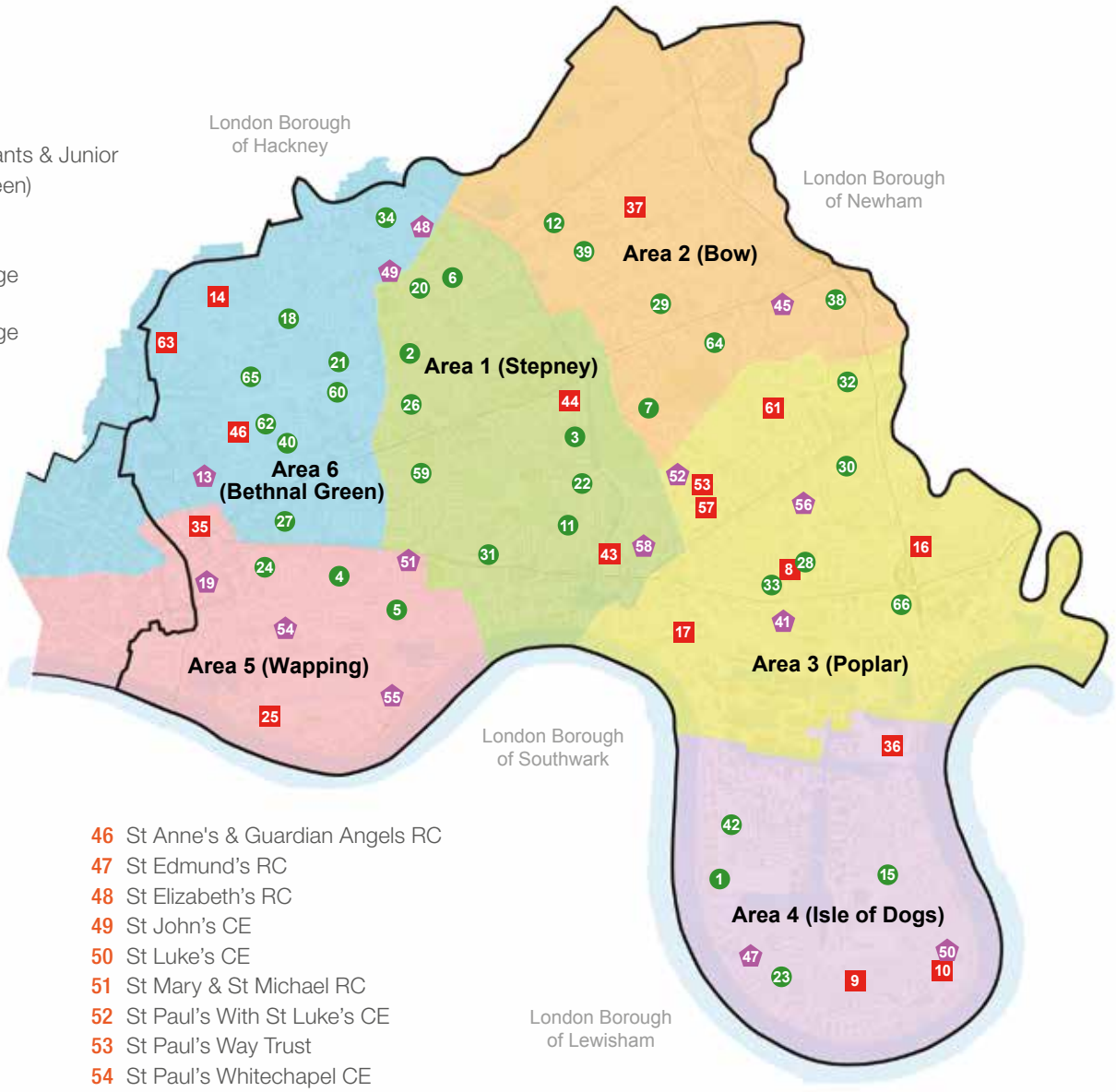
If you feel that your child may have special educational needs and disabilities, you should discuss your concerns with the headteacher and Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at your child's nursery as early as possible. If your child does not attend nursery, you should contact the SEN Team and discuss your concerns with them.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you do not apply for a school place online, you should contact the SEN Team who will consult on a school place for your child.

Please call the SEN Team on **020 7364 4880** if you have any queries. You may also wish to contact the Parents' Advice Centre on **020 7364 6489**.

Catchment area maps and schools list

1 Arnhem Wharf
2 Bangabandhu
3 Ben Jonson
4 Bigland Green
5 Blue Gate Fields Infants & Junior
6 Bonner (Bethnal Green)
7 Bonner (Mile End)
8 Bygrove
9 Canary Wharf College East Ferry
10 Canary Wharf College Glenworth
11 Cayley
12 Chisenhale
13 Christ Church CE
14 Columbia
15 Cubitt Town
16 Culloden
17 Cyril Jackson
18 Elizabeth Selby & Lawdale Junior
19 English Martyrs RC
20 Globe
21 Hague
22 Halley
23 Harbinger
24 Harry Gosling
25 Hermitage
26 John Scurr
27 Kobi Nazrul
28 Lansbury Lawrence
29 Malmesbury
30 Manorfield
31 Marion Richardson
32 Marner
33 Mayflower
34 Mowlem
35 Mulberry Canon Barnett
36 Mulberry Wood Wharf
37 Old Ford
38 Old Palace
39 Olga
40 Osmani
41 Our Lady & St Joseph
42 Seven Mills
43 Sir William Burrough
44 Solebay Primary School
45 St Agnes RC
46 St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC
47 St Edmund's RC
48 St Elizabeth's RC
49 St John's CE
50 St Luke's CE
51 St Mary & St Michael RC
52 St Paul's With St Luke's CE
53 St Paul's Way Trust
54 St Paul's Whitechapel CE
55 St Peter's (London Docks) CE
56 St Saviours CE
57 Stebon
58 Stepney Greencoat CE
59 Stepney Park
60 Stewart Headlam
61 The Clara Grant
62 Thomas Buxton
63 Virginia
64 Wellington
65 William Davis
66 Woolmore



To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

1 School catchment area 1 (Stepney)

Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

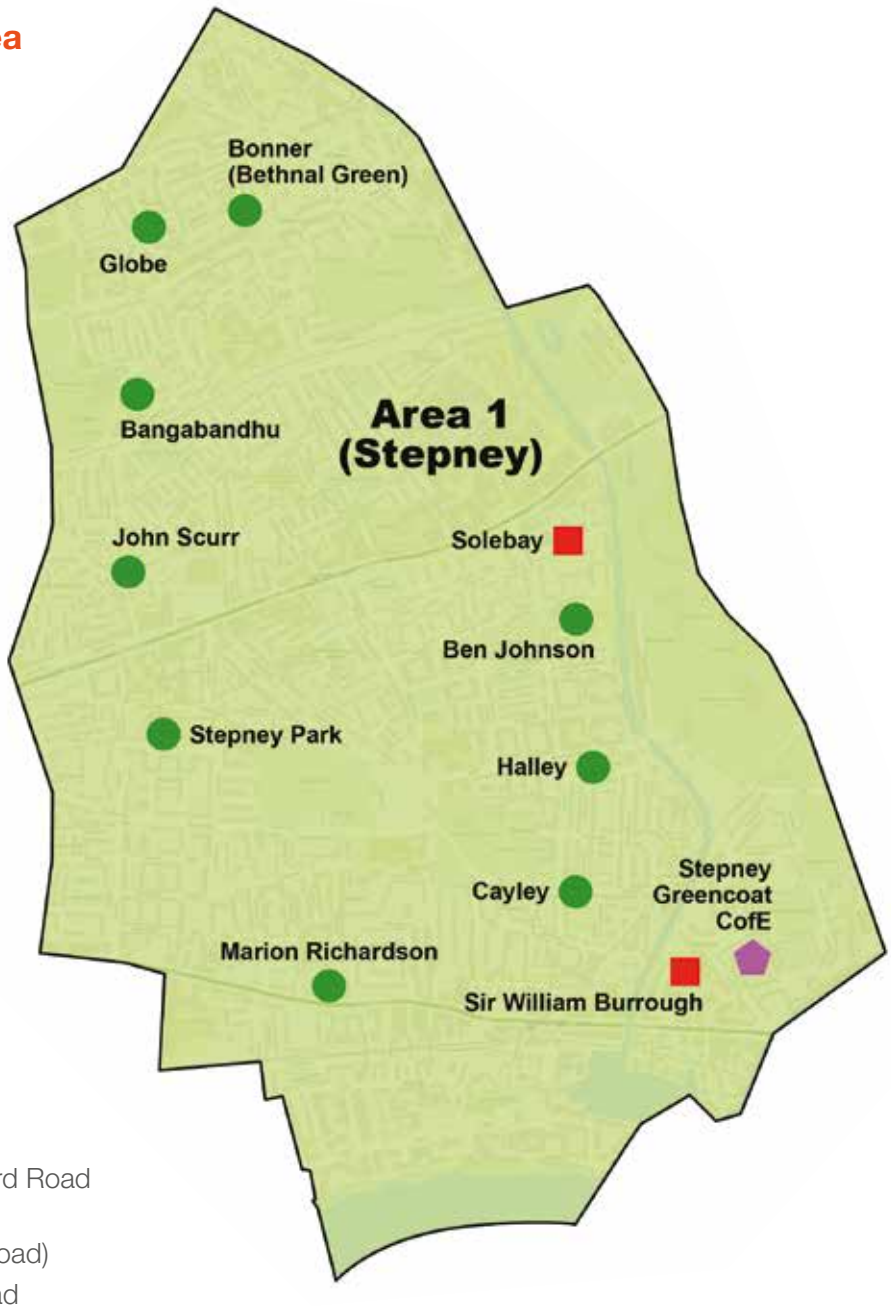
2 Bangabandhu
3 Ben Jonson
6 Bonner (Bethnal Green)
11 Cayley
20 Globe
22 Halley
26 John Scurr
31 Marion Richardson
59 Stepney Park

