



# The Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme for 2015/16

<b>No</b>	<b>Heading</b>	<b>Page Numbers</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Aims &amp; scope of the scheme</b>	
	2.1 Aims of the scheme	3
	2.2 Scope of the scheme	3
<b>3</b>	<b>Key aspects of the scheme</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>General details of the scheme</b>	
	4.1 Primary & secondary admissions up to the offer date	4
	4.2 Co-ordinated arrangements between the offer date and start of the autumn term	6
	4.3 Year 7 - Under and over age applicants	6
	4.4 Overseas applicants	6 - 7
	4.5 New applications, late applications, changes of preferences and additional preferences	7 - 8
	4.6 Supplementary Information Forms	8 - 9
	4.7 Waiting lists	9 - 10
	4.8 Appeals	10
<b>5</b>	<b>Annual Review of the Scheme</b>	<b>10 - 11</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Council and school duties under the scheme</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>List of schools to which the scheme applies</b>	<b>12 - 13</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Definitions</b>	<b>14 - 15</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Key dates – Primary admissions September 2015</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Key dates – Secondary admissions September 2015</b>	<b>17</b>

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The School Admissions Code places a duty on local authorities to formulate a single scheme for co-ordinating all applications to maintained schools from parents in their area. The scheme applies to admissions into reception and year 3 in primary schools and into year 7 in secondary schools. Schemes for admission to schools must be formulated by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the determination year.

## **2. Aims and scope of the scheme**

### 2.1 Aims of the scheme

- 2.1.1 To facilitate the offer of one school place to each pupil.
- 2.1.2 To simplify for parents the admission process into schools through the use of a Single Application form (SAF).
- 2.1.3 To co-ordinate with neighbouring local authorities to avoid more than one school place being allocated to the same pupil.

### 2.2 Scope of the Scheme

- 2.2.1 The scheme applies to families who are resident in Southend who are seeking admission into: reception year in primary and infant schools; year 3 in primary and junior schools and year 7 in secondary schools. The scheme excludes post 16 pupils.

## **3. Key Aspects of the Scheme.**

- 3.1 There will be co-ordination with other local authorities to ensure that a pupil only receives one offer.
- 3.2 Southend Borough Council (SBC) will co-ordinate admissions, for all schools including academy, community, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools. Co-ordination is for all pupils into reception year, year 3 and year 7.
- 3.3 SBC will send offers of places to Southend residents even if the school is in another local authority. This includes offers on behalf of academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools.
- 3.4 The SAF will enable parents to express:
- up to 3 preferences for admission to a primary school;
  - up to 5 preferences for admission to a secondary school.
- 3.5 Only SBC will know the ranking of the parental preferences. Preferences will be shared with other local authorities in so far as they relate to their schools. Parental preferences may be shared with own admission authorities for the purposes of admission appeals.
- 3.6 In all cases academies, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools will continue to be their own admission authorities, will apply their own criteria and will continue to be responsible for the organising of admission appeals.

