



Welcome to school

Pack for parents



HILLINGDON
LONDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk


Welcoming you and your children to school in the UK


People in the UK and in the London Borough of Hillingdon are eager to give you and your children a warm and heartfelt welcome, supporting you to feel safe and settled as quickly as possible. If you have any concerns or questions, please get in touch with us and we will do everything we can to help. Arrangements can be made to speak to a Ukrainian-speaking or a Russian-speaking member of staff.


 ukraine@hillington.gov.uk

 01895 556018 (Monday to Friday, between 9am and 4pm)

Applying for a school place for your child(ren)

Please visit  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/8496/Schools-placements-and-admissions to get relevant detailed admissions information for parents/carers on starting primary or secondary school, in-year admissions, transfers and appeals.


You should use this link to submit a school admission query form to apply for a school place  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/11165/Schools-query-form.


If you need further help or guidance on the admissions procedure, please reach out to the Hillingdon Council Admissions Team via email at  admissions@hillington.gov.uk.

Young people post-16 and adults


Please contact the following providers who can offer advice and guidance, and signposting to relevant education courses, apprenticeships and employment for young people post-16 and adults:

Harrow, Richmond, and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC) are one of the largest further education colleges in England. Today, HRUC is delivering the very best for its ambitious learners. They do this by offering high quality courses, apprenticeships and programmes for young people, enabling them to make extraordinary progress towards their own personal goals.

Their **ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses** provide students with essential English skills and are suitable for those who have come to live in the UK permanently. They offer courses to both adults and 16 to 18s (free), from Entry 1 to Level 2. For further information visit  www.hruc.ac.uk.

Learn Hillingdon provides information, advice, careers guidance and a range of learning programmes at  www.hillingdon.gov.uk/adultlearning.

They offer part-time day, evening, and weekend adult education courses for adults over 19-years-old. Courses are delivered out in the community and at the adult education centres.

If you would like a member of staff to contact you to discuss your choice before enrolling, please complete the online enquiry form  moodle.hae-acl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=4933

Post-16 Partnership Team


The Post-16 Partnership Team, in collaboration with our partners, leads on supporting young people to participate in education, employment or training.


Their role is to encourage, enable, assist and support our young people aged 16 to 19, or up to age 25 for whom an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) is maintained or are care leavers, that are at risk of not progressing to further education, employment or training to secure a suitable destination.

Young people will be made aware of all pathways available namely:

- entry requirements for each pathway and course, ensuring that young people apply for the correct skill level that will enable them to progress at every opportunity
- closing dates discussed at the outset, ensuring that young people are given enough time to present their application in the best possible way
- all information relating to the pathways and destinations

offered at post-16, housed in a brochure that is shared at the commencement of each academic year.

Information will be shared through the local authority's LEAP portal which can be accessed through  leap.hillingdon.gov.uk.

Contact  post16eet@hillington.gov.uk to request support.

Hillingdon Council's Ukrainian Team


The team offers support and guidance to displaced Ukrainian children who have faced significant challenges in their young lives.

The Ukrainian Team is driven by a mission to create a safe and nurturing environment for displaced Ukrainian children.

We conduct comprehensive needs assessments for each child, taking into account factors such as language proficiency, trauma, disrupted education, and any specific needs or disabilities.

For any inquiries, concerns, or immediate assistance related to the Ukrainian children and their families, please contact Luliia Tsekhotska-Koc:

 itsekhotska-koc@hillington.gov.uk

 07591 337712


Job Centre Plus


If you're 18 or over, a new benefit claimant, in receipt of benefits and/or would like employment support and/or training, a Job Centre Plus (JCP) adviser may be able to help.


On registration, the resident will be:


- screened against the vacancies that we currently have available
- provided with assistance with the process of applying for jobs, including CV preparation and interview skills
- referred to further training or additional support via the partner network as appropriate.

To access the service, please contact the main offices:

 **Hayes JCP** Adam House, 818-820 Uxbridge Road, Hayes, UB4 0RS

 0800 169 0190

 **Uxbridge JCP** The Pavilions Shopping Centre, Units 22-26 Market Square, Uxbridge, UB8 1LH

 0800 169 0190

Helping your child prepare for school

You and your child will be invited in for an initial discussion and introduction to the school. You can expect to find out everything essential you need to know before your child starts at the school. You can also check all the information on the school website prior to your visit.

You will find out about the school's values, behaviour and learning expectations, support available for special educational needs and pastoral care, uniform requirements, PE kit, after school clubs and anything else you need to know. Take any questions you have along to this meeting.

Please use the relevant welcome pack for primary-aged children and secondary-aged children to help your child prepare for starting their new school. This includes checklists about what equipment your child will need as well as information about on how they will be supported once they start school, including with learning English as quickly as possible. All schools will have a 'virtual learning environment' where homework, learning materials and assignments are posted for learners and schools will also use email and texting systems for communicating information, daily, if necessary, with parents.

In the UK, new children are encouraged to talk to their teacher (primary) or tutor (secondary) and to their friends about how they are feeling and what they need to help them settle in and feel comfortable. As in Ukraine, parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's school and education and to ask any questions about

things they don't understand. The school will help with translating questions if it is difficult to ask in English. Schools will have a parent/teacher association (PTA) where parents are involved in helping the school raise funds, run events, support new parents. In addition, the PTA usually provides second-hand uniform for all pupils, offering good quality, freshly laundered school clothing at greatly reduced prices. Most parents take advantage of this offer to save on the cost of brand-new uniform. So, it is a good idea to find out who the lead contact person is for the PTA at your child's school and the person organising the school uniform service.