Voluntary primary schools

58 Stepney Greencoat CE

Academy/Free schools

43 Sir William Burrough
44 Solebay – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)



Area covered

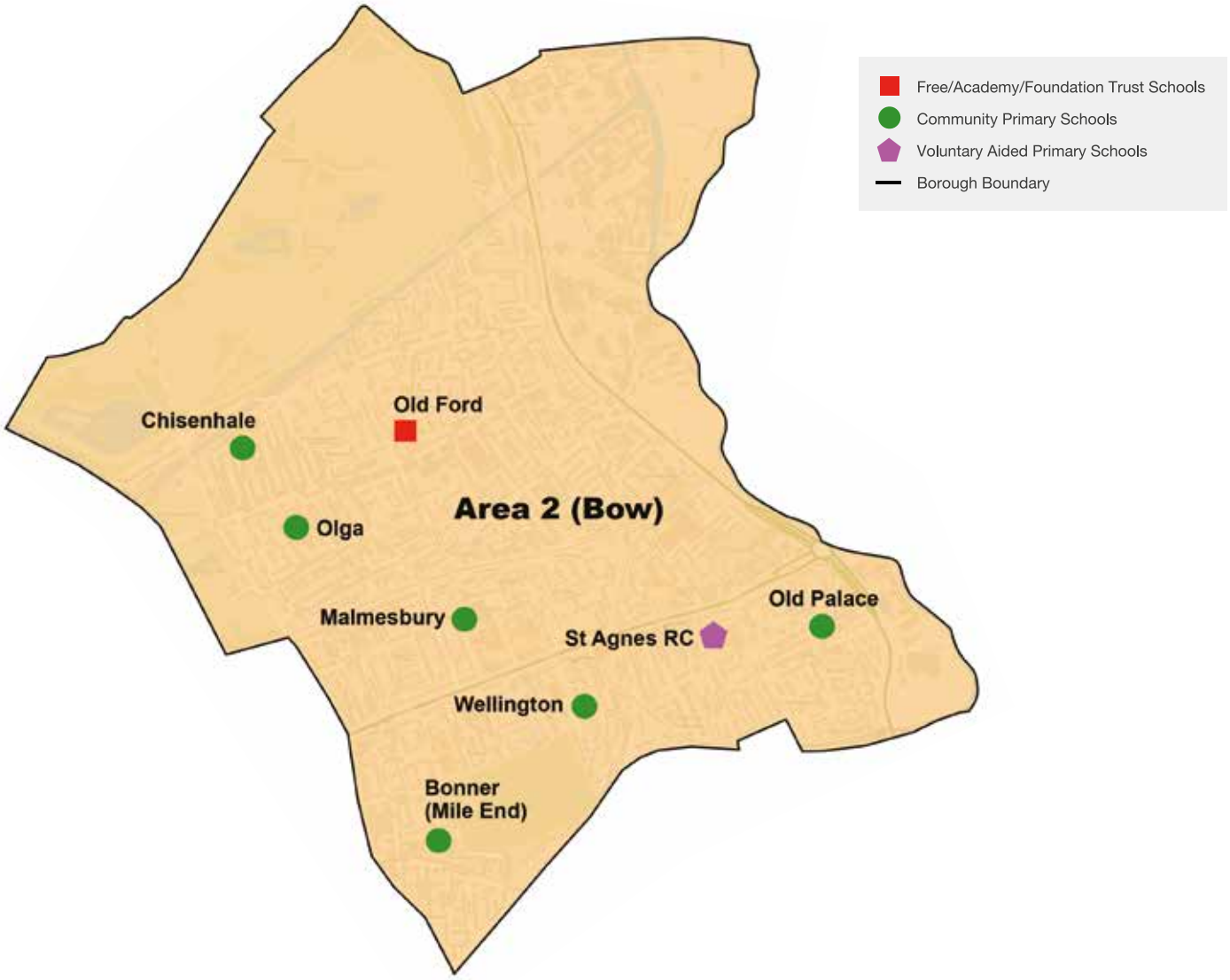
- South of Approach Road and Old Ford Road
- West of Regents Canal (up to the Railway Bridge on Grove Road)
- West of Grove Road and Burdett Road
- North of Limehouse Cut from Burdett Road to River Thames
- North of River Thames
- East of Brodlove Lane and Devonport Street
- East of Lukin Street
- North of Commercial Road (from Lukin Street to Sidney Street)
- East of Sidney Street and Cambridge Heath Road

Free/Academy/Foundation Trust Schools
Community Primary Schools
Voluntary Aided Primary Schools
Borough Boundary

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 2 (Bow)

1



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

7 Bonner (Mile End)
12 Chisenhale
29 Malmesbury
38 Old Palace
39 Olga
64 Wellington

Voluntary primary schools

45 St Agnes RC

Academy/Free schools

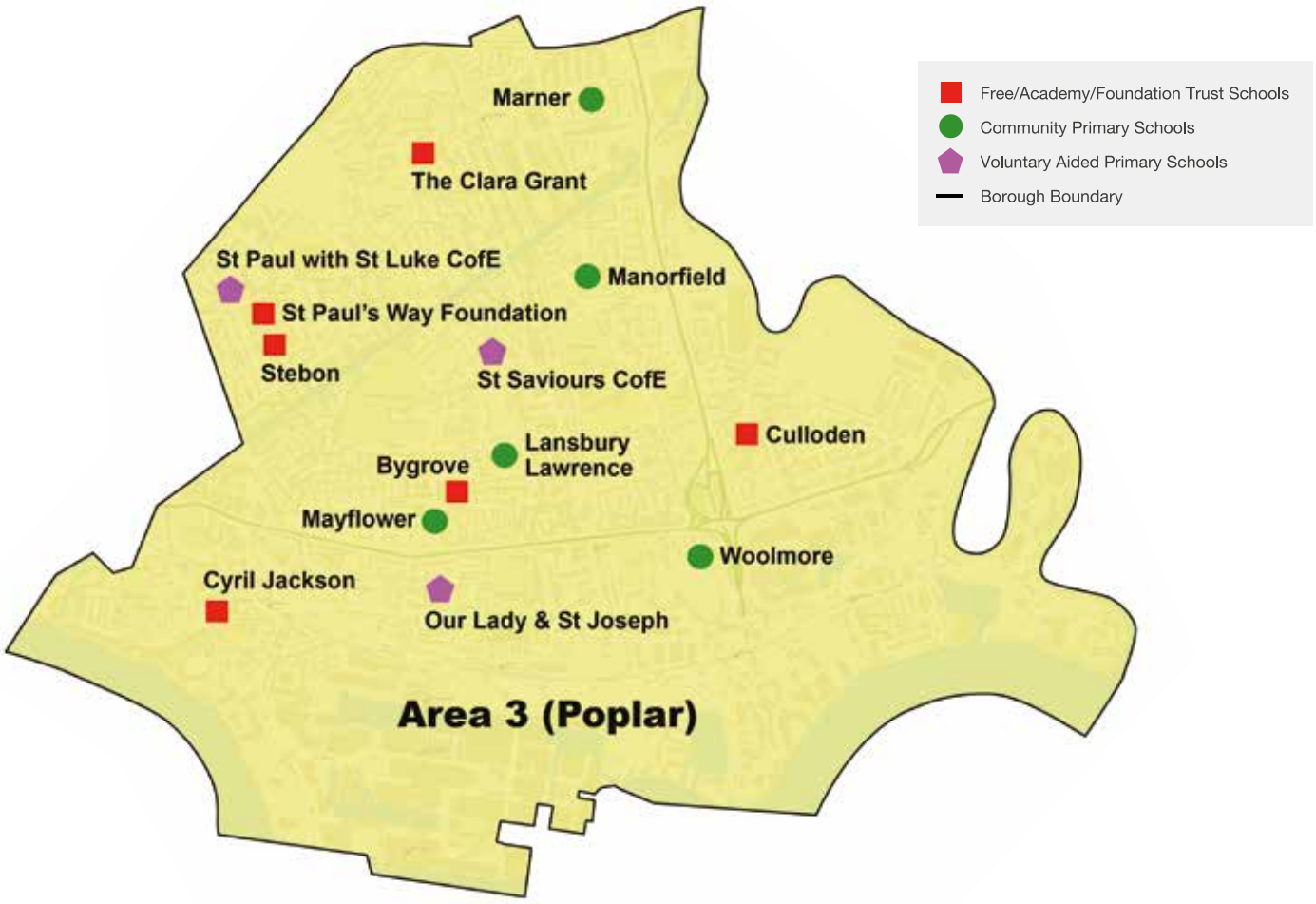
37 Old Ford – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

- South of Approach Road and A106 Victoria Park Road
- South of Cadogan Terrace
- West of River Lea
- East of Regents Canal (from Railway Bridge on Grover Road) and Burdett Road
- North of the railway line connecting Limehouse and Bromley by Bow

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

1 School catchment area 3 (Poplar)



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

28 Lansbury Lawrence
30 Manorfield
32 Marner
33 Mayflower
66 Woolmore

Voluntary primary schools

41 Our Lady & St Joseph RC
52 St Paul's with St Luke's CE
56 St Saviours CE

Academy/Free schools

8 Bygrove (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
16 Culloden – a Paradigm Academy (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
17 Cyril Jackson
53 St Paul's Way Trust (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
57 Stebon (uses same admissions policy as community schools)
61 The Clara Grant (uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

- South of the railway line connecting Limehouse and Bromley by Bow
- West of River Lea
- East of Burdett Road and the River Thames
- North of Blackwall Basin

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 4 (Isle of Dogs)

