Appealing for a place for Reception Intake 2026.

National offer day (when you get your school offer) is 16 April 2026.

Appeals closing date is 26th May 2026.

Mini admission round starts (when we consider changes parents have made to their applications since the closing date) on 20 May 2026.
Appeals hearings take place - June/July 2026.

General information on how to appeal for reception class places

You can appeal for a reception class place if:
You applied for admission to reception for the 2026-27 school year, and
Your child was not offered a place at one of your preferred schools on national offer day (16 April 2026)

Before you appeal

You should read advice about school admission appeals for parents and guardians on GOV.UK.
You may also want to read:
A guide for parents appealing for a place at a school or academy which is its own admissions authority (PDF, 187 KB)

Infant class size appeals

There is a legal limit for infant class sizes. Classes in reception, year 1, and year 2 can have a maximum of 30 children per teacher.
Your right to appeal for a reception class place is limited if you're appealing for a place in an infant class that already has 30 children. There has been one successful infant class size appeal in Norfolk in the last five years.
You should read A guide for parents appealing for a place in an infant class (PDF, 405 KB).

How to appeal

How you appeal depends on the type of school you applied to. If you're not sure what type of school you applied to, you can use Norfolk SchoolFinder to check.

Tell us you intend to appeal

You need to give notice that you intend to appeal for a reception class place by 12 May 2025.
Contact the admissions team using our general enquiry form and tell us you want to appeal. Make sure you tell us:

Your child's name and date of birth
Which school(s) you want to appeal for

If you're appealing for a place at an academy, free school, voluntary aided, or foundation school, the Admissions Team will send your request to the school: St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School office will send you an appeal form.
Submit your appeal form
You need to complete and return the appeal form by 26 May 2026.

Make sure you explain why you're appealing for a place at the school and include any supporting information.
If you're appealing for a place at an academy, free school, voluntary aided, or foundation school, return the completed form to us at St Francis of Assisi Catholic School, For the attention of: **Mrs Furness, Assistant Headteacher, St Francis of Assisi Catholic School, Jessop Road, Norwich NR2 3QB**

Prepare for the appeal hearing

You will be invited to an appeal hearing in June or July 2026.. The County Council will conduct the hearing:
By video call using Microsoft Teams,
By phone, or
Using written submissions

Norfolk County Council will tell you how and when your appeal will be heard at least 10 school days before the hearing takes place.