



PARENTAL PREFERENCE

Under the co-ordinated admissions process, parents are asked to indicate their order of preference for the schools to which they are applying. The scheme works on the basis that only one offer of a place will be made and that it will be made for the school that is highest on the parents' list on the Common Application Form and which can offer a place under its admission policy.

Schools do not know how parents list their preferences. They simply list all applicants in the order in which offers can be made. The Local Authority, as administrator of the process, then looks at the schools' lists, matches them against parental preferences and makes offers that, as far as possible, give parents their highest-ranked choice.

Thus, parents who show JFS as their first choice and who can be offered a place in accordance with the JFS criteria will get an offer. Those who show JFS as their second or lower preference will only get an offer if no offer can be made to one of the higher-ranked schools. There is no advantage to be gained by tactical preferences. Parents should list their chosen schools in the genuine order of preference. In that way, they stand the best chance of getting the school that they prefer.

Parents who do not get an offer of a place at JFS in the first round may still get one at a later stage. Not everyone accepts the place that is offered and as places become available, further offers will be made. That means that even if parents initially accept a place at another school, they may still get an offer from JFS if JFS was a higher preference on the Common Application Form.