1

Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

1 Arnhem Wharf
15 Cubitt Town
23 Harbinger
42 Seven Mills

Voluntary primary schools

47 St Edmund's RC
50 St Luke's CE

Academy/Free schools

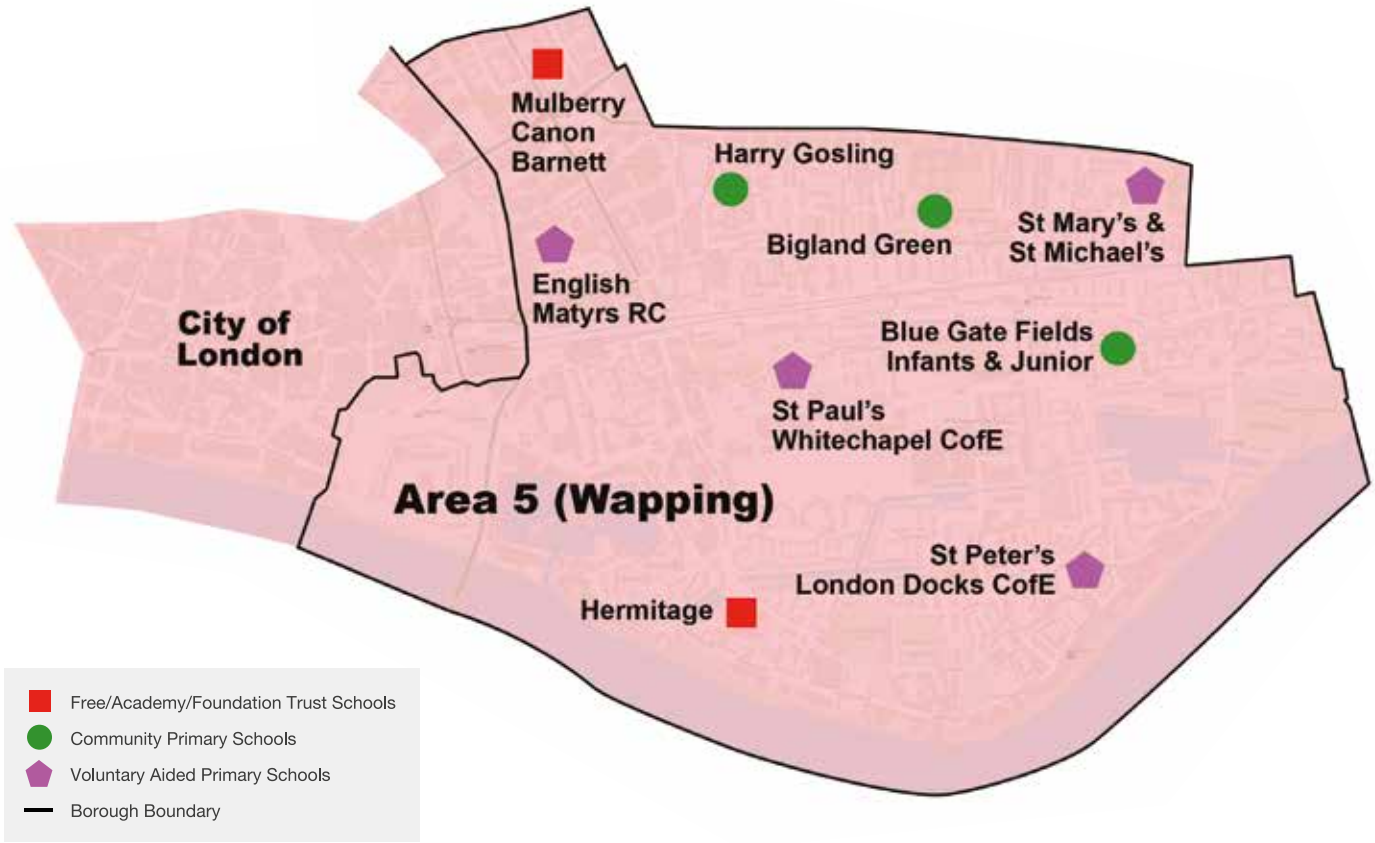
9 Canary Wharf College East Ferry
10 Canary Wharf College Glenworth
36 Mulberry Wood Wharf
(uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

- South of Blackwall Basin including Wood Wharf
- North of River Thames

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

1 School catchment area 5 (Wapping)



Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

4 Bigland Green
5 Blue Gate Fields Infants & Junior
24 Harry Gosling

Voluntary primary schools

19 English Martyrs RC
51 St Mary & St Michael RC
54 St Paul's Whitechapel CE
55 St Peter's (London Docks) CE

Academy/Free schools

25 Hermitage
35 Mulberry Canon Barnett (uses same admissions policy as community schools)

Area covered

Tower Hamlets

- South of Wentworth Street (up to Osborn Street)
- South of Commercial Road (from Whitechurch Lane to Lukin Street)
- South of Poonah Street
- West of Lukin Street, Devonport Street and Brodlove Lane
- North of River Thames
- East of Trinity Square, Mansell Street and Middlesex Street

City of London

- South of Cornhill, Leadenhall Street, Aldgate High Street
- South of Harrow Place (from White Kennet Street)
- West of Middlesex Street, Mansell Street and Trinity Square
- North of River Thames
- East of King Williams Street

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

School catchment area 6 (Bethnal Green)

1

Schools in the catchment area

Community schools

18 Elizabeth Selby Infant*
18 Lawdale Junior*
21 Hague
27 Kobi Nazrul
34 Mowlem
40 Osmani
60 Stewart Headlam
62 Thomas Buxton
65 William Davis

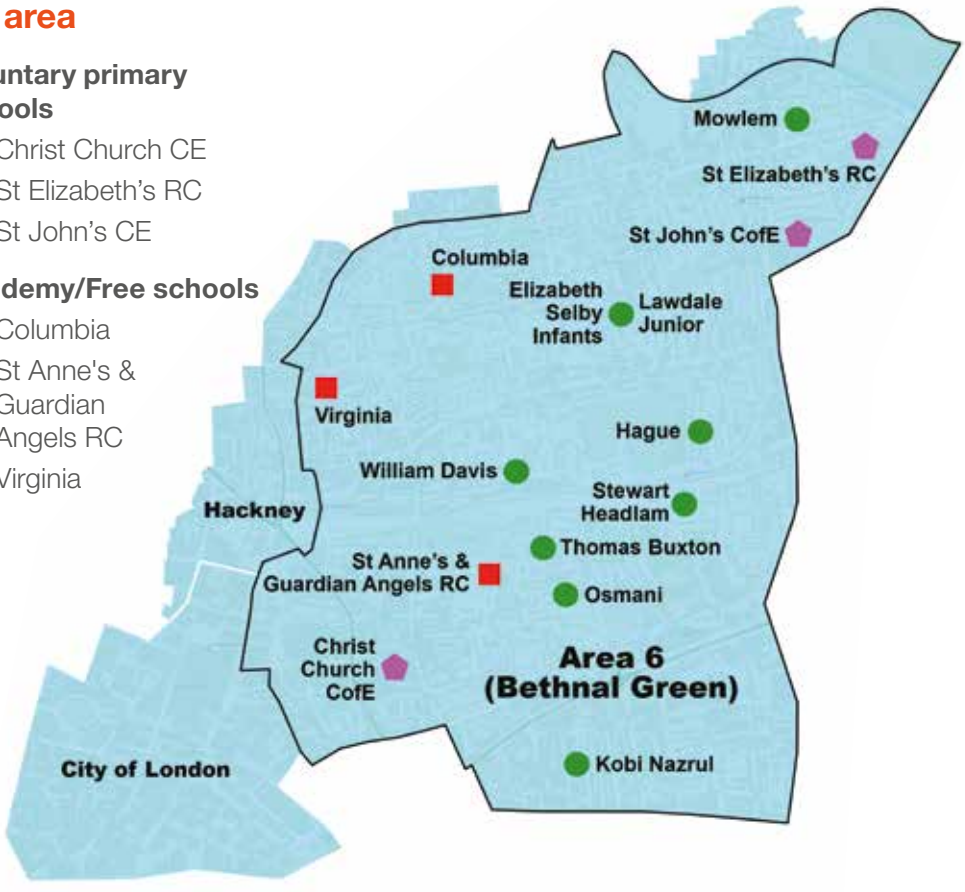
*Linked infant and junior schools

Voluntary primary schools

13 Christ Church CE
48 St Elizabeth's RC
49 St John's CE

Academy/Free schools

14 Columbia
46 St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC
63 Virginia



Area covered

Tower Hamlets

- South of Hackney Road (from Shoreditch High Street to Goldsmiths Row), South of Teale Street Pritchard's Road and Regent's Canal
- West of Approach Road and Old Ford Road
- West of Cambridge Heath Road and Sidney Street
- North of Commercial Road (from Sidney Street to Whitechurch Lane)
- North of Wentworth Street (from Osborn Street to Middlesex Street)
- East of Middlesex Street, Norton Folgate and Boundary Street

Hackney

- South of Ash Grove and Earlston Grove
- East of Fremont Street
- West and South of Christchurch Square
- North of Regent's Canal (up to Ash Grove)
- South of Dunloe Street (from Dawson Street to Columbia Road)
- West of Columbia Road
- North of Hackney Road
- East of Weymouth Terrace (from Hackney Road to 14 Dunloe Court)
- South of Cremer Street
- West of Hackney Road, Boundary Street and Shoreditch High Street
- North of Worship Street East of Scrutton Street, Christina Street, Gatesborough Street, Great Eastern Street and Curtain Road
- East of Shoreditch High Street (from Rivington Street to Waterson Street) and Nazrul Street City of London
- South of South Place, Sun Street, Appold Street and Worship Street
- West of Norton Folgate and Bishopsgate
- North of Cornhill
- East of Prince's Street and Moorgate

To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit the website: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

1 Reception admission

The number of schools you can apply for

It is strongly advised that you apply to six primary schools. It is important that you list them in order of preference i.e. the school you want the most should be your first preference. This will decide which school is offered if your child qualifies for admission at more than one of the schools you have applied to.

You must not name independent (private) schools on your application. Instead, you should apply directly to these schools.

You must complete an application for a reception place, even if your child is already in the school's nursery

Children do not have an automatic right to transfer from a school's nursery class to its reception. You must therefore make a separate application for a reception place.

Please also note that by making an application you are not guaranteed that a place will be offered, as children in the nursery are not prioritised above other applicants.

You must submit an application with the Local Authority, even if you have already completed the school's form

The school's form is a 'supplementary form' and is used by voluntary aided (church) or free schools to gather additional information that will enable the school to consider your application under its faith or other criteria. You must also submit an application with the Local Authority.

Confirmation of address

If you live outside of Tower Hamlets, you must complete and submit your application to the borough where you live.

Applications should be submitted according to where the child normally resides. This will normally be with an adult or adults who have legal responsibility for the child. Where the child lives at the property for part of the week with different adults who have legal responsibility, the address where the child spends the majority of the week will normally be used. If time is spent between two homes equally, the parents/carers must agree the address to be used and a single application should then be made. This will commonly be where child benefit is payable, however all evidence will be taken into account.

Parents will be required to provide acceptable independent proof of their child's address. This may include council tax records. They must make sure that the application form they complete is accurate and must contact the Admissions Service and tell their child's headteacher if there is a relevant change after it has been submitted. Places may be withdrawn if false information is entered on the application form. Parents who do not provide evidence of their

The different types of primary school in Tower Hamlets

There are five different types of maintained primary (government funded) schools within Tower Hamlets:

Community – these schools are run by the Local Authority and the Local Authority decides which children can be admitted.

