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Dear parent/carer

Important Update: Applying to Secondary School

As a parent or carer with a child in year 6, you must submit your application for their secondary school place by the deadline of 31 October. If you miss this deadline, you are much less likely to get offered a place at a preferred school because you will be allocated a place after everyone who applied on time.

This deadline applies to all families, even if your child is sitting the 11+ exam. You still need to submit an application for your chosen secondary schools.

Where to start?

For a good introduction to the secondary school application process, watch this handy video from Warwickshire County Council (WCC):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7yVvgN9tAs>

There's a range of useful information on the WCC website to help you to decide on which schools to include on your application. This includes a list of all the Warwickshire schools - <https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/findaschool> - with links to their websites and admission policies as well as a map that shows you the priority areas for each school.

For general guidance on choosing schools to include on your application, visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/deciding-on-a-place-to-learn>. You can learn a lot about each school from their individual websites, but it's always a good idea to go and visit them in person too. That way you can meet the staff and get a better understanding of whether it would be the right place for your child.

Ready to apply?

Once you are ready to apply, the most important thing you can do is to make realistic choices of the schools you choose. Whilst you don't have to use all your six possible preferences on your application form, WCC strongly recommend that you include at least three schools to maximise your chances of getting an offer for one of your preferences. Those families that only apply to one school are the most likely to be disappointed on National Offer Day (1 March) with an offer of a school place that they didn't choose.

Please visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-secondary-school-place> for more guidance on how to submit your application by the 31 October deadline.

If you need more help...

For the majority of families, applying to secondary school is fairly straightforward. However, if you need additional help for any reason, you can request this by filling out a short online form at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolplacehelp. Once you've done that, one of the WCC team will get in touch with you.

