



Choosing a School

Deciding which school you would prefer your child to attend is an important decision and if your child has special educational needs (SEN) there are extra things you will need to consider.

All schools will be able to give you:

- A school prospectus
- The most recent Governors annual report to parents
- Their SEN policy
- Other policies such as their behaviour or bullying policy
- Their home-school agreement
- The Ofsted Inspectors' report on the school.

Reading through the information will give you an idea of what the school is like and help you identify any areas you want to find out more about.

When you visit a school it is important to plan a few questions beforehand. You may need to visit more than one school and visit the school of your choice more than once. You need to think about whether you want to take your child with you on the first visit (you could discuss this with the school). You may also want to take someone with you; they can help in discussing your impressions afterwards. Also, think about speaking to other parents about the school, however, it is important to keep an open mind, you know your child best and what is likely to suit him or her.

Some questions for you to consider include:

- How many pupils would be in my child's class?
- What will the school do to make sure that all staff knows about my child's individual needs?
- How does the school arrange extra support for children who need it?
- How would I be involved in planning for my child's needs and reviewing his/her progress?
- How does the school manage children with challenging behaviour?
- How does the school deal with bullying?

The LEA have an admissions department and can be contacted on 823455 or 823461 for information about school places.

Children with Statements

If your child has a statement of special educational needs, then advance planning is essential. You will need to start looking at the next school you want your child to attend, when your child is in Year 3 in Primary School and Year 7 in Middle school. Contact the LEA's SEN department on 823412 who will be able to give you further information.

**If you need further information, please contact Parent Partnerships at 11 Orchard Street, Newport
Isle of Wight, PO30 1JZ.**

Tel/Fax: 01983 825548. E-mail: parentpartnership@iow.gov.uk