Voluntary aided – these are either Church of England or Roman Catholic schools and each school's governing body will decide on admissions. Priority is given to children whose families can provide evidence they practice the school's particular faith.

Foundation Trust – these schools are charitable trusts and work in partnership with a charity or businesses. Decisions on admissions are made by the Local Authority on behalf of the school's board of trustees.

Academy – schools that are directly funded by central government and independent of Local Authority control. Decisions on admissions are made by the school's trust board.

Free school – these are schools established by parents, teachers, charities or businesses and are independent of the Local Authority. Decisions on admissions are made according to the school's admission criteria and by the school's board of trustees. However, applications for admission must be made via the Local Authority.

Applications for admission to all of the above schools must be made via the Local Authority.

A list of the Tower Hamlets maintained schools with their description, location, website and contact details can be found on pages 25-27 of this brochure. Details of admissions policy and oversubscription criteria for schools can be accessed via the school's website.

child's address as requested, or provide conflicting or inconclusive information, may have the place withdrawn even if it has already been accepted.

Changing your address

If you move address before 15 January 2027, you will be able to log in and update the address on your online application. You can also make changes to the schools you wish to apply to.

If you move address after 15 January 2027, you must inform the School Admissions Service in writing immediately. It may still be possible to change your choice of schools.

A change in your circumstances

If an older child transfers to another school after 15 January 2027 and you need to change your younger child's school preferences because of this, you should contact the School Admissions Service. Depending on when your older child transfers, it may be possible to change your school preferences.

If any medical or social circumstances within the family change after 15 January 2027 which means that you feel your child would need a place at a particular school, please contact the School Admissions Service.

Late applications

Applications received after the **15 January 2027** will be treated as late applications unless there is evidence to show that the application or amendment could not reasonably have been made on time. A new preference or change in the order of preferences will not be accepted after the closing date unless the circumstances are deemed to be exceptional. Late applications will be dealt with after all on time applications have been considered. Where a school is oversubscribed, late applications will be refused and placed on the waiting list in accordance with the admission criteria.

Processing applications

The School Admissions Service Team will process applications and coordinate the decisions for Tower Hamlets children, including those applying to schools in other boroughs. This is done as part of the Pan London Admissions System, which seeks to ensure that as many children as possible are placed in a school at the earliest opportunity.

Your application for each school is processed individually and, in each case, a decision is taken to determine if your child can be offered a place. If we find that we can place your child at more than one of your school preferences only one school will be offered. This will be for the highest preference school at which an offer can be made.

Making the decisions on applications

The decisions on applications for Tower Hamlets community schools are made by the School Admissions Service. If a community school receives more applications than there are places available, the Local Authority's oversubscription criteria are used to determine who can be offered a place. The oversubscription criteria are set out on the next page.

For voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies it is the school governors who will make decisions, based on the information you provided in your application and the school's supplementary form. Admission policies and oversubscription criteria for these schools can be found in their prospectuses, on their websites or at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

If one or more of the schools you have applied for is outside of Tower Hamlets, the decision will be taken by the Local Authority or the admission authority for the school and notified to the School Admissions Service. Once all admission decisions are made the School Admissions Service will then coordinate the offers of places as explained above.

The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), Bygrove Primary School, Mulberry Canon Barnett, Mulberry Wood Wharf, Stebon Primary School, St Paul's Way Trust School and The Clara Grant Primary School have delegated decisions on admissions to the Local Authority and, therefore, use the same oversubscription criteria as Tower Hamlets community schools.

The number of places available at each Tower Hamlets school

The number of children who can be admitted to each Tower Hamlets school for the school year 2027/28 is set out on pages 25-27 of this booklet.

1 Oversubscription criteria and tie-break

Oversubscription criteria for Tower Hamlets community schools and nurseries

If a community school receives more applications than places available it will not be possible to offer every child a place. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), which names the school applied to, will be placed before all other applicants. See page 6 for more information on children with an EHCP.

The remaining places will be filled in the priority order below.

1. Children Looked After by the Local Authority, including adopted children who were previously looked after and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order. This also includes children who were previously in care abroad;
2. Children for whom it is deemed there is strong medical or social reason to attend the school applied to (See Note 1);
3. Children living within the catchment area of the school who have a sibling attending the school (including the school of a separate infants and junior school) and who will continue to do so on the date of admission (See Note 2);
4. Children whose parent is a member of staff who has been employed at the school concerned for two or more years at the time of application and/or children of a member of staff who has been recruited to fill a vacancy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (See Note 3);
5. Children who live within the catchment area of the school and for whom the school applied for is their nearest community school within the catchment area;
6. Other children from within the catchment area of the school;
7. Children living outside of the catchment area with a sibling at the school;
8. Children living outside of the catchment area of the school.

Tie-break

In the event of oversubscription within categories 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (see above), priority will be given to children who live closest to the school by the shortest walking distance. In the event of two distances being the same, a decision will be made by random allocation.

A digital ordnance survey map is used to measure the distance from the home address to the school's designated official entrance. The distance is measured from the centre point of the address to the centre point of the main entrance of the school, measuring along the centre line of the shortest approved route. The system will take account of local footpaths and public walkways with regard to the safety of the route. It does not take account of the location of pedestrian crossing points.

Distances measured by other means i.e. private car, pedometer or internet websites are likely to result in different calculations as they may use different parameters for the address locations and the underlying network which is used to calculate the distance, and therefore should not be relied upon as evidence that the Local Authority's distance calculation is incorrect. The Local Authority's measurement system is designed to be reliable and consistent.

NOTES

Note 1: This can include the parents', carers' or other family members' medical conditions and the family's social needs. Parents must complete the relevant section on the application form and attach medical and/or social reports from a suitable professional (e.g. a doctor or social worker) to support the application, explaining why the particular school is most suitable with regards to the family circumstance.

Note 2: Includes the sibling of a child who does not live within the school's catchment area, but who was admitted on or before 31 August 2025. For this purpose, sibling means a whole, half or step-sibling resident at the same address.

Note 3: Priority will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year*, with an additional maximum limit of no more than:

- Four children throughout the whole school (for single and one-and-a-half form entry schools)
- Eight children throughout the whole school (for two form entry schools)
- Twelve children throughout the whole school (for three form entry schools, and upwards)

Planned admission number	Max per year group	Max per school
30 to 45 pupils	1	4
60 pupils	2	8
90 pupils	3	12

*An exception to the above will apply to children of multiple birth or those born in the same academic year.

Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

1

Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

Tower Hamlets Local Authority seeks to operate an admissions system that provides equal and fair opportunities to all applicants. This includes having due regard to children living in areas where there are limited options in applying for a local school place.

School catchment area

A school catchment area is a geographically defined boundary used to help provide children with fairer access to a local school and ensure all schools in an area have an equal share of children.

A child living in the school's catchment area will, therefore, be given priority over a child living outside of the school's catchment area. This does not affect admission categories where children with a statement of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are considered before any other admission. Catchment areas also do not affect Looked After children who are given priority in the admission policy. Other exceptional cases, such as medical and social reasons, will also be given priority before children living in the catchment area.

There are six school catchment areas for admission to Tower Hamlets community schools. The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), St Paul's Way Trust Primary School, Bygrove Primary School, Stebon Primary School and The Clara Grant Primary School also use these catchment areas in their admissions criteria. Each catchment area has several schools that you can choose from.

Maps of each catchment area and the schools within them can be found on pages 7-13.

To find out which catchment area you live in, view the maps on pages 7-13 or visit: **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

Nearest school within the catchment area

Higher priority is given to children who apply to the nearest school within their catchment area. This reduces the possibility of a family having to undertake an unreasonable journey to school and provides equal opportunity for families living in parts of the borough where there are a limited number of schools. Please see the examples on the next page which show how this works in practice.

Equal preference system

A model where all applications are treated equally in accordance with the admissions policy. Therefore, if a school receives more applications than it has places available, the admission criteria will be applied to each application with no consideration given to whether or not the school is the first, second, third, fourth, fifth or sixth preference.

Distance criteria

When there are more children within one of the admission priorities than there are places remaining at the school, the Local Authority must decide who to offer places to. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school by the shortest walking distance.

For example, a school may have 25 places remaining once all children for whom the school is the nearest school in the catchment area, but there are 30 other children who have applied and live within the same catchment area. The 25 children that live closest to the school will be offered a place and the five children that live furthest from the school will not be offered a place.

1 Understanding school catchment areas and the oversubscription criteria

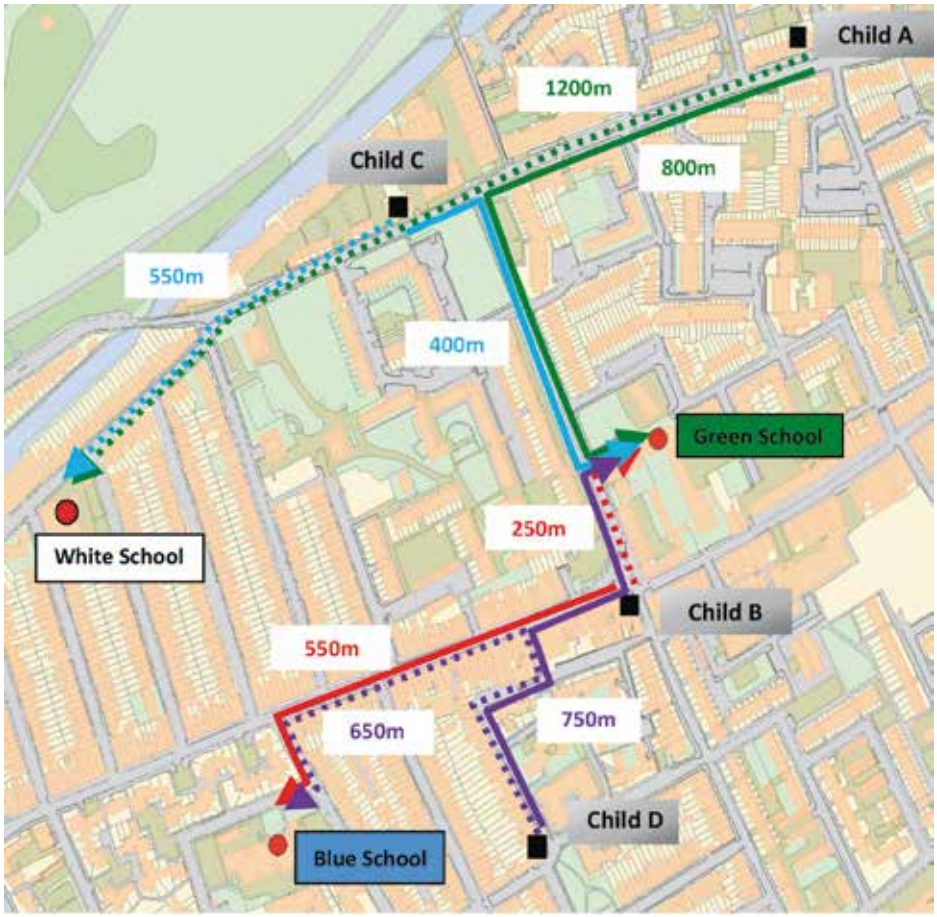
Example 1

In this example, Child A, Child B, Child C and Child D have all applied to Green School.