## **4. General details of the scheme**

### 4.1 Primary and secondary admissions up to the offer date

- 4.1.1 Parents will complete a Single Application Form (SAF) on which they will be able to express a preference for up to:
- 3 primary schools in order of priority or;
  - 5 secondary schools in order of priority.
- 4.1.2 Parents will be advised to apply on-line for a school place at [www.southend.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.southend.gov.uk/admissions) but will be able to complete a paper form if they wish.
- 4.1.3 All SAFs must be sent back to SBC which is the only body that can make offers to Southend parents on behalf of primary and secondary schools.
- 4.1.4 Within the list of schools parents can express a preference for a school in another local authority as Southend co-ordinates admissions with other authorities. The offer of a place at a school in another local authority will be made by SBC on behalf of that local authority. Similarly other local authorities will offer places to their residents on behalf of Southend schools. The scheme requires councils to liaise before any offers are made on behalf of schools in the other council area.
- 4.1.4 The Southend coordinated scheme considers all preferences against the admissions criteria for the individual schools.
- 4.1.5 The SAF will detail which schools also require Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs). These may be obtained from either the school or SBC website. SIFs must be sent back to the individual school. SIFs for the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex need to be downloaded from the CSSE website or by contacting the CSSE and completed forms need to be returned to the CSSE. These forms are not application forms and parents must complete the SAF. (See section 4.6 on SIFs and section 4.1.6 for the SIF for the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex).
- 4.1.6 For each admission round there is a national closing date for receipt of the SAF. The deadline for receipt of any SIFs is set by individual schools and the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE). The date may be later than the national closing date. For registration for the selective test the closing date will be much earlier. Parents are encouraged to send in the SAF to SBC and any SIFs (if required) to the school as early as possible prior to the closing date.
- 4.1.7 If SBC receives any SIFs then these will be forwarded onto the school or, where appropriate CSSE. Similarly if any school receives by mistake any SAFs then these must be sent onto SBC.
- 4.1.8 On-line applications will be downloaded into the admissions database. SBC will input into the admissions database all information shown on any paper SAF's, including any reasons for the application, and will provide details to all academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools.
- 4.1.9 SBC will send to other local authorities details of pupils who have applied to schools in their area and will receive from other local authorities details of their pupils who have applied to Southend schools. The respective councils will send to their own

schools a list of pupils who have applied to the school which will include both Southend and their own residents. It has been agreed by schools that are part of the CSSE that both SBC and Essex will send information on those pupils who have applied to take the selective test direct to the Consortium.

- 4.1.10 Pupils taking the selective test, or aptitude tests or auditions will need to register with CSSE or schools to make the necessary arrangements.
- 4.1.11 Academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools and, where appropriate CSSE, are required to rank in order of the schools' criteria all pupils who have applied to their school and to return these lists to SBC by the agreed date.
- 4.1.12 SBC will exchange information with other Local Authorities who will provide details of the ranking of Southend pupils who have applied to their schools.
- 4.1.13 SBC will match the parental preferences against the rank order lists provided by Southend schools.

The scheme operates according to the order in which parents select preferences. The order of preferences should reflect the order parents wish to be offered a place, but if for example parents are unsuccessful in gaining a place for the first preference school they are not disadvantaged in obtaining their second preference or your 3<sup>rd</sup> preference etc. Schools do not receive details of the preference and have to put pupils in order of their admission criteria without knowing the preference.

The process will continue until all preferences are exhausted.

- 4.1.14 SBC will provide any other local authority with details of any pupils resident in their area who can be offered places at schools in the Borough (and vice versa)
- 4.1.15 SBC will send an offer of a single place to pupils applying for a school places on the offer day.
- 4.1.16 Parents who completed an online application, and have provided an email address, will be advised of the outcome of their application by email on offer day.
- 4.1.17 Parents who completed a paper SAF will be advised of the outcome of their application by 1<sup>st</sup> class post on offer day. Parents should expect to receive the letter within 1 to 2 days of the offer day.
- 4.1.18 Parents will be given 3 weeks to either accept or reject an offer of a school place. Parents who applied online will be able to accept or reject the school place offered by using the online facility.
- 4.1.19 For any pupil who has not been allocated a place at one of their expressed preferences SBC will notify the parents on the offer day offering them a place at the school in the Borough nearest to the home address with vacancies at that time. For year 7 applications the place to be offered will be at the nearest non-selective school in the Borough with vacancies at that time.
- 4.1.20 Any places (that are in demand) will be reallocated if parents advise SBC that they no longer require a place.

## **4.2 Co-ordinated arrangements between the offer date and start of autumn term.**

- 4.2.1 **From the offer day onwards SBC will continue to co-ordinate admission** arrangements and make all offers on behalf of primary and secondary schools in Southend.
- 4.2.2. Where parents have refused the offer of the place then the vacant place will be offered in strict order of the ranking list until the place is accepted.
- 4.2.3 The offer of school places as they become available will continue to be made by SBC.
- 4.2.4 At the end of the first week of the autumn term the coordination procedures for reception year, year 3 and year 7 will cease. SBC will continue to administer waiting lists and in-year admissions for community primary schools. Academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools will be responsible for their own waiting lists and for dealing with in-year admission applications.

