



## Appeals Guidance for School

If the school receives more applications from parents/carers than it has places available, not every child can be successful in securing a school place. The Trust will use its admissions criteria, also known as oversubscription criteria, to decide which children to allocate places to.

Parents/carers have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel if they are dissatisfied with an admissions decision of the Trust. The appeal panel will be independent of the Trust. The arrangements for appeals will be in line with the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education. The decision of the panel is binding on all parties.

### September 2026 entry

Appeals for children refused a place at a preferred school for admission to Reception class in September 2026 will be heard according to the following statutory timescales:

Offer	Appeals lodged by	Appeals heard by
16/04/2026	by 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	within 40 school days

For further details about how to appeal please visit

<https://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-years/admissions/appeals/>