Green School is the nearest school for Child A, Child B and Child C. The nearest school for Child D is Blue School.

Given that Green School is Child A, Child B and Child C's nearest school, their applications will have higher priority than Child D's.

The highest priority would be given to Child B who lives 250m away from Green School, followed by Child C, who lives 400m away and then Child A, who lives 800m away. These children would, therefore, be ranked in order of priority as follows:



Admissions Criteria	Ranking Order
Priority 5 – nearest school in catchment area	1. Child B 2. Child C 3. Child A
Priority 6 – catchment area	4. Child D

Note: Although Child D lives closer to Green School than Child A, Child A will have higher priority because Green School is Child A's nearest school.

Example 2

This example is similar to the first one, but here Child B has decided not to apply to Green School, which is Child B's nearest school.

Even though Child B lives closer to Green School than the other children, Child B would not be considered for a place at Green School, because no application was made. The ranking in order of priority would therefore be as follows:

Admissions Criteria	Ranking Order
Priority 5 – nearest school in catchment area	1. Child C 2. Child A
Priority 6 – catchment area	3. Child D

Note: Child B's applications to Blue and White School would not be considered under the nearest school criterion because neither of these schools are Child B's nearest school.

Summary of last year's application and offers

2

The table below shows the number of applications and offers made on National Offer Day for a reception place at schools that use the admissions criteria for Tower Hamlets community schools, that received more applications than places available for the 2026/27 school year. If a community school does not appear on this list, it means that the school was able to offer a place to every child that applied or those that applied were offered a place at a higher preference school.

Last year, every child who had an older sibling already attending a community school was offered a place at the same school if an application was made on time. You can also see that very few places were offered to children who live outside of the catchment area for the school.

School	Number of applications	Number of places available (PAN)	SEN / EHCP	Looked After Children	Medical or Social	Sibling	Children of Staff	Nearest School in Catchment Area	Catchment Area	Distance (outside of Catchment Area)	Tie-break cut off distance (metres)	Total Offered
Bigland Green	194	60	3	0	2	36	0	19	0	0	351	60
Blue Gate Fields	159	90	6	1	0	41	0	29	9	4	586	90
Bygrove	146	30	2	0	0	9	0	4	15	0	572	30
John Scurr	105	60	3	0	0	24	0	18	10	5	1980	60
Malmesbury	118	60	1	0	3	26	1	10	12	7	2473	90
Mayflower	190	52	0	0	3	25	0	24	0	0	515	52
Mulberry Wood Wharf	191	60	0	0	2	7	0	17	33	1	518	60
Thomas Buxton	95	60	1	0	1	28	0	10	20	0	1107	30

*Historic data is provided for information only, future application or offer numbers may change.

2 Application outcomes

When you will hear about the outcome of your application

Notification of the outcome of your online application will be made by email on 16 April 2027.

Confirming acceptance of the school offer

Shortly afterwards, the school will contact you to confirm acceptance. You must inform the school of your decision within ten school days. You need to accept the offer by the reply date or it may be withdrawn.

If an offer is withdrawn or you refuse it, your child may not have a school place. You are, therefore, advised to accept the offer even if it is not your most preferred school.

If you wish to decline an offer of a school place please email **school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk** and inform us what alternative arrangements you have made for your child. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child receives an education. You cannot decline an offer without making alternative arrangements.

Providing the school with proof of your address

When offering school places, the Local Authority will check addresses to prevent fraudulent applications. The school will, therefore, need proof of where you and your child are living. You will need to provide the school with your original 2026/27 council tax bill or council tax benefit letter or notice, as well as one of the following documents that show your address:

- a utility bill (gas, electricity or water) from the last three months. We do not accept a mobile phone bill or an internet bill;
- a statement from your bank or building society or a credit card statement from the last three months; or
- your child benefit entitlement letter from HM Revenue & Customs for your 2026/27 claim.

Your name, your child's name and your address on these documents must match the information on your application form. If you change your address at any time in this process, you must provide proof of your new address by sending the documents shown above to the School Admissions Service. If you do not inform the School Admissions Service that you have moved, the offer made to your child may be withdrawn if your child gained an unfair advantage over other applicants.

Families of UK service personnel with a confirmed posting in Tower Hamlets, or Crown Servants returning from overseas to live in Tower Hamlets, will need to provide an official letter (ie from the MoD or FCO) which declares a relocation date and a unit postal address or quartering area address.

Applicants living overseas may only submit an application if they have an address within the Local Authority area, and documentary evidence can be supplied to show they will return to the address prior to the September in the year of entry. This address must not be that of a friend, relative or other address of convenience.

If you do not have an offer at any of the schools you have applied for

You have a legal duty to ensure that your child receives an education. A place will be reserved for your child at the nearest school to you that still has a vacancy. You should take up the place reserved or contact the School Admissions Service to ask about vacancies in other schools or apply to the waiting lists of other schools.

Making further applications

If you are unhappy with the school at which a place has been reserved for your child, you can apply for a place at one of the schools with places remaining. Please contact the School Admissions Service if you wish to make a further application.

What happens next

The School Admissions Service will then advise you of the outcome of any further school applications you make in May 2027. It is strongly recommended that you secure a place at one of the schools that still have places.

Your child's waiting list position at your preferred schools, or the outcome of an appeal that you decide to make, will not be affected by your child having an alternative school place.

Application outcomes

2

School waiting lists

Waiting lists are ordered using the oversubscription criteria in the Local Authority's admission policy. The date an application is made is not considered. Therefore, a child's position on the waiting list can go down as more names are added to the waiting list.

If your child is not offered a place at a community school you named as a higher preference, they will remain on the waiting list until the end of the 2027 autumn term. Normally children are settled in school by this stage. However, if you wish for your child to remain on the waiting list beyond this point, you will need to complete an in-year application form. Your child's name will then stay on the waiting list for the remainder of the school year.

You will need to contact voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies directly to confirm their waiting list procedures. Schools outside of the borough may operate waiting lists differently and you should check with the admission authority.

How to appeal against a decision not to offer a place

You have the right to appeal any of the schools listed on your application form for which a place could not be offered to your child. If all six of your applications are unsuccessful, you have the right to appeal for all of them.

Appeals for community schools must be submitted online via **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**.

Appeals for community schools should be made by 17 May 2027. If you wish to appeal against the refusal of a place at a voluntary aided school, free school or academy, you should contact the school directly for details of the appeals procedure and how appeals must be made.

Appeal timetable

Your appeal will normally be heard within 30 school days of the closing date from its receipt and before your child is due to start the reception year.

The independent appeal panel

An independent panel made up of three people with knowledge of education will hear your appeal.

None of the panel members will have any connection with the school or admissions authority. They are served by an independent clerk who will contact you to confirm the date, time and link for the online hearing and invite you to attend.

The appeal panel's decision is final and both you and the Local Authority are required to accept it. Please note that government rules' limit a school's infant class size to a maximum of 30 pupils.

These rules also mean that the independent appeal panel would not normally overturn a decision if it finds that it was made fairly and correctly. Consequently, there is much less chance of a successful appeal for a place in the reception class.

Reception 2026/27 appeal outcomes

School	Number of appeals	Number of appeals upheld
Bigland Green	8	0
Bygrove	5	0
Cubitt Town	1	0
Globe	3	0
Marian Richardson	2	0
Mulberry Wood Wharf	2	0
Olga	3	0

2 Application outcomes

Admission of children outside their normal age group

It is the view of the Local Authority that children should start primary school with their normal age group ie the beginning of the school year following their fourth birthday. Primary schools in Tower Hamlets can address an individual child's educational needs through an appropriately differentiated and enriched curriculum.

However, a parent may seek admission for their child outside the normal group, for example, if:

- they are gifted and talented
- they have missed a significant amount of education due to ill-health
- they were born prematurely and would otherwise be in the year below
- they are summer born.

If you wish to request for your child to be admitted outside the normal year group, you should include a letter with your reception application and provide a report from an appropriate education or health professional.

Your request will be considered by the admission authority for the school. In the case of community schools this will be the Local Authority's Director of Education. For schools which are their own admission authority, this will be the governing body.

When considering your request, the admission authority will seek the views of your child's nursery headteacher and other relevant professionals, before deciding whether or not your child's needs can be met within the current year group. The decision will be notified to you in writing.

If it is agreed that your child should start school outside of their cohort, it cannot be guaranteed that a place will be offered at one of your preferences.

Deferring entry to the reception year

Children are normally admitted to their school reception class in September, at the start of the school year following their fourth birthday. Your child will get the most from their education in a school reception class if they start at the same time as their friends and other children of the same age. However, if you feel there are particular reasons why your child should not start reception in September, for example your child may receive an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you can ask for your child's entry to be deferred until later in the school year. You should first discuss this with the headteacher or manager at your child's current nursery or playgroup. This is especially important if your child has significant developmental delay. Following a discussion with the headteacher or manager at your child's current nursery, you should also speak with the headteacher of the school your child will be attending.

A leaflet with further advice and a form to request your child's deferral is available at **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**. You should not request to defer your child's admission to one school because you are awaiting a place at another.