## **4.3 Year 7 - Under and over age applicants**

- 4.3.1 For admissions into year 7, an applicant is under age if he or she will be under 11 years of age on 31<sup>st</sup> August immediately prior to admission in September. SBC will only accept applications from under age applicants who have been registered in year 6 of their primary schools from the first day of the school year in which they apply for a secondary school place. This effectively requires that the decision to promote the child to the year group above his/her chronological age group must be taken by the primary school prior to the end of the summer term in the calendar year in which the child applies for a secondary school place. Confirmation of this is likely to be sought from the headteacher of the primary school concerned by SBC.
- 4.3.2 An applicant is over age if he or she is 12 years of age or over on 31st August immediately prior to admission in September. SBC will not accept over age applicants for year 7 admissions unless there are verified exceptional circumstances, for example, of extended illness, for a child to repeat one of the primary school years. SBC will seek verification from the headteacher of the primary school concerned that an over-aged applicant has medically certifiable reasons or some other exceptional reason for being an over-aged applicant. SBC will wish to investigate especially thoroughly the circumstances through which any child is found to be studying in Year 6 for the second time, especially if this should involve an application to sit the CSSE selection tests for a second time. Medical evidence will be required for such applicants.

## **4.4 Overseas applicants – applications from children whose parents are living abroad and do not have a “home authority”**

- 4.4.1 Parents who are living abroad and who wish their child to apply for a Southend school have no “home authority” (through which the regulations stipulate that all applications should be made). They can nonetheless apply through what is a proxy home authority (i.e. the Council area in which they intend to buy a house or settle the child with relatives). However, although they may apply in this way, no place will be offered until they can provide clear evidence of residency in this country and this may include the relevant immigration documents. In addition, proof of the home

address through either of house purchase through exchange of contracts, a long term letting agreement

4.4.2 The CSSE will arrange for overseas applicants for year 7 to sit the selection tests overseas under invigilated conditions at an agreed test centre.

#### **4.5 New applications, late applications, changes of preferences and additional applications – for coordination of reception, year 3 and year 7**

4.5.1 New applications:

Parents moving into the area, who in the view of SBC could not have made an application by the appropriate closing date, will have their application slotted into the system as and when received. The last date where it would be possible for this to happen is 19th January for secondary applications and 2<sup>nd</sup> March for primary applications. These will be regarded as new applications. This will also apply to parents who move within the Borough where the change of address would alter their ranking at a school. Any such application received after these will not be considered until after the initial allocation of places on offer day.

4.5.2 Late applications

Applications received after the closing date from those who could have made an application on time, will be regarded as late and will therefore not be considered until all “on time” applications have been considered and the initial allocation of places are notified to parents. SBC will be the final arbiter, under the coordinated scheme, as to whether an application is late or not.

Schools should apply their admission criteria to such late pupils but identification as “Late” by SBC will prevent schools from putting a ranking against these pupils when the full list is sent back to SBC.

4.5.3 Changes in preference

Changes in the order of preferences already expressed will not be accepted after the closing dates unless, the circumstances are deemed to be exceptional and the changes can be accommodated.

Changes received after the closing date will be considered after the appropriate national offer date.

4.5.4 Additional preferences

Any additional preferences received after the closing dates will be considered and added after the offer date to the waiting lists.

4.5.5 Southend-on-Sea Borough Council takes very seriously any attempt to gain unfair advantage in the admissions process by giving false information (for example providing a false address). Checks will also be made with other departments in the Council and, where it is suspected that the family actually live outside Southend, contact will be made with the relevant Council. Where there is reasonable doubt as to the validity of a home address, the Council reserves the right to take additional checking measures including, in some cases, unannounced home visits. If, after offers of school places have been made, it is established that fraudulent or intentionally misleading information has been provided in order to gain a place at a primary or secondary school, the Council will withdraw any school place offered. If an offer of a

school place is withdrawn under these circumstances the application would be considered afresh and the parent advised of their right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel.

