

School Appeals Timetable 2021 - compliant with the emergency temporary legislation issued on 24 April 2020 (Updated 1 February 2021) in response to the situation with Covid-19.

The Government has recognised it may not be possible or appropriate for Admission Authorities, Schools and Local Authorities, Admission Appeal Clerks and Panel members to comply with all the requirements of the School Admission and Appeals Code and the School Admission (Appeals Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 during the current coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak.

The Government has therefore made emergency Regulations which temporarily amend the 2012 Regulations to give Admission Authorities, Local Authorities and Appeal Panels some additional flexibility when dealing with appeals during the outbreak and ensures that appeal timetables work in the light of school closures.

The 2020 (temporary) Regulations came into force on 24 April 2020 and were to remain effective until 31 January 2021. New Regulations which extend the provisions detailed in the guidance to 30 September 2021 have now come into force.

The temporary legislation requires a deadline date to be set, giving at least 28 calendar days' notice, for when appeals need to be lodged. The previous timetable set in accordance with paragraphs 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.7 and 2.24 of the Appeals Code should be temporarily disregarded.

Timetable for applications within the normal admissions round for September 2021 and any other appeals arising

	First /Primary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
Closing Date for Applications	15 January 2021	15 January 2021	31 October 2020
School Offer Notification Date	16 April 2021	16 April 2021	1 March 2021
Appeals receipt deadline 28 calendar days from the school offer notification date in which to appeal	14 May 2021	14 May 2021	29 March 2021
Appeals held deadline	As soon as reasonably practicable	As soon as reasonably practicable	As soon as reasonably practicable

These deadlines apply to all Worcestershire Schools. For the process on how to appeal; dependent on what type of school you wish to appeal for; please refer to the [Local Authority Admissions Team](#).

All appeals will be heard as soon as is reasonably practicable and before the start of the September term wherever possible. It is likely that appeals will continue to be decided throughout August.

Any appeals submitted after the relevant deadline will be heard as soon as possible.

In the case of in-year applications, appeals will be heard as soon as reasonably practicable.

Appellants will be given at least 14 calendar days written notice of an appeal hearing (although an appellant may waive their right to this in writing). Appeal papers will be distributed to all parties approximately 7 days before the appeal hearing. Decision letters will be sent within 7 calendar days of the hearing wherever possible.