Where a place is deferred it cannot be given to another child, but your child must enter school by the beginning of the school term following their fifth birthday and within the school year for which the offer was made. You can also request that your child attends reception part-time from September 2027 up until the latest date entry can be deferred. The latest point that your child's entry can be deferred depends on when your child was born:

Your child was born between	Point until which entry can be deferred
September 2022 – December 2022	January 2028 (Start of the spring term)
January 2023 – April 2023	April 2028 (Start of summer term)

Tower Hamlets schools will try to accommodate parents' wishes wherever possible and will try to ensure there is no gap in a child's education.

Frequently asked questions on reception admission

2

Q Is my child guaranteed a place at one of their six preferred schools?

The Local Authority expects that most families will be offered a place at one of their six preferred schools. However, this cannot be guaranteed. Unfortunately, it is not always possible for everyone to get a place at the school they most prefer.

When a school receives more applications than the number of places available, not all children can be admitted. It is important therefore that you fully consider the likelihood of your child getting a place at a preferred school before you make your application.

To increase the likelihood of your child getting a place at one of your preferred schools you are advised to apply to six schools. If you are applying to community schools, your child is more likely to be offered a place at schools in the catchment area for your home address, especially if this is the nearest community school within your catchment area.

Q Is my child more likely to be offered a place at my first preference school?

Applications for each school are determined in line with the school's admissions policy with no consideration given to whether or not it is the first, second, third or sixth preference school. However, if your child qualifies for a place at more than one school, the order in which you listed your preferences on your application form will determine the school you are offered.

This school will be the highest listed preference at which an offer can be made. Your applications for schools listed as lower preferences will then be cancelled. This is why it is important to list the schools you are applying to in order of preference on the application form.

Q If my child is already in the school's nursery class, is there an automatic right to a place in the school's reception class?

No. When parents apply for their children to start reception, no priority is given to children that attend the nursery of the school. The decision on whether or not a place can be offered will be made in accordance with the school's admission policy. The policy used for community schools in Tower Hamlets is explained on page 16.

Q Are voluntary aided schools, free schools and academies part of the school catchment area system?

All voluntary aided schools, Sir William Burrough Academy and the Canary Wharf free schools have their own admissions policies and do not use the catchment area system.

The Paradigm Academies (Culloden, Old Ford and Solebay), St Paul's Way Trust School, Bygrove Primary School, Stebon Primary School and The Clara Grant Primary School use the Local Authority's admissions policy and, therefore, the catchment area system.

Q I live in one of the neighbouring boroughs; will I fall into one of the school catchment areas?

Some of the school catchment area boundaries cover areas in neighbouring boroughs. If you live in Hackney, Newham or the City of London and your home address is in one of the school catchment areas your child will have the same priority as those who reside in Tower Hamlets.

If you live outside of the school catchment area, you are welcome to apply for a school place in Tower Hamlets but will not have priority for those schools. To find out the catchment area for your home address, please view the maps or visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/equalchance**

Q Can I apply to a school that is not within my catchment area?

You can apply to any school within the borough. However, if the school is not within your catchment area, your child will not have priority for that school and will only be considered after those children who live within the school's catchment area. You can also apply to schools outside of Tower Hamlets.

2 Before you apply – dos and don'ts

Before you apply:

DO:

- ✓ **Visit schools** – this is the best way to get a feel for the school. You can meet staff, ask questions and see the school in action.
- ✓ **Read this booklet** – It is important you understand the policy and process.
- ✓ **Think about what is right for your child** – don't rely on what others tell you, do your own research.
- ✓ **Think about the journey** – how easy will it be to get to the school?
- ✓ **Check the admissions criteria** and how likely it is that your child would be offered a place.
- ✓ **Use all your preferences** – List nearest schools for convenience
- ✓ **Ask the School Admissions Service Team for advice.**
- ✓ **Make sure you press 'submit' when you finish your online application.** You should receive a reference number confirming safe receipt.

DON'T:

- ✗ **Put private (independent) fee paying schools on your application** – you should apply directly to the private school.
- ✗ **Wait until the last minute to apply** – you may have problems logging in or getting online. Give yourself plenty of time to think things through.
- ✗ **List only one school** – your application won't be treated more favourably and you could lose out on another school you like.

Primary schools in Tower Hamlets

2

Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2027)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
Arnhem Wharf (A) Arnhem Place, E14 3RP	4	1	Community 3-11	60*	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7515 4310	www.arnhemwharfprimaryschool.com
Bangabandhu (A) Wessex Street, E2 0LB	1	2	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 0580	www.bangabandhu.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Ben Jonson (A) Harford Street, E1 4PZ	1	3	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 4110	www.benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bigland Green (A) Bigland Street, E1 2ND	5	4	Community 3-11	60	Yes	No	Yes	020 7702 7088	www.biglandgreen.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Blue Gate Fields Infants (A) King David Lane, E1 0EH	5	5	Community 3-7	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 3611	www.bluegatefieldsinfant.co.uk
Blue Gate Fields Juniors (A) King David Lane, E1 0EH	5	5	Community 7-11	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	020 7790 3616	www.bluegatefields-jun.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bonner (Bethnal Green) (A) Stainsbury Street, E2 0NF	1	6	Community 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1004	www.bonner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bonner (Mile End) (A) Ropery Street, E3 4QE	2	7	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1004	www.bonner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Bygrove (A) Bygrove Street, E14 6DN	3	8	Academy 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7538 4925	www.bygrove.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Canary Wharf College East Ferry (S) East Ferry Road, E14 3BA	N/A	9	Free 4-11	44	No	No	Yes	020 7515 2328	www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk
Canary Wharf College Glenworth (S) Saunders Ness Road, E14 3EB	N/A	10	Free 4-11	44	No	No	Yes	020 7515 2328	www.canarywharfcollege.co.uk
Cayley (A) Aston Street, E14 7NG	1	11	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 1490	www.cayley.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Chisenhale (A) Chisenhale Road, E3 5QY	2	12	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2584	www.chisenhale.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Christ Church CE (S) (A) Brick Lane, E1 6PU	N/A	13	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 0792	www.christchurchprimarybricklane.org
Columbia Columbia Road, E2 7RG	6	14	Academy 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 3835	www.columbia.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Cubitt Town (A) Manchester Road, E14 3NE	4	15	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3373	www.ctpschool.org
Culloden (A) Dee Street, E14 0PT	3	16	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7364 1010	https://cullodenacademy.paradigmtrust.org
Cyril Jackson (A) Three Colt Street, E14 8HH (North) Limehouse Causeway, E14 8BN (South)	3	17	Academy 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3737	www.cyriljackson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Elizabeth Selby+ linked with Lawdale Junior School (A) Old Bethnal Green Road, E2 6PP	6	18	Community 3-7	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6187	www.elizabethselby.school
English Martyrs RC (S) St Mark Street, E1 8DJ	N/A	19	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7709 0182	www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Globe (A) Gawber Street, E2 0JH	1	20	Community 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1738	www.globeschool.org.uk
Hague Wilmot Street, E2 0BP	6	21	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 9574	www.hague.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Halley (A) Halley Street, E14 7SS	1	22	Community 3-11	30	Yes	No	Yes	020 7265 8061	www.halley.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Harbinger Cahir Street, E14 3QP	4	23	Community 3-11	30*	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1924	www.harbingerschool.co.uk
Harry Gosling (A) Fairclough Street, E1 1NT	5	24	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7481 1650	www.harrygoslingprimary.co.uk

(CE) Church of England. (RC) Roman Catholic. (S) Applicants must also complete the school's supplementary form as well as the Local Authority application form. (A) Accessible school – see page 27 for more information. +Linked infant and junior schools. *These schools have applied for a variation to their PAN for 2027.

2 Primary schools in Tower Hamlets

Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2027)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
Hermitage (A) Vaughan Way, E1W 2PT	5	25	Academy 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	0207 702 1037	www.hermitage.towerhamlets.sch.uk
John Scurr (A) Cephas Street, E1 4AX	1	26	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	0207 790 3647	www.johnscurr.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Kobi Nazrul (A) Settles Street, E1 1JP	6	27	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7375 3626	www.kobinazrul.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Lansbury Lawrence Cordelia Street, E14 6DZ	3	28	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	No	020 7987 4589	www.lansburylawrence.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Lawdale+ linked with Elizabeth Selby Infant School Mansford Street, E2 6LS	6	18	Community 7-11	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6258	www.lawdaleschool.com
Malmesbury (A) Coborn Street, E3 2AB	2	29	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 4299	www.malmesbury.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Manorfield (A) Wyvis Street, E14 6QD	3	30	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1623	www.manorfield.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Marion Richardson Senrab Street, E1 0QF	1	31	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 1441	www.marionrichardson.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Marner Devas Street, E3 3LL	3	32	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2938	www.marner.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mayflower (A) Upper North Street, E14 6DU	3	33	Community 3-11	52	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2782	www.mayflower.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mowlem (A) Mowlem Street, E2 9HE	6	34	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8249 6880	www.mowlem.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mulberry Canon Barnett (A) Gunthorpe Street, E1 7RQ	5	35	Academy 3-11	30	Yes	No	Yes	020 7247 9023	www.canonbarnett.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Mulberry Wood Wharf (A) 20 Brannan Street, E14 9ZR	4	36	Academy 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 8713 0183	www.mulberrywoodwharf.org
Old Ford Wrights Road, E3 5LD	2	37	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1503	https://oldfordacademy.paradigmtrust.org
Old Palace St Leonards Street, E3 3BT	2	38	Community 4-11	60	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3020	www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk
Olga (A) Lanfranc Road, E3 5DN	2	39	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8981 7127	www.olga.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Osmani Vallance Road, E1 5AD	6	40	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 8909	www.osmani.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Our Lady & St Joseph (S) (A) Wades Place, E14 0DE	N/A	41	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 3764 8860	www.olsj.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Seven Mills Malabar Street, E14 8LY	4	42	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2350	www.sevenmills.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Sir William Burrough Salmon Lane, E14 7PQ	N/A	43	Academy 3-11	45	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2147	www.sirwilliamburrough.net
Solebay Solebay Street, E1 4PW	1	44	Academy 4-11	50	No	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2414	https://solebayacademy.paradigmtrust.org
St Agnes RC (S) Rainhill Way, E3 3ER	N/A	45	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3076	www.st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Anne's & Guardian Angels RC (S) (A) Underwood Road, E1 5AW	N/A	46	Academy 3-11	30*	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 6327	www.stannesschool.org.uk
St Edmund's RC (S) (A) Westferry Road, E14 3RS	N/A	47	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2546	www.st-edmunds-school.org
St Elizabeth's RC (S) (A) Bonner Road, E2 9JY	N/A	48	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 3964	www.st-elizabeth.uk

(CE) Church of England. (RC) Roman Catholic. (S) Applicants must also complete the school's supplementary form as well as the Local Authority application form.
(A) Accessible school – see page 27 for more information. +Linked infant and junior schools. *These schools have applied for a variation to their PAN for 2027.

