

## Tower Hamlets Transition Service

### Appeals 2025

If you are not offered a place at a school of your preference you can appeal that decision by presenting your appeal to an independent appeal panel. Appeals are rarely successful.

You must complete an appeal form online for each school you are appealing to.

**Click the link below to access the appeal form**

[INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ADMISSION APPEAL \(25\)](#)

Submitting your appeal online is a simple and safe way to appeal, and you will get a receipt to confirm it has been submitted.

You **must** include any evidence or supporting material with your online appeal and you **must** give the reasons for your appeal. You can appeal to any school you have made an application to and you have not been allocated a place.

#### **Remember:**

1. If you have been given a place at a school that you do not want it is always a good idea to contact the school and ask about visiting arrangements – you may change your opinion
2. Think before you turn down a place you have been offered – accepting a place does not affect your right to appeal. Turning down a place will not give you priority for other schools and you may end up without a school place altogether
3. If you are not offered a place at a school of your preference – you can appeal this decision
4. The panel which will hear your appeal is independent of the council and schools in the borough.

### **What the independent appeal panel does:**

1. The panel will check whether a mistake was made in applying the admission arrangements and if the school could take extra pupils and whether the law was followed
2. The panel will also consider whether the problems faced by your child if they do not go to the school of your preference outweigh the problems the school will face if they must take an extra child. If your case outweighs the school's case, you will win the appeal.

### **Top Tips for your appeal:**

#### **Describe your child – think about how the points you will make affects your child in school and at home:**

1. What is your child good at/any health/social/emotional?
2. Any difficulties with learning, special educational needs, or disability?
3. Any issues at school?
4. Any recent changes that have affected your child?

#### **Explain why you think your child must go to this school:**

1. Think of all the issues that show how **only** the school you are appealing for can meet your child's needs – all schools support children with various needs – from social/emotional/physical etc.
2. Why the school would uniquely be the right one for your child?
3. Why it would be difficult for your child if they did not go to this school?
4. List all the positive points about the school – use information from visits, school website, Ofsted, school policies etc.
5. Explain in detail why each point you make is so important for your child
6. Explain what may happen if your child cannot go to this school – show how your child will be affected at home and in school. If there are strong family reasons for needing this school and no other, include them – do not expect the panel to guess – you must explain
7. Remember – problems affect different children in different ways.

### **Think about the school you have been offered:**

1. It is important to consider the school you have been offered
2. Contact the school and find out what the visiting arrangements are and if possible, visit the school with your child
3. If you think that going to the school would cause your child problems you will need to be specific and explain why
4. Would the journey be difficult?
5. Does the curriculum not offer right subjects/specialised facilities?
6. Think of all the problems your child is likely to face
7. Explain how these problems will affect your child
8. Search secondary schools and check their performance
9. Look at exam results/Ofsted reports and any school information.

### **Try:**

<https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables>

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk>

### **Proving your points:**

1. Look at all your notes- make sure all your points show why your child needs to go to the school(s) and only this school(s)
2. Think about how you can prove all your points – you will need to produce evidence. This is particularly important and will make your appeal much stronger – draw the panel's attention to your evidence and explain why it supports the point you are making
3. Any reports that support your case? GP/school letters
4. Use information from school prospectus/Ofsted/school policies.

### **Your case:**

1. Use headings and bullet points
2. If you have a lot of documents, put them as numbered appendices to your main case with references in the text.

**Contact Tower Hamlets Transition Support on 07783 884869 or 07908 456 660 or [transitions@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:transitions@towerhamlets.gov.uk) for support and advice.**

## Appeal Process Timetable 2025

Last day for lodging appeal forms for places in year 7 at SECONDARY schools	4pm on 31 March 2025 <b>Appeals received after this date may not be heard by the end of the summer term.</b>
Last day for lodging appeal forms for Reception in PRIMARY schools	4pm on 20 May 2025 <b>Appeals submitted after this deadline will be heard within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged and may not be heard before the end of the summer term.</b>
Secondary appeals will take place from	April to June 2025
Primary appeals will take place from	June to July 2025
Invitation letter giving you details about your hearing will be sent by the Clerk to the Independent Appeal Panel	At least 10 school days before the hearing
Any additional evidence or supporting evidence	At least five school days before the hearing. You are advised that additional paperwork received on the day of the appeal hearing will not be taken into account.
Letter from the Clerk informing you of the decision of the independent panel	Where possible this will be sent five school days after the last hearing for all the appeals held for that particular school.

## Secondary Transfer Appeal Hearing Schedule 2025

School	Grouped Appeal Date	Appeal Hearing Date
St Paul's Way Trust	24 April 5pm	28, 29, 30 April and 6, 7, 8 May
Central Foundation	28 April, 8am	28, 30 April
Mulberry Girls	12 May, 8am	12, 13 May
Morpeth	15 May, 8am	15, 16 May
Swanlea	19 May, 8am	19, 20 May
Stepney All Saints	2 June, 8am	2, 3, 4 June
Mulberry Stepney Green	9 June	9 June
Langdon Park	9 June	9 June
George Green	12 June, 8am	12 June

## Secondary Transfer Appeal Outcomes

School	Number of appeals	Successful
Bow	3	0
Central Foundation	22	0
George Greens	37	1
Langdon Park	3	0
Morpeth	31	1
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch	5	0
Mulberry Girls	28	0
Mulberry Stepney Green	25	0
Oaklands	6	0
St Pauls Way	101	0
Stepney All Saints	81	2
Swanlea	81	2