

# SCHOOL ADMISSIONS UPDATE

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## REASON FOR ITEM

To provide the Committee with an update on the allocation of primary and secondary school places offered in the Borough for September 2016.

## SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

It is recommended that the Committee notes the report and comments as appropriate on the update provided.

## INFORMATION

### Secondary School Places

1. PAN-London data on secondary school places offered was released on 1 March 2016. This provides information about the preferences of school places met across London.
2. The following table summarises the offers made for secondary school places in Hillingdon for the last five admission years and also compares the preferences met across London in 2016.

	Preferences for a School Place – Met/Offered						Preference 1-6	Other Offer
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th		
2016 number of apps	2359	477	179	100	65	31	3211	112
2016%	70.99%	14.35%	5.36%	3.00%	1.95%	0.93%	96.58%	3.37%
2015 number of apps	2267	400	177	55	42	16	2957	87
2015%	74.47%	13.14%	5.81%	1.81%	1.38%	0.53%	97.14%	2.86%
2014 number of apps	2287	352	150	69	39	20	2917	96
2014 %	75.90%	11.68%	4.97%	2.29%	1.29%	0.66%	96.81%	3.19%
2013 number of apps	2173	321	114	66	38	25	2737	52
2013 %	77.91%	11.51%	4.09%	2.37%	1.36%	0.90%	98.14%	1.86%
2012 number of apps	2334	269	105	83	64	50	2905	115
2012 %	77.31%	8.91%	3.48%	2.75%	2.12%	1.66%	96.23%	3.77%
PAN London average 2016 %	68.52%	14.00%	6.12%	2.89%	1.45%	0.90%	93.88%	6.12%

Notes:

- Percentages may not sum to 100% as applications which are then withdrawn by parents/guardians are not shown in the table.

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3. As in previous years, the availability of free bus travel for pupils in London means that travelling to schools further afield is easier. However, this may encourage applications to schools where an offer of a place is unlikely, as many places are offered on the basis of distance from the school.
4. This year, Hillingdon received a record high of 3,323 applications and offered the highest percentage of first choice and top three preferences across West London.
5. 71% of children applying for school places in Hillingdon have been offered their first choice of school, outstripping neighbouring local boroughs: In Hounslow, Ealing and Harrow, families are only being offered their first preference in 64, 65 and 70 percent of cases.
6. For the secondary schools admissions round in 2016, Hillingdon experienced an 8% increase in applications. This is more than double the London wide increase of 3.3%. Hillingdon has continued to remain above the London average, with 91% of pupils being offered a place at one of their top three schools, compared to 89% across London.

### Primary School Places

7. PAN-London data for primary school places was released on 18 April 2016.
8. The following table summarises the offers made for primary school places in Hillingdon for the last four admission years and also compares the preferences met across London in 2016.

	Preferences for a School Place Met/Offered						Preference 1-6	Other Offer
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th		
<b>2016 number of apps</b>	3506	309	101	63	23	11	4013	81
<b>2016%</b>	85.64%	7.57%	2.42%	1.54%	0.54%	0.27%	97.98%	1.97%
<b>2015 number of apps</b>	3517	301	134	42	16	6	4016	110
<b>2015%</b>	85.18%	7.29%	3.24%	1.02%	0.39%	0.15%	97.27%	2.66%
<b>2014 number of apps</b>	3326	325	116	44	27	13	3851	66
<b>2014%</b>	84.39%	8.25%	2.94%	1.12%	0.69%	0.33%	97.72%	1.79%
<b>2013 number of apps</b>	3161	283	119	62	21	9	3655	126
<b>2013 %</b>	83.6%	7.48%	3.15%	1.64%	0.56%	0.24%	96.67%	3.33%
<b>2012 number of apps</b>	3115	325	124	45	15	12	3636	166
<b>2012 %</b>	81.93%	8.55%	3.26%	1.18%	0.39%	0.32%	95.63%	4.37%
<b>PAN London Average 2016 %</b>	83.59%	7.72%	2.96%	1.36%	0.60%	0.35%	96.58%	3.42%

#### Notes

- Percentages may not sum to 100% as applications which are then withdrawn by parents/guardians are not shown in the table.

- In 2016, two applicants did not receive an offer. They would have received an unallocated offer but advised that they would send their children to private school rather than receive an offer that was not one of their preferences.
9. Hillingdon was above average in London for offering 1<sup>st</sup> preferences places with 86% (9<sup>th</sup> highest in London), compared to the average of 84%.
  10. Hillingdon was able to offer 96% of applicants one of their top three schools, the highest result in West London, which surpassed the London average (94%).
  11. Hillingdon was joint first in London (with Bexley) for children receiving one of their 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> preferences.
  12. Hillside Infant School agreed to take a bulge class of 30 pupils for September 2016, ahead of their permanent expansion in 2017. This ensured that every child was offered a place on National Offer Day.

#### Additional Information

13. The number of pupils not being offered places at any of their preference schools in part reflects the choices made by parents/carers in their applications. For example, not all applicants list the maximum number of preferences. Some applicants list only schools that they are unlikely to be offered based on schools' criteria (e.g. faith schools where they do not meet the faith criteria and/or over-subscribed schools at a distance from their home). Over 90% of applicants in both allocations were offered one of their three highest preferences.