

Transfer to Middle 2026

Information for parents and carers of Year 4 children applying for middle/extended secondary school

There is no automatic transfer to middle/extended secondary school even if you live in the catchment area and/or attend a feeder school you must still make an application to the School Admissions Team.

All the information you will need regarding your Transfer to Middle/Extended Secondary 2026 application is available on our website, or our 2026 booklet and we strongly advise that you read it before submitting your application.

[School admissions | Central Bedfordshire Council](#)

Making your application

Legislation requires you to apply through your home local authority. **If you live outside of Central Bedfordshire, you must contact the local authority you live in and apply to them.**

We recommend that you apply online as it is quick, simple and safe. However, you can alternatively make a paper application; the forms can be downloaded from our website,

Do not make both a paper and online application, if you do only your latest application (submitted before the closing date) will be processed and your first application will be discarded.

All applications received by the School Admissions Team after the national closing dates will be classed as late and not processed until the late allocation round. Late applications are not dealt with until after all the on-time applications have been considered.

Please Note:

Parents are requested to consider how a child would be transported to school, as transport entitlement is only considered if a student meets all the other qualifying criteria set by the School Transport team.

National Closing Date for Transfer to Middle 2026

15th January 2026

You must apply using your child's current primary address (where they live as of the national closing date).

How to make your application

If you live within Central Bedfordshire, you can either apply:

- online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or
- complete a paper application; this can be downloaded from our website

Children being educated out of year group

If your child is currently being educated out of their normal year group, you will **not** be able to apply using the online application system as it will not recognise your child's date of birth. Instead, you will need to complete a paper application form and ensure it is received by the School Admissions Team by 15 January 2026.

Contact the School Admissions Team ...

Telephone 0300 300 8037

Email: admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Web: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Dates of middle and extended secondary school open events

Location	School	Dates and times of open events
Ampthill	Alameda Middle School	Thursday 13th November 2025 Headteacher's Welcome in the school hall: 6:00pm – 7:00pm – Russell Lower School and non-feeder schools 7:00pm – 8:00pm - Firs and Maulden Lower Schools 8:15pm- Evening Concludes
Arlesey	Etonbury Academy	Thursday 2nd October 2025 4 presentations followed by a tour of the school. 5:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:00pm, 6:30pm

<p>Woburn Sands</p>	<p>Fulbrook School</p>	<p>Thursday 2nd October 2025 6.00pm – 8.00pm.</p> <p>Head Teacher presentations at 6pm and 7pm.</p> <p>Open week: Mon 6th - Thursday 9th October 9.00 - 10.30am.</p>
<p>Stotfold</p>	<p>Pix Brook Academy</p>	<p>Thursday 16th October 2025 3:45pm – 7:45pm</p> <p>Principal Address: 4pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm & 6:15pm</p> <p>Presentation in the Hall and then free to explore the school.</p> <p>Booking is not required. www.pixbrookacademy.co.uk</p>
<p>Barton-le-clay</p>	<p>Arnold Academy</p>	<p>Wednesday 5th November 2025</p> <p>5.00pm – 7.30pm</p> <p>Headteacher Talk: 5:15pm, 6:00pm, 6:45pm.</p> <p><i>Following our Open Evening, we will be hosting open mornings, providing an opportunity to experience the school first-hand. Booking for these events will become available on our website after the Open Evening</i></p>
<p>Cranfield</p>	<p>Holywell School</p>	<p>Wednesday 17th September 2025</p> <p>Headteacher Welcome presentations at 5.15pm or 6.30pm</p> <p>There will be student-led tours of the school from 5.15pm (with final tours available from 6.30pm).</p> <p>For current students, there will be self-led tours to find out information about the planned KS4 curriculum offer.</p> <p>** Holywell School is part of the re-organisation of schooling in the Cranfield area where schools are moving from a 3-tier system to a 2-tier system. Holywell School will be transitioning from a Middle School to a Secondary School and will not have a Year 5 intake in September 2026. However, the school will have a Year 9 group in September 2026 which the current Year 8 students will automatically move up to. It is likely that there may be some places for students outside of Holywell to join</p>