Primary schools in Tower Hamlets

2

Primary Schools	Catchment Area	Number on Map	Type of School and Age Range	Reception Admission Number (Sept 2027)	Nursery Class/ Early Years Unit	Breakfast Club	After School Club	Telephone	Website
St John's CE (S) Peel Grove, E2 9LR	N/A	49	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 1142	www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Luke's CE (S) Saunder Ness Road, E14 3EB	N/A	50	Voluntary 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1753	www.st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Mary & St Michael RC (S) (A) Commercial Road, E1 0BD	N/A	51	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7790 4986	www.st-marymichael.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Paul's With St Luke's CE (S) (A) Leopold Street, E3 4LA	N/A	52	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4624	www.spsl.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Paul's Way Trust Wallwood Street, E14 7BW	3	53	Academy 3-16	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 1883	www.spwt.net
St Paul's Whitechapel (S) Wellclose Square, E1 8HY	N/A	54	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7480 6581	www.st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk
St Peter's (London Docks) CE (S) (A) Garnet Street, E1W 3QT	N/A	55	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7488 3050	www.stpetersprimary.org.uk
St Saviours CE (S) (A) Chrisp Street, E14 6BB	N/A	56	Voluntary 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4889	www.stsaviorsschool.org.uk
Stebon Wallwood Street, E14 7AD	3	57	Academy 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 4237	www.stebon.org.uk
Stepney Greencoat CE (S) Norbiton Road, E14 7TF	N/A	58	Voluntary 3-11	30	No	Yes	Yes	020 7987 3202	www.stepneygreencoat.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Stepney Park (A) Smithy Street, E1 3BW	1	59	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7884 5225	www.stepneypark.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Stewart Headlam Tapp Street, E1 5RE	6	60	Community 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	No	020 7247 1201	www.stewartheadlam.towerhamlets.sch.uk
The Clara Grant Knapp Road, E3 4BU	3	61	Academy 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	No	020 7987 4564	www.claragrant.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Thomas Buxton (A) Buxton Street, E1 5AR	6	62	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7247 3816	www.thomasbuxton.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Virginia Virginia Road, E2 7NQ	6	63	Academy 3-11	30	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 6195	www.virginia.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Wellington (A) Wellington Way, E3 4NE	2	64	Community 3-11	60	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 8980 2413	www.wellington.towerhamlets.sch.uk
William Davis Wood Close, Cheshire St, E2 6EU	6	65	Community 3-11	15*	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7739 1511	www.williamdavis.org.uk
Woolmore Woolmore Street, E14 0EW	3	66	Community 3-11	90	Yes	Yes	Yes	020 7987 2778	www.woolmore.towerhamlets.sch.uk

(CE) Church of England. (RC) Roman Catholic. (S) Applicants must also complete the school's supplementary form as well as the Local Authority application form. (A) Accessible school – see page 27 for more information. +Linked infant and junior schools. *These schools have applied for a variation to their PAN for 2027.

Accessible schools

These are schools that have wheelchair access that enable the national curriculum to be taught and children to be able to access other important areas of the school. Other facilities such as a hygiene room with grab rails, an adapted toilet, a low sink, a changing bench, and room for a hoist may be available.

If your child has any mobility issues, please speak to the special educational needs (SEN) coordinator at your child's current nursery or to the SEN Team by calling **020 7364 4880**.

3 In-year admissions, school transfer and moving from infant to junior

In-year admission

In-year admission is where a child starts primary school at a time other than the normal point of entry in reception. This is often when a child has moved into Tower Hamlets from another part of the UK or overseas.

School transfer

If you want to transfer your child from one school to another please visit the Tower Hamlets website for more information on In-year admissions.

It is not always possible for a child to transfer to another school if that school is already full or if there are more applicants than places available at the time you make your application. Your child will, therefore, be placed on the school's waiting list in line with the school's admission criteria.

The Local Authority will consider transfer requests once a term in line with the timetable below.

Infant to junior transfer

If your child goes to an infant school, they will transfer to a junior school in the September after their seventh birthday.

Children at infant schools in the borough will normally transfer to their linked junior school at the age of seven, but you must apply for a junior school place. Most linked schools are on the same site and have the same name. We treat the following as linked schools:

- Blue Gate Fields Infants and Juniors
- Elizabeth Selby Infants and Lawdale Juniors.

When your child is in a year two class in these infant schools, you must apply for your child's year three place, even if this is for a place at the linked junior school. You must submit your application by 15 January 2027.

What you must do

You should submit your application online at www.eadmissions.org.uk giving the name of the school you want your child to transfer to (this should be your child's linked junior school). Please see page 29 of this brochure for instructions.

When you have completed and submitted your application you will receive an instant email confirmation. You can make changes to your application up until the 15 January 2027 closing date.

If you are not able to make an online application, you should contact Tower Hamlets School Admissions Service on **020 7364 0573**.

For all year three places at community junior schools we use the admission criteria listed on page 16 in priority order to decide which children should be offered places.

The School Admissions Service will offer places based on the admissions criteria and we will notify you of our decision on 16 April 2027.

Transfer point	Application closing date	Parents sent notification
Spring Term (January 2027 Start)	30 October 2026	20 November 2026
Summer Term (April 2027 Start)	29 January 2027	5 March 2027
Autumn Term (September 2027 start)	4 June 2027	25 June 2027

A step-by-step guide to applying online

4

To start your online application please visit:

www.eadmissions.org.uk

eAdmissions LONDON

You can also use the link from the Local Authority's website:
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Registration

Go to **www.eadmissions.org.uk**
This will take you to the welcome page – click on 'Create a new account' – see figure 1.

If you have previously applied using the online system you will be able to log in without the need for registration.

Figure 1

Then enter your details and click "Continue' – see figure 2.

You will then need to create a password (please note the password for future reference).

You will receive confirmation that your USO account has been set up and will be sent a reminder of your username – see figure 3.

You will need to validate your email address by clicking on the link in the email that is sent to you.

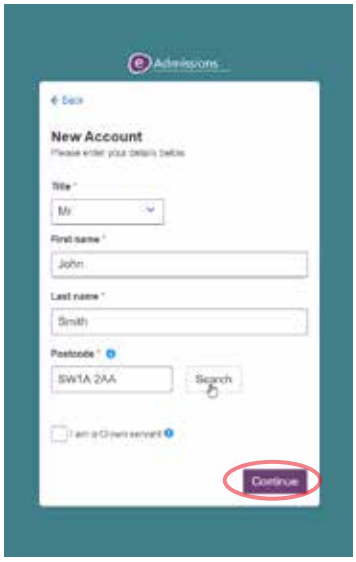


Figure 2

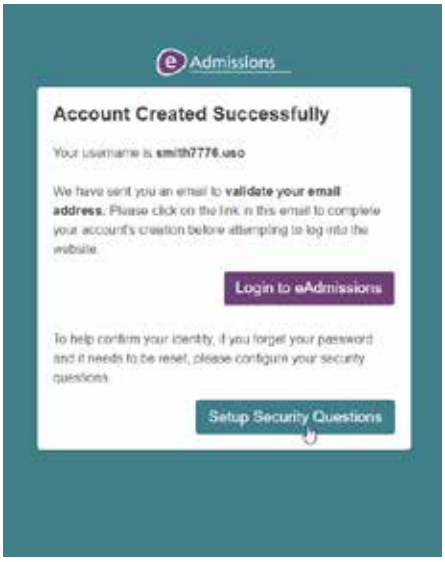


Figure 3

4 A step-by-step guide to applying online

Start an application

You can now log in with your email or username and will be directed to the home page – see figure 4.

From here you can make a new application, edit an existing application, view the details of any application already submitted and view the outcome of your application once it is available.

Click on ‘Start Application’ to begin.

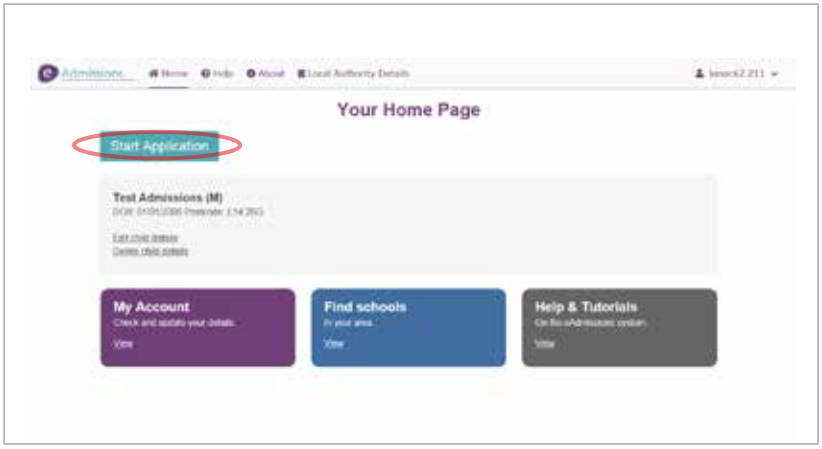


Figure 4

Stage 1 – Child details

Fill in your child’s details and then click ‘Save and continue’ – see figure 5.

