



## **FAQ - Secondary School Transitions**

### **What information do we get from Trafford?**

In the Autumn Term of the offer year, Trafford will send information on how to apply for a secondary school place to all parents of Year 6 pupils at their home address. It is however important that parents check individual secondary school websites or contact the school directly to check when applications have to be submitted by, particularly if you want your child to sit an entrance exam. If you live in Trafford, all applications must be made to Trafford, even if you wish your child to attend a school outside the borough.

### **How can I make decisions regarding which high schools to apply for if the test results have not yet been received?**

You will be asked to submit an application form to Trafford naming your preferred choice of schools. Write down the schools that you really want in order of preference. Consider all options. It's a good idea to attend all of the open days – don't rely on your child passing an entrance exam as this will limit your child's choices and can cause additional anxiety should they not reach the pass mark. Applications **MUST** be made to Trafford within the allotted time and are made on-line.

### **Is the school informed of results?**

No, we are not informed of any results. Results are sent directly to parents.

### **What can we do if our child does not meet the entrance criteria?**

It is important to read the schools individual procedure on their websites. Most of the selective schools carry out automatic reviews for children who fall just short of the expected grade. Some schools also have a Special Circumstances Form for unavoidable circumstances which put a child at a disadvantage. Trafford will only be able to review the process that has taken place. For additional guidance please see Trafford School Admissions document on the internet which will show current procedure.

### **If my child passes the entrance exam does that mean they have a place in the school?**

No, this means that they have met the entrance criteria and then Trafford allocate the places. Again, please refer to documentation regarding school boundaries and admissions. These may change annually.



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### **When are secondary school places allocated?**

Individual pupil school places are usually allocated on the 1st March or the next working day should this fall on a weekend.

### **Can we appeal Trafford's secondary school allocation for our child?**

Yes, information regarding this is in the paperwork that you will receive on *(or around)* 1st March detailing your child's allocated school.

### **What transition arrangements are in place?**

Most secondary schools send members of Y7 staff to visit us so that our Y6 teachers can talk to them about the children they will be receiving from us. There is also a standard form that we will be asked to fill in about your child that is then sent directly to the secondary school they will be attending. Secondary school staff may ask to meet with the children for a short informal question and answer period during this visit.

Most schools have a transition day which takes place at the secondary school. Some schools may also have an additional morning when the children are expected to attend their new high school and where they may administer their own assessments. Parents are notified of any such dates directly by the secondary school. It is parents' responsibility to organise transport for such events and advise us of the absence. The thought of these days may be quite daunting for your child initially, but please be reassured that the children always return to us very excited about their new school and all of the adventures which await them!