

In-Year Appeals – Frequently asked questions and statistics

Before you can make an appeal, you must first have applied for a place. Applications are made directly with the local authority. Once the application has been processed, you will receive a letter from the local authority advising you of the outcome.

If you are refused a place and are dissatisfied with the admission decision, you have the right to make a representation to an independent appeals panel. You may find the following information helpful when considering whether to make an appeal.

Should I appeal?

Where a place has been refused, this is because the academy believes that the admission of another child would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

The role of the panel is to consider the reasons that an academy gives for why the child cannot be admitted and weigh them up against the parent's / carer's reasons for wanting a place at an academy. The panel also consider the information given on the application form, if an academy's admission arrangements complied with the mandatory requirements of the School Admissions Code, and whether those arrangements were correctly and impartially applied to the application.

Because any upheld appeal will result in an additional child being admitted, which could have health and safety implications and / or a harmful effect on the teaching and learning of all or some of the pupils at the academy, only those appeals with strong reasons are likely to be upheld. Appeals solely on the grounds of convenience of location are less likely to be upheld.

The figures below and on the next page show the number of appeals received for the last three years, both for entry at the start of Reception and for in-year appeals, and how many were upheld and rejected.

What should I put in my appeal?

It is important to put ALL your reasons for wanting a place on the appeal form. It is your responsibility to provide any supporting documentation, for example, letters from a hospital consultant / paediatrician or social services to support those reasons.

If you cannot submit all your documents when you submit the appeal, you can provide additional documents up to the deadline, which is five days before the hearing. If you provide additional documents after the deadline or on the day of your appeal, the panel may be unable to consider them, or they may defer your appeal to another date. The panel cannot consider documents submitted after the hearing has taken place.

If my appeal is refused, can I appeal again?

If you are unsuccessful in your appeal, a second appeal will only be considered for the same academic year if there has been a significant change in your circumstances because of which a new application has been accepted.

Key:

Lodged = number of appeals made

Upheld = appeals where the panel decided in favour of the parent and the child was given a place

Rejected = appeals where the panel decided in favour of the Academy and the child was not given a place

		2026 Year 7 entry	2025 Year 7 entry	2024 Year 7 entry	In-year 2025-2026	In-year 2024-2025	In-year 2023-2024
Dixons Allerton Academy	Lodged	5	3	13	18	12	10
	Upheld	0	0	2	2	1	3
	Rejected	5	3	11	16	11	7
Dixons City Academy	Lodged	67	79	96	13	26	44
	Upheld	4	4	2	1	0	4
	Rejected	63	75	94	12	0	40
Dixons Kings Academy	Lodged	77	101	101	16	16	45
	Upheld	4	3	4	2	2	3
	Rejected	73	98	97	14	14	42

Dixons McMillan Academy	Lodged	31	47	78	8	23	40
	Upheld	1	1	0	0	1	0
	Rejected	30	46	78	8	22	0
Dixons Trinity Academy	Lodged	38	43	79	12	21	44
	Upheld	1	0	0	2	0	2
	Rejected	37	43	79	10	21	42