## 4.6 Supplementary Information Forms

- 4.6.1 In order that they may seek further information to apply their admission criteria, the following schools require parents to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) in addition to the appropriate application form.

School	Details
Primary:	
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary	For all applications
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary	For all applications
St George's Catholic Primary	For all applications
St Helen's Catholic Primary	For all applications
St Mary's, Prittlewell, C of E Primary	For all applications
Secondary:	
Cecil Jones College	For year 7 applications for selective places
St Bernard's High School	For all applications
St Thomas More High School	For all applications
Shoeburyness High School	For year 7 applications for selective places
Southend High School for Boys	For all applications for selective places
Southend High School for Girls	For all applications for selective places
The Eastwood School	For year 7 applications for Sport / Performing Arts places
Westcliff High School for Boys	For all applications for selective places
Westcliff High School for Girls	For all applications for selective places

The SIFs for year 7 applications for selective places must be returned to the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE), for all rounds of admissions SIFs must be returned direct to the school.

- 4.6.2 For reception, year 3 and year 7 (non-selective and non-aptitude) admissions the deadline for return of the SIF cannot be earlier than the SAF closing date. However, parents are encouraged to send in the SAF and any SIF as early as possible prior to the closing date. The SIF for selective and aptitude testing will be before the SAF closing date (also refer to sections 4.1.5 and 4.1.6).



4.6.3 All SIFs must clearly indicate that they are not application forms and that the appropriate application form must be completed. SIFs cannot request:

- any personal details about parents, such as maiden names, criminal convictions, marital or financial status (including marriage certificates);
- the first language of parents or the child;
- details about parents' or child's disabilities, special educational needs or medical conditions;
- parents to agree to support the ethos of the school in a practical way;
- both parents to sign the form, or for the child to complete the form.

## 4.7 Waiting lists

4.7.1 For the reception, year 3 and year 7 rounds of admissions, on offer day SBC will have a waiting list for each Southend oversubscribed school which will exclude any late applicant and late changes in preference (will not have been ranked by the school). Schools will be asked to re-rank the waiting list to include late application and changes to preference not already considered and on-time applications and to return the list to SBC. In most cases SBC will be able to rank the pupil from existing information, for example distance. Depending on the admission criteria a new application could then be slotted immediately to the top of the waiting list.

4.7.2 SBC will maintain the waiting list as ranked by schools. Where any new pupil, such as a late application, is added to the waiting list SBC should be advised within 10 working days of where such pupils fit in relation to other pupils on the waiting list. Pupils who have been allocated a school place are only included on a waiting list if they indicate that they wish to remain on the list.

4.7.3 Where a vacancy does arise the place will be offered by SBC to the pupil on top of the waiting list on the basis of any revised rankings obtained from the school as at the end of the previous working day.

4.7.4 A parent of a child at the top of the waiting list offered a place as a result of a vacancy having arisen will be expected to confirm, within 10 working days, whether or not they wish to accept the place.

4.7.5 Until the end of the first week of the autumn term SBC will maintain waiting lists for all schools that are oversubscribed. Waiting lists will be maintained by SBC strictly in accordance with the admission criteria of the school concerned.

4.7.6 SBC will delete pupils from the waiting list who are offered and accept a place at a higher ranking school or who fail to advise SBC that they wish to remain on the waiting list.

4.7.7 Where, as part of the school admissions process, a parent is required to complete a SIF, SBC should be advised by the school within 10 working days of where such pupils fit in relation to other pupils on the waiting list. New pupils will not be added to the waiting list until this information has been provided by the school

4.7.8 Where a vacancy does arise the place will be offered by SBC to the pupil on top of the waiting list on the basis of any revised rankings obtained from the school as at the end of the previous working day.

