As professionals working with young children and their families, we want to support all children to make the best start to their school life. This starts by you selecting the schools you would most like your child to attend and then applying for a school place for your child.

**Applying for a school place**

If your child’s date of birth is between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 it is now time to apply for their school place. The deadline to apply for a school place for a child starting primary school in September 2021 is **15 January 2021**.

[Apply for a school place](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions) (West Sussex County Council)

For more information about applying for a school place, see the leaflet [Starting school](http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/early_years_and_childcare/cot/startingschool2021.pdf) (PDF) and the [Application checklist](http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/early_years_and_childcare/cot/checklist_schoolplace21.docx) (Word).

**The School Readiness Questionnaire**

The School Readiness Questionnaire is designed for you to consider any concerns you have about your child starting school so that support can be provided to you to address your anxieties.

The information you provide in this questionnaire will be shared with us (as your child’s early years setting), West Sussex County Council’s Early Help Service, and the Healthy Child Programme Team. You may be contacted by someone from one of these teams to talk to you and support you with any issues identified in your responses. We recommend that you speak to your child’s school, once you have been offered a place, regarding any long term health conditions, or any other concerns you have about your child starting school, so that they can plan ahead to meet your child’s needs.

Complete the [School Readiness Questionnaire](https://westsussex-self.achieveservice.com/service/School_readiness_questionnaire) (West Sussex County Council).

When completing the questionnaire, please select the option that indicates your child is attending a West Sussex setting to ensure that we can see your responses, and then give our setting details when prompted:

* Our setting name: <enter your setting’s name here>
* Our setting address: <enter your setting address here>
* Our setting postcode: <enter your setting postcode here>

**Please note**: The School Readiness Questionnaire is **not** linked to the school application process. You will also need to apply for a school place before the deadline to enable your preferences for your child’s school to be considered.

This questionnaire is part of the West Sussex ‘School Readiness Integrated Review’. For more information, please visit the West Sussex County Council [website](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/integratedreview).

If you have any questions, please speak to a member of staff. We look forward to working with you over this year to support you and your child to be ready for school.

Thank you.