

Medway Children get their primary school offer

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More than 97 per cent of children in Medway who will be starting primary school in September have been offered a place at one of their top three preferences.

Today, Thursday, 16 April, families will start finding out which primary or infant school their child has been offered for September 2020.

Every Medway child whose parents or guardians applied on time has secured a place and 3,491 Medway children have been offered places.

More than 88 per cent of children were offered a place at their first choice school.

The school admissions process for Medway is a huge task and involves the council processing primary school applications for 3,637 children, including 146 children from outside the Medway area.

More than 98 per cent of families used the council's online application process to submit their preferences this year.

Wishing children all the best as they start their education

Cllr Josie Iles, Medway Council's Lead Member for Children's Services, said: "I am pleased that we have been able to let children and their families know which primary school they have been offered a place at for September 2020 on National Primary Offer Day, in these unusual times. It is fantastic news that more than 97 per cent of children have been allocated a place at one of their preferred schools. Going to primary school is a big step for children as they begin their education and I wish them all the best for when they start primary school. We are committed to helping children learn well and achieve their full potential."

Continuing to support schools during the pandemic

Cllr Martin Potter, Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Education and Schools, said: "This is usually a very exciting time for families but I know that the coronavirus pandemic may have caused uncertainty for some residents. I would like to reassure parents and carers that we are continuing to work closely with schools across Medway to ensure they are supported during the pandemic and we know they are looking forward to welcoming pupils back to school as soon as possible. I would like to thank all school staff for their continued hard work and to the council's schools admissions team it is testament to them that more than 97 per cent of children have been offered a place at one of their preferred schools."

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic parents are advised to return any forms they need to complete, to accept or refuse their child's offer, by email rather than visiting the school to hand them in.

If a family would like to appeal their child's school place the appeal form should be emailed to the school, or to Medway Council, if the school is maintained by the local authority. There is a link in each child's admissions offer email to the next steps guide which advises parents and carers where to return the forms. If a family decides to place their child on a waiting list for a school place forms should be returned to admissions@medway.gov.uk.