

# Reasons for Refusal

School Admissions, September 2025

If we have not been able to offer your child a place at your preferred school, this is because there were more applications for the school than there were available places and not all requests for places could be met.

Places were allocated in line with the admissions criteria published by the relevant admission authority and your application was not ranked high enough to obtain a place. If you listed own admissions authority schools (e.g., voluntary aided or academy schools) on your application and this school was listed higher than the school offered, then the trust or the governors of the school were unable to offer a place to your child as your application was not ranked high enough against their admissions criteria.

If you have been refused a school place at a school within another local authority (LA) you should refer to the relevant LA for information regarding refusal.

**For late applicants:** If we have not been able to offer your child a place at your preferred school, this is because the school has reached its admissions number (the maximum number of children that can be admitted to the year group for September 2025) from the initial round of admissions.

## Reason for refusal

There are two different grounds for refusing a school place. The ground for refusal will depend on the school that you have applied for, the school's admission number and the class organisation.

### Infant Class Size Grounds

Admissions authorities within Bracknell Forest fully recognise the need to meet parental preference wherever possible. However, the relevant year group within the school is currently full and the law states that for Key Stage 1 pupils, this is those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, cannot be taught in classes of more than 30 pupils to one fully qualified teacher. Therefore, a place has not been offered because to do so would be in breach of the duty to comply with the infant class size limit which is set at 30. The application has therefore been refused.

Infant Class Size Grounds applies to years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at schools where the admission number is a multiple of 30. A list of Bracknell Forest schools where this applies can be found below.

Ascot Heath Primary School  
Binfield CE Primary School  
Cranbourne Primary School  
Holly Spring Primary School  
King's Academy Oakwood  
King's Academy Binfield (Primary Phase)  
Meadow Vale Primary School  
Sandy lane Primary School  
St Josephs RC Primary School  
Warfield CE Primary School  
Winkfield St Mary's CE Primary School  
Birch Hill Primary School  
Crown Wood Primary School  
Fox Hill Primary School  
Great Hollands Primary School

Harmans Water Primary School  
Jennetts Park CE Primary School  
St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School  
St Michael Easthampstead CE Primary School  
The Pines School  
Wildridings Primary School  
Wooden Hill Primary School  
College Town Primary School  
Crowthorne CE Primary School  
New Scotland Hill Primary School  
Owlsmoor Primary School  
St Michaels Sandhurst CE Primary School  
Uplands Primary School  
Wildmoor Heath Primary School

There are very limited circumstances where an application can be considered as an 'excepted pupil'

application. Where this is the case they may still be refused a school place however; this refusal will be under Ordinary Prejudice Grounds.

### **Ordinary Prejudice Grounds**

Admissions authorities within Bracknell Forest fully recognise the need to meet parental preference wherever possible. However, the relevant year group within the school is currently full and the point has been reached where considerations of parental preference have become outweighed by the adverse financial and accommodation consequences of admitting further pupils over the admission number. It would place pressure on staff and existing pupils and have an impact on successful teaching and learning. It will prejudice the provision of efficient education and the efficient use of resources in terms of Section 86(3) of the School Standards & Framework Act 1998. Therefore, it is not possible to accede to parental preference in this case and the application has been refused.

Ordinary Prejudice Grounds applies to all school year groups from Year 3 and above. It also applies to years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 where a schools admission number is not a multiple of 30 or, if an 'excepted pupil' has been refused a school place.

### **Allocation Breakdowns**

For details of the number of applications received for Bracknell Forest schools and how these were ranked against the relevant admission criteria, please see [how school places are allocated](#).

### **Appeals**

You can appeal for any school listed higher than the school place you have been offered. See section 'Appeals' [www.bracknell-forest.go.uk/primaryoffers](http://www.bracknell-forest.go.uk/primaryoffers) or [www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/secondaryoffers](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/secondaryoffers) for further information.