## **4.8 Appeals**

- 4.8.1 Parents have the right of appeal against a decision to refuse admission to a school which they had put as a preference.
- 4.8.2 Parents will be given 20 school days to appeal against the decision to refuse their application for a place at a particular school.
- 4.8.3 Parents wishing to appeal for a place at any school in the Borough will be advised by SBC to read the on-line appeals information and complete the online appeal form which will be submitted to SBC. Paper copies of the appeals information and form will also be available if required. If the appeal relates to an academy, foundation, free school or voluntary aided school the form will immediately be sent to the school concerned for them to arrange the appeal. Appeals for places at community schools will be organised by SBC.
- 4.8.4 SBC will advise parents wishing to submit an appeal in respect of a school outside the Borough to contact the Local Authority where the school is located to enquire about the appeal arrangements.
- 4.8.5 In accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code, Independent Appeal Panels for community, academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools must consist of:
- a) at least one lay member. Lay members are people without personal experience in the management or provision of education in any school (though it is permissible to use people who have experience as governors of other schools, or who have been involved in education in any other voluntary capacity) and
  - b) at least one person with experience in education, who is acquainted with educational conditions in the area, or who is a parent of a registered pupil at a school.
- 4.8.6 Academy, foundation, free school and voluntary aided schools must inform SBC within 5 school days of the outcome of any appeal. The outcome of any appeal does not mean that the parent will necessarily take up a place as they may have other appeals or may prefer the original place offered.
- 4.8.7 Having received notification from the school, SBC will contact parents and ask them to confirm in writing to SBC which place they wish to accept following the outcome of any appeals. They will be asked to confirm this within 5 school days of their last appeal. Once a place is released that place will be reallocated.

## **5. Annual Review of the Scheme**

- 5.1 Each year all local authorities must formulate and publish on their website a scheme by 1 January in the relevant determination year to co-ordinate admission arrangements for all publicly funded schools within their area.
- 5.2 The School Admissions Code confirms that if the Local Authority decides to continue to use the scheme from the previous year, this will fulfil the legal requirement to formulate a scheme. Local Authorities must consult admission authorities for schools affected by the scheme and other Local Authorities every 7 years as a minimum. If the scheme has changed substantially since the previous

year, the Local Authority must consult school governing bodies and other admission authorities in the area even if that is less than 7 years since the last consultation.

- 5.3 A local authority must inform the Secretary of State whether they have secured the adoption of a qualifying scheme by 15 April. If this is not achieved the Secretary of State may impose a scheme.

## **6. Council and school duties under the scheme**

These are set out in the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 and schools should refer to these if they have any queries.

In summary the main duties are:

### **Southend Borough Council**

- To forward details submitted on the Single Application Form, together with any supporting information provided by the parent to the school or to any other local authority as appropriate;
- To sort the lists received from schools, or other local authorities, and according to the preference expressed by the parent determine which school place should be offered;
- To forward onto schools information received from other local authorities pupils who have applied to Southend schools;
- To notify schools and other local authorities of the offers to be made;
- To make an offer to parents on national offer day on behalf of schools, including for schools in other local authorities.

### **Governing Body**

- To notify Southend Borough Council of any application made direct to the school;
- To determine all applications in line with the school's admission criteria and to notify the Council of this.

### **Requirement by the Council and schools to comply with the scheme**

Under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012, sections 496 and 497 of the Education Act 1996 apply to the Council or any governing body under the scheme.

Under sections 496 and 497 of the Education Act 1996 if the Secretary of State is satisfied (either through a complaint by any person or otherwise) that a Council or school have acted, or are proposing to act, unreasonably in performance of any duty under the scheme then they may be directed by the Secretary of State.

The exact wording is set out in sections 496 and 497 of the Education Act 1996.

## 7. List of schools to which the scheme applies

Southend Borough Council is the admission authority for community schools. The governing body is the admission authority for academy, foundation, free school or voluntary aided schools.