		the Year 9 cohort. The school will therefore hold an open evening to explain this change to parents, to explain the offer to students in Year 9 / Key Stage 4 and to explain the application process for families not currently at Holywell.
Location	School	Dates and times of open events
Dunstable	Priory Academy	<p>Thursday 16th October 2025</p> <p>5:30pm – 8.00pm</p>
Flitwick	Woodland Middle School Academy	<p>Thursday 6th November 2025</p> <p>7.00 pm -8.00 pm</p> <p>Please direct to www.woodlandacademy.co.uk</p> <p>Tours of the school on the following dates:</p> <p>Week commencing – 10th and Week commencing - 17th of November 2025.</p> <p>9am – 1pm</p>
Location	School	Dates and times of open events
Leighton Buzzard	Brooklands School	<p>Thursday 20th November 2025</p> <p>6.00pm - 8.00pm</p> <p>Headteacher welcome at: 6.00pm and 7.00pm</p>
		<p>Open Week - Monday 24th to Friday 28th November 2024. Anytime between 9.30 -11.30am and 1.30pm - 3.00pm- no appointment necessary, parent and children can just come along between the above time for tours.</p>
	Gilbert Inglefield Academy	<p>Monday 10th November 2025</p> <p>5:00pm – 8:00pm</p> <p>Headteachers Welcome at 5:30pm & 6:15pm followed by tour of the school. Parents can arrive 15 minutes before the Headteachers talk. Places to be booked via the school website www.gilbertinglefield.com</p> <p>Evening will finish at 8pm.</p>

		Open Week Commencing – Monday 24th November
		Saturday 15th November 2025 9.00am – Midday
	Leighton Middle School	Open Week Tuesday 25th - Friday 28th November 2025 with Tours at 9.00am, 10.00am Please visit our website, nearer the time, www.leightonmiddle.org.uk to book tours on either our Saturday Open Morning or during our Open Week.
	Linslade School	Tuesday 18th November 2025 5:30pm – 8:00pm The Headteacher's speeches will take place at 5.45pm, 6.30pm and 7.15pm. Our Open Week will take place, Week Commencing: Monday 24th November with tours running at 9am, 10am and 11.30am.
Shefford	Robert Bloomfield Academy	Thursday 13th November 2025 5pm-8pm
Location	School	Dates and times of open events
Toddington	Parkfields Middle School	Wednesday 12th November 2025 5pm – 8pm

Transfer to Middle 2026 application closing date – 15 January 2026

Transfer to Middle 2026 Important dates

Date	Event
8 September 2025	Online Transfer to Middle 2026 system opens for parents/carers to apply Paper application forms will also be available on our website.
October - November 2025	Schools hold their open events for prospective parents and children
15 January 2026	National closing date for applications to be received by the School Admissions Team
16 January 2026 – 30 April 2026	Late applications received during these dates will be processed in the late allocation round in May
16 April 2026	National offer day for on-time applications All online applicants and those who have supplied an email address with their paper application will receive an email between 9am and 4pm with the outcome of their application. Parents who have not provided an email address with their paper application form will have their decision letter posted to them
30 April 2026	Parents/carers who are declining the place offered or wish to change their on-time preferences need to have completed a change of preference form. This must be received by the School Admission Team by this date to be considered in the late allocation round.
22 May 2026	Late allocation round offer day. All online applicants and those who have supplied an email address with their paper application will receive an email by the close of business on the offer day with the outcome of their application. Parents who have not provided an email address with their paper application form will have their decision letter posted to them.
During June 2026	Late applications received from 1 May 2026 will be processed

Contact the School Admissions Team...

Telephone 0300 300 8037

Email: admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Web: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Please Note: Parents are requested to consider how a child would be transported to school, as transport entitlement is only considered if a pupil meets all the other qualifying criteria set by the School Transport team.

Central Bedfordshire Council currently provides transport assistance to pupils who meet certain criteria as set out in the Council's current Home to School Transport Policy, full details of which can be found on the Council's website, www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school-transport

Deadlines for applications

To help us ensure we are able to put transport in place for the start of the academic year you will need to have completed your application via our website by the following dates:

Upper and Secondary schools **31st March 2026**
Primary, Lower and Middle schools **19th May 2026**

When applications are received after these deadlines, we cannot guarantee transport will be in place until the October half term.

Travel for non-eligible students

When you are considering an offer of a school place for your child, you should think seriously about how he/she will travel to and from school, as the Council will only be able to offer transport assistance to qualifying schools as mentioned above. **If you accept a place for your child at a non-qualifying school, you will be responsible for ensuring that suitable transport arrangements are in place**

When there is a Council operated school bus with spare seats available after all entitled pupils have been offered places, the Council may sell these as concessions to non-eligible pupils. They are sold on a first, first served basis, one term at a time and being accepted for a place for one term does not guarantee a place for the next term.

Further information

If you have any queries about entitlement or changes in your child's transport, please contact the School Transport Team by phone 0300 300 8339 or www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/schooltransport.