

Glossary

Academy

Academies are publicly-funded schools which operate outside of local authority control. Academies participate in admissions schemes within a local authority.

ACE

This is an independent registered charity, which offers information about state education in England and Wales for parents of school age children. They offer free telephone advice on many subjects like exclusion from school, bullying, special educational needs and school admission appeals. They publish a number of booklets for parents.

All-through school

This is single school which admits children to both primary and secondary year groups.

Community schools

State schools in England and Wales which are wholly owned and maintained by the Local Authority. The LA is the admitting authority so it has main responsibility for deciding arrangements for admitting pupils.

Designated area

The geographical area served by a school. Children living in a school's designated area will have a higher priority for a place.

LA

A local authority, such as Devon County Council.

Children in Care

Children who are looked after by or provided with accommodation by Devon County Council or any other local authority.

Oversubscription criteria

The criteria we use to put applications in order of priority to decide who should be offered a place if there are more applications than places available.

PAN

Planned Admission Number. The number of children to be admitted to a school in Reception.

Preference

An preference for a school expressed on a Common Application Form.

School number

A unique four digit number which parents can use to make online application easier.

SEN

Special Educational Needs.

Voluntary Aided School

These schools have a religious ethos in keeping with the Roman Catholic Church or the Church of England. These schools generally serve a defined area based on parish boundaries and the governing body is responsible for admission and appeal arrangements. These schools usually give priority to children of their faith.

Voluntary Controlled School

Schools in England and Wales which are maintained by the local authority with a Foundation (generally religious) which appoints some – but not most – of the governing body. The LA is the admitting authority.