SECONDARY		
School Name	DfE Number	Status
Belfairs Academy	5434	Academy
Cecil Jones College	5452	Foundation
Chase High School	4735	Foundation
Futures Community College	4736	Foundation
St Bernard's High School	5465	Academy
St Thomas More High School	5447	Academy
Shoeburyness High School	4034	Academy
Southend High School for Boys	5446	Academy
Southend High School for Girls	5428	Academy
The Eastwood School	5414	Academy
Westcliff High School for Boys	5401	Academy
Westcliff High School for Girls	5423	Academy

PRIMARY		
School Name	DfE Number	Status
Barons Court Primary School & Nursery	2124	Community
Blenheim Primary School	2387	Community
Bournemouth Park Primary School	3822	Community
Bournes Green Infant School	2128	Community
Bournes Green Junior School (partner school)	2123	Community
Chalkwell Hall Infant School	2022	Community
Chalkwell Hall Junior School (partner school)	2019	Community
Darlinghurst Primary & Nursery School	2127	Community
Earls Hall Infant School	2031	Community
Earls Hall Junior School (partner school)	2023	Community
Eastwood Primary School	3825	Foundation
Edwards Hall Primary School	3826	Community
Fairways Primary School	2407	Community
Friars Primary School & Nursery	3824	Community
Hamstel Infant School	2093	Community
Hamstel Junior School (partner school)	2092	Community
Heycroft Primary School	2126	Community
Hinguar Community Primary School	2094	Community
Leigh Infant School	2096	Community
Leigh North Street Junior School (partner school)	2095	Community
Milton Hall Primary School	5273	Foundation
Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Primary School	3328	Voluntary Aided
Porters Grange Primary School & Nursery	2408	Community
Prince Avenue Primary Foundation School & Nursery	5268	Foundation
Richmond Avenue Primary School	3823	Community
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery	3326	Voluntary Aided
St George's Catholic Primary School	3329	Voluntary Aided
St Helen's Catholic Primary School	3327	Voluntary Aided
St Mary's Prittlewell Church of England Primary School	3325	Voluntary Aided
Temple Sutton Primary School	2132	Community
The Westborough Primary School & Nursery	5206	Academy
Federation of Greenways Schools -Thorpe Greenways Infant School	2105	Community
Federation of Greenways Schools -Thorpe Greenways Junior School	2104	Community
Thorpedene Primary School	5225	Foundation
West Leigh Infant School	2109	Community
West Leigh Junior School (partner school)	2108	Community

## 8. Definitions

**Academies** – Schools funded directly by Central Government where the academy trust employs the staff and is the admission authority.

**Additional applications** - An application from a parent who has already submitted an application and is requesting an additional school(s). This will normally be after the initial offer of places in March.

**Admissions Forum** – A body comprising of representatives from various groups which advises admissions authorities on admission arrangements in the area

**Catchment area** – A defined geographical area served by a particular school

**Changes in preference** - Changes in the order of preferences already expressed (that is not an additional application).

**Community schools** – Schools wholly funded by SBC, where the Council employs the staff and is the admissions authority.

**CSSE** – The Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex – a group of schools that are responsible for the selection test (11+) arrangements. The 12 schools below operate a consortium whereby only one test needs to be taken even though an application is being made to several schools. The schools are:

Cecil Jones College  
Shoeburyness High School  
Southend High School for Boys  
Southend High School for Girls  
St Bernard's High School  
St Thomas More High School  
Westcliff High School for Boys  
Westcliff High School for Girls  
Chelmsford County High School (Girls) – school in Essex  
King Edward VI Chelmsford (Boys) – school in Essex  
Colchester County High School (Girls) – school in Essex  
Royal Grammar School, Colchester (Boys) – school in Essex

**DFE - Department for Education** – Central government department responsible for education matters.

**Foundation schools** – Schools funded by the Council, where the Governing body employs the staff and is the admissions authority.

**Free School** - are state-funded schools normally set up in response to parental demand. They have the same legal requirements as academy schools.

Notes: (i) At the time of writing these coordinated arrangements one Free School has been established. This is the YMCA Free School although admissions will be through school referral and not an application process and they are not part of the coordinated scheme. (ii) Proposals are emerging for a secondary Free School but this has yet to be approved by the Secretary of State. (iii) For the first year of opening only the funding agreement for Free Schools will provide that they may choose whether they wish to participate in the local qualifying scheme.

**Late applications** - Applications received after the closing date from those who could have made an application on time.