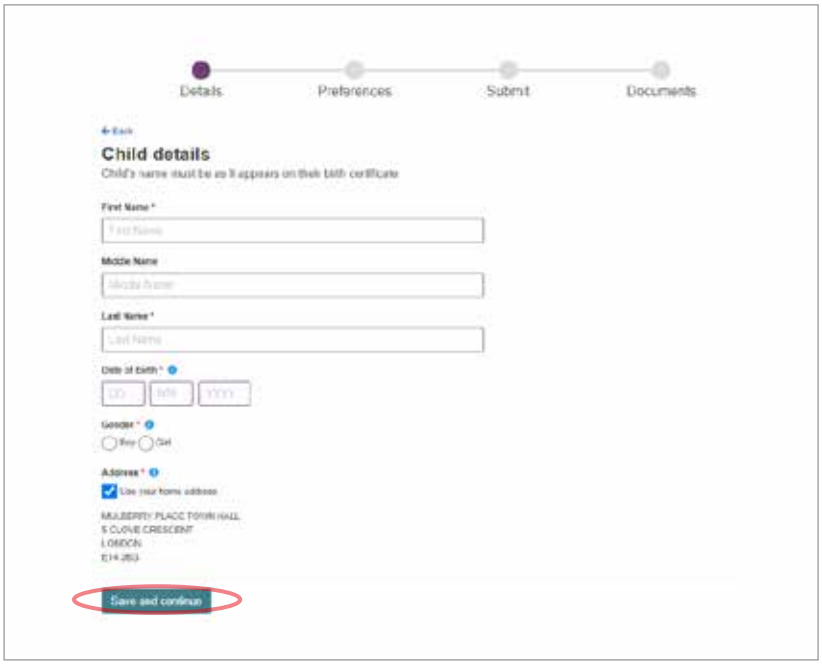


Figure 5

Stage 2 – School preferences

Here you can apply for up to six schools, in Tower Hamlets and/or other boroughs. You should select the schools in order of preference, with the first selected school being your first preference and so on.

You can add a school in one of three ways:

1. By selecting the borough of the school using the dropdown list and then selecting the school.
2. By selecting your school from its location on a map.
3. By searching for the school by using keywords.

Click on 'Continue' – see figure 7.

For each school selected you will be asked to provide the following information:

1. Sibling information – you should click on the relevant box and fill in the details if your child has a brother or sister already at the school.
2. Exceptional medical or social reasons – you should tick the relevant box if there are medical or social reasons for your child to attend a particular school. You will be required to provide documentary evidence to support this.
3. Additional reasons – this is for you to give additional reasons for wanting a particular school.

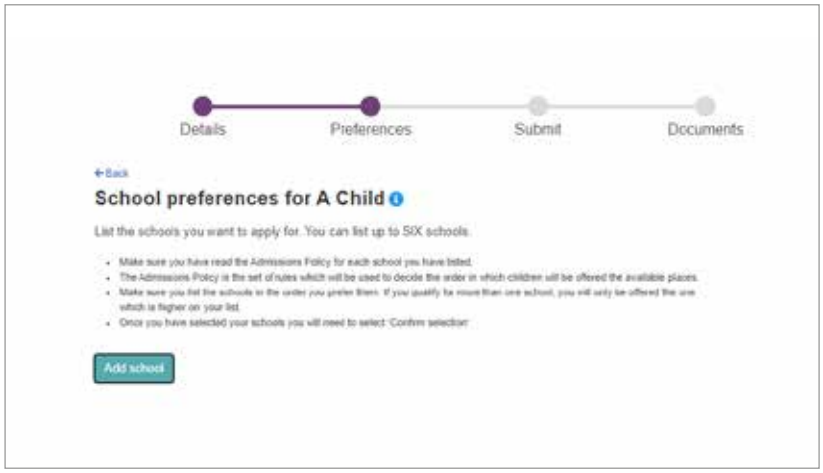


Figure 6

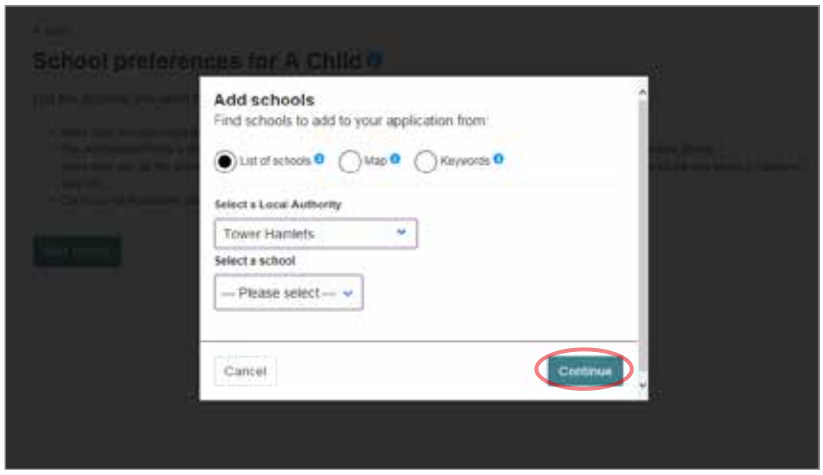


Figure 7

4 A step-by-step guide to applying online

Stage 3 – Check and submit

When you have entered all the required information, you will be prompted to check that the information is accurate and then asked to submit application – see figure 8.

Even if you submit it straight away, you can still make changes later, right up until the closing date.

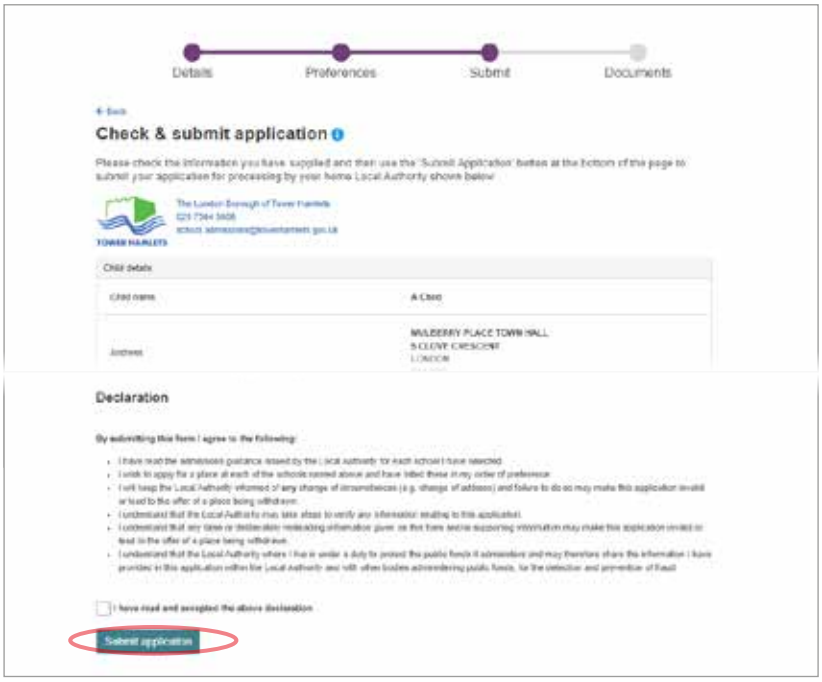


Figure 8

Confirmation

Once you have submitted an application, you will see the confirmation page, with a reference number. Please keep your reference number for any enquiries. You will also be sent an email to confirm that your application has been submitted.

It is advisable to print a copy of your application for your information.

Note: The last submitted application will be processed as your final application. If you have applied online, please do not fill out a paper application.

Thank you for applying online.

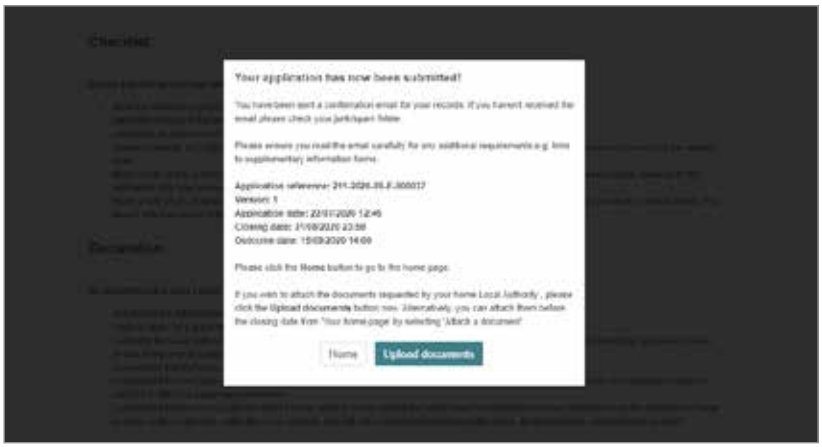


Figure 9

Useful contacts

4

Useful contacts

The School Admissions Service
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

Tel: 020 7364 0573
Email: school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Website:

- www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions
- www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk

Integrated Early Years Service
Tel: 020 7364 1553
Email: early.years@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Special Educational Needs
Tel: 020 7364 4880
Email: specialeducational.needs@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Tower Hamlets Family Information, Advice and Support Service (formally Parents Advice Centre)
Tel: 020 7364 6489

Useful websites

- www.eadmissions.org.uk
- www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk
- www.gov.uk/dfe
- www.ofsted.gov.uk
- www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Information and Support for Families

The Family Information Service (FIS)
The FIS provides free, impartial information and advice on a comprehensive range of services for children, young people and their families. As well as a Brokerage Service to support parents/carers in finding suitable childcare.

Tel: 020 7364 6495
Email: fis@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can also access information online at Tower Hamlets Local offer: www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk

Working together – giving families a voice

Free access to computers at our Idea Stores

Please check the website www.ideastore.co.uk to keep up to date on which services are available.

Idea Store Bow
1 Gladstone Place
Roman Road
London E3 5ES

Idea Store Canary Wharf
Chruchill Place
London E14 5RB

Idea Store Chrisp Street
1 Vesey Path
East India Dock Road
London E14 6BT

Idea Store Watney Market
260 Commercial Road
London E1 2FB

Idea Store Whitechapel
321 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BU

Contact details for surrounding London authorities

Barking and Dagenham
Tel: 020 8215 3004
www.lbbd.gov.uk

Camden
Tel: 020 7974 1625
www.camden.gov.uk

City of London
Tel: 020 7332 1002
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

Royal Greenwich
Tel: 020 8921 8043
www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Hackney
Tel: 020 8820 7000
www.hackney.gov.uk

Islington
Tel: 020 7527 5515
www.islington.gov.uk

Lewisham
Tel: 020 8314 8282
www.lewisham.gov.uk

Newham
Tel: 020 8430 2000
www.newham.gov.uk

Redbridge
Tel: 020 8708 3139
www.redbridge.gov.uk

Southwark
Tel: 020 7525 5337
www.southwark.gov.uk

Westminster
Tel: 020 7745 6433
www.westminster.gov.uk

For information and guidance on school attendance, school travel support, free school meals and school clothing grant please visit **www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

Starting Primary School in Tower Hamlets 2027
Apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk**