

Briefing Paper: Move-ins to the borough and In Year Admissions

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Overview:

When compared to the previous academic year, Hillingdon has received and processed an increased number of In Year applications during 2023/24. The table below demonstrates data specific to move-ins to the borough for the last academic year (Sept 2023 - Aug 2024).

Date	Primary	Secondary	Total
01/09/2022 - 31/08/2023	2377	1438	3815
01/09/2023 - 31/08/2024	2534	1391	3925*

*This is an increase of 2.9% compared to the previous year

The table below shows the number of applications which have been received for children applying for a secondary school place that have either arrived newly from overseas or from another local authority. The data provided illustrates the top four countries or local authorities' children have arrived from. This equates to 40% of the total applications received for secondary admission last year.

Previous Country	Total - 407 have arrived from abroad	Previous LA	Total – 151 moved in from another LA
Afghanistan	14	Brent	8
India	96	Ealing	12
Nigeria	21	Harrow	7
Pakistan	37	Hounslow	10

The table below shows the number of applications which have been received for children applying for a primary school place that have either arrived newly from overseas or from another local authority. The data provided illustrates the top four countries or local authorities' children have arrived from. This equates to 17% of the total applications received for primary admission last year.

Previous Country	Total - 329 have arrived from abroad	Previous LA	Total – 151 moved in from another LA
Afghanistan	12	Ealing	26
India	115	Harrow	8
Nigeria	17	Hounslow	5
Pakistan	24	Lambeth	7

There has been a decline in the number of applications which have been received from families residing in hotels compared to the previous year:

Primary		Secondary		
2022-2023	221	2022-2023	121	
2023-2024	98	2023-2024	59	
Decrease of 56%		Decrease of 51%		

Fair Access Panel

132 children were presented through Fair Access Panel in the academic year 2023-24. This is a significant decrease of 34% compared to the previous year. This reflects the reduction in families living in hotel accommodation which impacted the south of the borough due to the location of the hotels used by the DfE (Department for Education) for temporary accommodation.

Current position of In Year Admissions for the new academic year

With the new year upon us, the team are receiving high volumes of applications from families who have moved into the borough over the summer holidays and are looking for a school place. The team will be actively processing these applications to ensure as many children as possible are allocated a school place in time for census day at the beginning of October. This census return is particularly important as it sets the funding schools receive in the following academic year.

Secondary vacancy breakdown

School Name	Year Group				
	7	8	9	10	11
Harefield School	51	22	38	60	43
Haydon School	126	71	58	14	47
Hewens College	56	27	13	32	0
Oak Wood School	14	20	5	0	19
Park Academy West London	15	8	7	0	10
Parkside Studio College	N/A	N/A	N/A	Unknown	16
Rosedale College	0	13	0	8	0
Swakeleys School for Girls	2	2	5	3	13
The Douay Martyrs Catholic School	5	3	0	0	0

*Some of the vacancy data above was provided prior to the summer holidays, therefore, some of the figures may have changed since, however there should not be any significant changes

For our primary cohort, we have sufficient vacancies across all year groups, borough wide.

Allocations

Children starting Reception, moving from infant to junior, those starting Year 7 or those looking to move into a UTC (University Technical Colleges), or Studio College in September 2025 can now submit their applications through the eAdmissions website. All relevant information on the process is available on the Hillingdon website, and schools have been sent posters and leaflets to share with their parents to ensure they are aware and apply on time.

Plans moving forward:

With the announcement in July that the government will be bringing in VAT for private schools from January 2025, the team will be closely monitoring the number of applications being received from parents of children looking to move their child from the private school to a state school. This is to ensure we have sufficient school places available to accommodate the potential influx. In addition to this, the team will be attending the next school place planning meeting of London Councils where we will be discussing the possible impact on demand brought on by this.

The team are aware there are several settings which have one or more class empty within their schools and we are working directly with them to manage this.

As a Council, we will ensure we are able to adjust to both increases and reductions in demand for school places, working in partnership with our schools and partners. The Admissions team works closely with our Place Planning colleagues and Education Improvement Advisors to manage these changes and conversations.