**National Offer Day** – the day on which all offers of places are made. For year 7 this is on or about 1<sup>st</sup> March and reception year and year 3 this will be on or about 16<sup>th</sup> April. In each case if the day falls on a weekend or bank holiday it will be next working day. The offer day will therefore be Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 for secondary applications and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015 for primary applications.

**New applications** - Parents who in the view of SBC could not have made an application by the appropriate closing date, for example, when moving into the area, will have their application slotted into the system as and when received. Due to the allocation of places this can only be achieved up to 19<sup>th</sup> January for secondary applications and 2<sup>nd</sup> March for primary applications. Any application after that date will be slotted in after offer day.

**Non-selective places** – school places offered without reference to the selective (11+) procedure.

**Normal round of admissions** – Under the Southend Coordinated Admissions Scheme, the normal round of admissions refers to admissions to reception, year 3 and year 7 up to the end of the first week of the autumn term.

**Potential year 7 admissions** – All pupils in year 6 in primary schools (whether or not that is their age appropriate cohort) who will transfer to secondary schools in the following September, that is, September 2015.

**Single Application Form (SAF)** – the common application form on which parents indicate their preferences

**Selective places** – places offered at certain schools as a result of the pupils' performance in the selection (11+) procedure.

**SIFs** – Supplementary Information Forms – forms on which parents are asked to provide additional information in support of their applications in order to provide more information to enable the school to apply their admission criteria. These are not application forms.

**Southend Borough Council (SBC)** – In most cases the function of the Council will be undertaken by the Pupil Access Team within the Department of Children & Learning.

**Specialist places** – School places offered to a small number of pupils at certain schools as a result of an aptitude in certain areas of the curriculum

**Voluntary Aided schools** – Schools set up and owned by a voluntary body, usually a church body, largely financed by the Council. The governing body employs the staff and is the admission authority.

## 9. Key dates – Primary admissions September 2015

1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014	Date for formulation of scheme
2 <sup>nd</sup> September to 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Publish Admissions Information (booklet) Advertisements, fliers and letters to registered parents of early years children
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Opening of on-line admissions facility
Early October 2014	Distribution of year 3 “letter/fliers” to year 2 pupils
16 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	Reminder letters to be sent of parents who have not applied for a place (from early years records)
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Closing date for admission applications
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	List of preferences to be sent to schools
24 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	Closing date for schools to return ranked preferences
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015	Closing date for New Applications (see para. 4.5.1)
16 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	Offer day
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Closing date for acceptances
21 <sup>st</sup> May 2015	Closing date for appeal forms
18 <sup>th</sup> July 2015	All on-time appeals completed
20 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	Waiting lists passed to academy, aided, foundation and free schools



## 10. Key dates – Secondary admissions September 2015

1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014	Date for formulation of scheme
February 2014	Initial information to year 5 parents regarding year 7 testing / audition arrangements
May 2014	Detailed information to year 5 parents regarding testing / audition arrangements
June / July 2014	Publication of Secondary Admissions Information (booklet) Admissions information distribution to year 6 pupils Open evenings at schools that admit pupils as a result of testing / auditions
1 <sup>st</sup> July – 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Registration for testing / audition
1 <sup>st</sup> September 2014	Opening of on-line admissions facility for transfer to secondary school
Week beginning 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2014	Distribution of reminder flier to year 6 pupils
June/July 2014 and September/October 2014	Secondary school open evenings
September 2014*	11+ test
1 <sup>st</sup> October 2014*	“Late” 11+ test
14 <sup>th</sup> October 2014*	Testing results to be sent to parents by CSSE / schools
Mid October 2014	Open evenings at schools that admit pupils as a result of testing / auditions (for those pupils who took the test / audition)
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2014	Closing date for admission applications
7 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	List of preferences to be sent to schools
7 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Closing date for schools to return ranked preferences
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Closing date for New Applications (see para. 4.5.1)
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015	National Offer day
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2015	Closing date for acceptances
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015	Closing date for appeal forms
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	All on-time appeals completed
20 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	Waiting lists passed to academy, aided, foundation and free schools

\*dates to be confirmed by CSSE



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