Choosing a school

- Difficult and stressful time for some
- Easy straightforward decision for others
Choosing a school

- How do I know which school is right for my child?
- Who can help me make that decision?
Choosing a school

- Talk to your child
- Consider how they will travel to school
Choosing a school

- Visit the schools
  - go to the open evenings
  - talk to the teachers
  - talk to the pupils

- When are the open evenings?
  - from Thursday 25 June – Wednesday 7 October
Choosing a school

- Read the school prospectus
  - it will have detailed information about:
    - how the school is run
    - which subjects are taught
    - the admissions criteria
  - available at the open evenings
  - download from the school website
Choosing a school

- Talk to the Choice Advisers
  - how do I contact them?
    - tel: 020 8359 7637
    - email: choice.advice@barnet.gov.uk
Choosing a school

- Read the secondary education booklet published by your home local authority
  - the 2016 booklet will be available in Autumn 2016
  - download Barnet’s booklet at www.barnet.gov.uk/school-admissions
  - Links will be available on the Woodcroft Website
Choosing a school

- Talk to the Customer Support Team
  - the team can offer you advice and answer your questions
  - how do I contact them?
    - tel: 020 8359 7651
    - email: school.admissions@barnet.gov.uk
    - if you live outside Barnet, you will find the contact details for your admissions team in Barnet’s secondary education booklet
Choosing a school

- Look at exam results and Ofsted reports
  - the latest Ofsted reports are available from the Ofsted website [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)
  - achievement and attainment tables are available at [www.education.gov.uk/performance_tables](http://www.education.gov.uk/performance_tables)
Choosing a school

- Look carefully at the admission criteria for each school
  - selection by aptitude
  - faith criteria
  - siblings
  - distance
# Cut-off Distances 3 March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of School</th>
<th>Cut-off distance (miles)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Archer Academy (Priority Post Codes)</td>
<td>1.055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashmole School</td>
<td>0.657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ's College</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Compton School</td>
<td>0.805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copthall School</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Barnet School</td>
<td>1.103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friern Barnet</td>
<td>2.802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Academy</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Hill High School</td>
<td>0.836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Elizabeth’s Girls’ School</td>
<td>5.709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Totteridge Academy</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitefield School</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wren Academy (Foundation Places 3 points)</td>
<td>2.177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wren Academy (Community Places 1 point)</td>
<td>0 (No offers)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do I apply?

- How soon can I apply?
  - the application process begins on 1 September 2015

- Where do I apply?
  - apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk
How do I apply?

- How many schools can I apply for?
  - you can apply for up to six schools
  - you will rank the schools in your order of preference
  - it is important to think carefully about the order as you will not be able to change it after the closing date

- Can I apply to schools outside Barnet?
  - yes, you must include all your chosen schools, whether inside or outside the borough where you live
How do I apply?

- Do I need to fill in any other forms?
  - all voluntary aided schools and some foundation schools, free schools & academies will ask you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF)
  - the SIF will ask for additional information, for example
    - faith schools will ask about church attendance and require a priest’s reference
    - selective schools will ask about any medical condition that needs to be taken into account at the test and they may also require a photograph
  - Jewish schools will also ask you to complete a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP), which must be signed by a Rabbi
  - SIFs and CRPs must be returned to the individual schools
How do I apply?

What else do I need to provide?

- **Proof of address**
  - your permanent address must be used on the application form
  - if you have moved in the last two years you will be asked to provide proof of the new address and proof that you have disposed of the previous address
Selection Tests

- Schools must give parents the test results before they apply for a school place
  - applications to sit the tests should be made directly to the individual school
Selection Tests

When will the tests be held?

- For some schools the tests start in the summer term while your child is still in Year 5!
- This includes Mill Hill County
## Selection Tests

### Barnet Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Test Dates</th>
<th>Deadline for Test Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashmole Academy</td>
<td>Musical Aptitude ~ Sat 6 June</td>
<td>Fri 22 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music Auditions ~ Tues 7 &amp; Wed 8 July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friern Barnet School</td>
<td>Enhanced Arts Programme</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Henrietta Barnett School</td>
<td>Thurs 17 September</td>
<td>Mon 13 July (online)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 15 July (postal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Hill County High School</td>
<td>1st Aptitude Test ~ Sat 13 June</td>
<td>Fri 29 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music Auditions ~ Sat 27 June &amp; Sat 4 July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dance Auditions ~ Sat 20 June &amp; Sat 28 June</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Aptitude Test ~ Sat 5 September</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Elizabeth’s Boys’ School</td>
<td>Thurs 24 September</td>
<td>Thurs 23 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s &amp; St John’s CE School</td>
<td>1st Musical Aptitude Test ~ Tues 6 October</td>
<td>Wed 30 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Musical Aptitude Test ~ Tues 13 October</td>
<td>Sat 31 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Banding Test ~ Sat 28 November</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Michael’s Catholic Grammar School</td>
<td>Fri 11 September</td>
<td>Tues 7 July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Selection Tests

### Schools in neighbouring local authorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Test Dates</th>
<th>Deadline for Test Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Dame Alice Owen’s (Herts)                | Entrance Exam (Part 1) ~ Tues 1 Sept  
Musical Aptitude 1st Round ~ Wed 2 Sept  
Entrance Exam (Part 2) Sat 5 Sept  
Musical Aptitude 2nd Round ~ Mon 14 – Fri 18 Sept | Fri 12 June                     |
| The Latymer School (Enfield)             | Sat 12 September                                                                                                                                                                                         | Mon 6 July                      |
| South West Herts Consortium              | **Academics Tests will be on 18th and 22nd September 2015**                                                                                                                                              | Register now .                 |

**Note:** Mill Hill County High School and Dame Alice Owen’s both have secondary transfer tests on Saturday 5 September 2015.

To enable children to take both tests the schools will arrange for the DAO test to take place in the morning and the MHCH test in the afternoon.
How do I apply?

- When is the closing date for application form?
  - 31 October 2015
  - the online system will close at 12 midnight on 31 October
What happens next?

- Co-ordinated admissions
  - the transfer process is co-ordinated by all 33 London boroughs
  - application lists are exchanged
  - offer lists are drawn up
  - offer lists are exchanged
What happens next?

- **How will places be allocated?**
  - **if the school is over-subscribed,** the admissions criteria will be applied to decide who can be offered a place
  - **each application is considered as if it is equally preferred**
  - **your ranking order is not passed to the individual schools**
Offers

- Will I be offered more than one school place?
  - if your child can be offered more than one school, you will be offered the highest rank possible
  - the lower preferences will be withdrawn and offered to other children
  - no child will be offered more than one school
Offers

When will I hear?

- National Offer Day is Tuesday 1 March 2016
- Online applicants can log in and see the result in the evening of 1 March
- Letters will be sent on 1 March to applicants who are not offered their first preference explaining what to do next
Accepting offers

- places to be accepted by 15 March 2016
- online applicants can accept or reject their offer online
- other applicants need to return the reply slip
No Offer?

What happens if I don’t get any of my preference schools?

- your child will be allocated a place at the nearest school with a vacancy
- remain on the waiting lists
- appeal for a place
- join waiting lists for other schools
Appeals

- Every parent has the right of appeal

- Appeals are heard by an independent panel

- You will have the opportunity to present your case in person

- You will need to convince the panel that your child’s needs are more important than the school’s need to limit the admission number

- Appeals are not usually successful unless there are exceptional grounds
Transfer to Secondary School 2016

Questions?