

SECONDARY TRANSFER 2026/27

Information for parents and carers of Year 6 children

Making informed choices • Understanding the process • Meeting the deadlines

Our aims

01

Ensure Catholic children have the opportunity to receive a Catholic secondary education.

02

Help parents make informed preferences about their child's secondary education.

03

Explain the application process so families maximise the chance of securing their highest available preference.

04

Reflect on last year's transfer outcomes to inform this year.

05

Clarify common fears and misconceptions about the process.

The Local Authority process

STEP 1

Apply through your home Local Authority

All applications must be made through the Local Authority where you live. If you live outside Hounslow, apply through your own Local Authority.

Apply online

Hounslow admissions information and the eAdmissions portal should be used for the online application.

Closing date: midnight, 31 October 2026

This falls on a Saturday during half term. We strongly recommend submitting at least one week in advance.

Do not leave the application until the final day.

[Hounslow Year 7 admissions](#)

[eAdmissions online application](#)

Preferences and key dates

STEP 2

How preferences work

- Make 6 preferences on the Hounslow form.
- Put schools in your genuine order of preference — #1 is your first choice.
- You will be offered the highest available preference.
- Schools are not told your preference order.

Key dates

- 1 September 2026 — applications open
- 31 October 2026 — closing date
- 1 March 2027 — National Offer Day
- 15 March 2026 — last date to respond online

If you want a Catholic place, include all Catholic schools you would genuinely accept on the Local Authority form.

[Apply online: eAdmissions](#)

[Hounslow admissions guidance](#)

The schools' process

CATHOLIC AND OTHER FAITH SCHOOLS

1 Local Authority form

Include the school on your Local Authority preference form.

2 Supplementary form

For Church schools, complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and return it directly to the school.

3 Catholic practice

Catholic schools require the relevant priest reference / Certificate of Catholic Practice. Please see Fr Mike / Florrie in the Parish Office about signing dates.

What happens next

Schools apply their published admissions criteria and inform the Local Authority; the Local Authority then makes the offer based on your preference order.

[Hounslow supplementary information forms \(SIFs\)](#)

St Paul's Catholic College

A COMMON DESTINATION FOR ST LAWRENCE PUPILS

**A large number of our children —
both boys and girls — transfer to St Paul's in Sunbury.**

Although St Paul's is in Surrey, Hounslow residents still apply through Hounslow.

Catholic secondary schools commonly considered

St Mark's Catholic School [St Mark's](#)

Mixed • Hounslow

St Paul's Catholic College [St Paul's](#)

Mixed • Sunbury

Gumley House School [Gumley House](#)

Girls • Isleworth

Gunnersbury Catholic School [Gunnersbury](#)

Boys • Brentford

Salesian School [Salesian](#)

Mixed • Chertsey

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College

St Richard Reynolds [St Richard Reynolds](#)

Other schools families may consider

Local / nearby

Bishop Wand
Springwest Academy
The Rivers Academy
Reach Academy
The Green School for Girls

London options

Cardinal Vaughan
The London Oratory

Independent

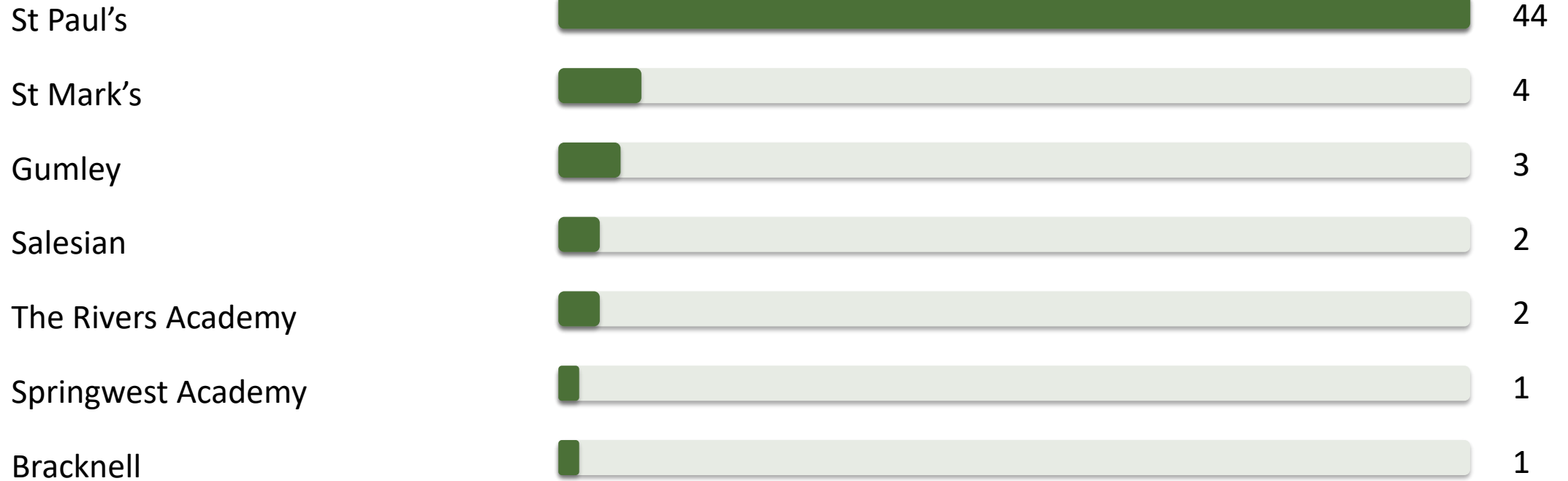
St Catherine's
Hampton
Lady Eleanor Holles
(selection processes may apply)

Grammar

Tiffin
St Bernard's
(entrance testing applies)

Where our children went

SEPTEMBER 2026



Look beyond headline results

“There is more to a school than just its results.”

The whole package

Consider the school’s culture, curriculum, pastoral care, opportunities and expectations.

Your child

Think about what your child needs to flourish — academically, socially and personally.

Ask questions

Open evenings are your opportunity to get the answers that matter to your family.

Questions to ask when choosing a school

- Do I want a Catholic school?
- What facilities does the school offer?
- What is the pastoral system?
- What is Religious Education like?
- What extra-curricular activities are available?
- Where does my child want to go — and why?
- How far away is it — and how will my child travel?
- What are the school's results?
- How is the school organised?
- How does the school approach behaviour, bullying and prevention?
- What are my child's realistic admission chances?
- Can I see my child being happy here for the next 5–7 years?

Four things to remember

Be wary of superficial impressions.

Think carefully about your genuine order of preference.

If you want a Catholic school place, include all Catholic schools you would genuinely accept.

Remember: the final decision is yours as a parent.