Schools will usually have one or two parents' evenings per year where you can meet with teachers to find out about your child's attainment and progress. However, you are encouraged to contact the school at any time across the school year to discuss any questions, requests or concerns you may have.

About the UK education system

Children must attend school between the ages of 5 and 16 by law, many children start nursery and Reception (Early Years Foundation Stage) before this.

Many young people stay in school or college until they are 18. This is called the Participation Age and means they must be in some form of education, employment, or training such as internships, voluntary work, apprenticeships or traineeships.

Ages and stages

Nursery and reception: 2 to 5 years

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- End of key stage assessment: Teacher assessment using EYFS Profile

Primary School: 5 to 11 years

- 5 to 7 years, 'Key stage 1' Years 1 and 2
- End of key stage assessment: Teacher assessment using school's assessment framework; tests may also be used

- 7 to 11 years, 'Key stage 2' Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
- End of key stage assessment: Both teacher assessment using school's assessment framework and national tests (SATs) with a final score. This final score is important as it is used to work out what they should get five years later at GCSE. This is called their GCSE predicted score.

Secondary School 11 to 16 years

- 11 to 14 years, 'Key stage 3' Years 7, 8 and 9
- End of key stage assessment Teacher assessment using school's assessment framework. Every time you are given a new assessment, you can compare it with their predicted GCSE score. Even more important is the Progress Score because this shows you if your child is making progress according to potential. If your child is making less progress than they should be, then you need to ask what extra support they are being given.
- 14 to 16 years, 'Key stage 4' Years 10 and 11
- End of key stage assessment and qualifications: GCSE grades 1 to 9, non-GCSE subjects (such as construction, health and social care, travel and tourism). Eight of these scores are added together and then divided to provide a number that can be compared with their Key Stage 2 SATs predicted GCSE score to see if they have made enough progress during Key Stages 3 and 4.

Post-16: Key Stage 5

- 6th form (school), college, training or employment aged 16 to 19 years, Years 12, 13 and 14
- End of key stage assessment and qualifications: A Level, AS Level, GCSE, BTEC, NVQ, Functional Skills, ASDAN and AQA Awards, Entry and Pre-Entry Level Awards, Apprenticeships, Traineeships

School – main similarities and differences

In Ukraine	In the UK
Parents involved in their children's education.	Parents involved in their children's education.
Children start primary school aged 6 or 7 years; the children of this age will start learning to read and write.	Children start primary school aged 4 or 5 years, when they start learning phonetics for reading and how to write.
Talk-chalk method: children mainly listen to the teacher, work on their own, memorise facts and learn theory rather than doing practical experiments (such as in science).	Collaborative learning is important so pupils will, at times, work in groups or pairs well as listening to the teacher talking. There is less emphasis on memorising. Creativity and critical thinking/ speaking is encouraged, with children asked to work out their views and explore a range of information and ideas. Ask your school for the subject syllabus.
Schools have online virtual learning environments to support home study.	Schools have online virtual learning environments to support home study.
No school uniform.	School uniform for primary and secondary and 'dress code' for 6th formers.
In primary, children have the same teacher throughout. In middle/secondary, pupils have different teachers for different subjects.	In primary, children will usually have a different teacher each year. In secondary, the system is the same as in Ukraine, with different teachers for different subjects.

<p>Class size is around 30 pupils but only one adult (the teacher) and little assessment of special educational needs.</p>	<p>Class size is similar, around 30 pupils but often a teaching assistant (TA) in the classroom alongside the teacher to help pupils learn. Sometimes a TA or specialist teacher will work with a small group of pupils on a particular subject like reading, Maths or learning English grammar.</p>
<p>Students must put their hand up if they had a question and only talk in class when asked a question.</p>	<p>Teachers will ask pupils for their ideas – children are encouraged to express ideas and participate in group work. Children may be asked to contribute at any point in a lesson.</p>
<p>In Ukrainian schools there is less ethnic, cultural, religious and language diversity – most pupils speak the same languages as each other at school and home.</p>	<p>There may be many different languages spoken by pupils in English schools and pupils may come from lots of different backgrounds, cultures, and countries – schools and colleges promote respect and value diversity, students who speak more than one language are admired and pupils are encouraged to appreciate and learn from each other.</p>
<p>There are four ‘semesters’ in Ukrainian schools with a three month summer ‘vacation’.</p>	<p>In the UK, there are three ‘terms’, each with a week ‘half term’, two weeks ‘holiday’ at Easter and Christmas and six weeks’ holiday in the summer.</p>

<p>Lessons are 45 minutes, there are six to seven lessons a day with five to ten-minute breaks in between.</p>	<p>Morning lessons until breaktime, after break lessons until lunchtime and then finish in the afternoon. During breaks you can get fresh air and exercise in the playground.</p>
<p>In Ukraine PE is about individual physical challenges and tests.</p>	<p>In the UK there are more team sports.</p>
<p>In Ukraine, children are set two to five hours of homework per night.</p>	<p>In the UK, children are given homework, for around one to two hours' maximum per night. In secondary school; check expectations with the school.</p>

