

COME AND SPEAK WITH IAN HODGES CHOICE ADVISER

To book an appointment with your
Choice Adviser, please contact:

Ian Hodges

Choice Advice Service
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CHOICE ADVICE SERVICE

ADVICE AND INFORMATION ON
HOW TO CHOOSE A SECONDARY
SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD

ADVICE HELPLINE 020 8820 7510



Hackney Technology & Learning Centre
1 Reading Lane
London E8 1GQ

Public enquiries
T. 020 8820 7000

www.learningtrust.co.uk

Supplying education services to the London Borough of Hackney.

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WHAT IS THE CHOICE ADVICE SERVICE?

Choosing a school for your child(ren) is an important decision. That is why getting the best advice is important. The Choice Advice Service provides parents and carers with impartial advice, support, help and information for children starting secondary school in year 7.

Preparing yourself when your child is in year 5 for the transfer to secondary school will give you that extra time to think over all your options and prepare your child for the change. The Choice Adviser can also explain the admission process.

You can arrange to meet the Choice Adviser at your home, primary school or at The Learning Trust's office. Advice is also offered over the telephone or you can email your questions.



The Choice Adviser can offer you impartial advice and support based on available information but cannot make the decision for you or guarantee you a place at a preferred school.

HOW CAN THE CHOICE ADVISER HELP?

- listen to your questions and concerns;
- provide you with information about the schools in your area;
- tell you about the admissions policies for different types of schools;
- explain what will happen when you have decided which schools to apply for;
- tell you what you can do if you don't get the school you want;
- provide advice and support if you decide to appeal for a secondary school place.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

DO:

- start thinking wisely about your child school preferences;
- talk to your child about their feelings and thoughts;
- attend open days / evenings at secondary schools;
- look through each school's prospectus;
- consider also neighbouring boroughs' schools if they are close to where you live;
- look at the admissions policies for each school (do they relate to your child?);
- teach your child the skills needed for independent travel;
- do maximise your preferences.

DON'T:

- leave looking for a school to the last minute;
- miss the closing date for submitting your application;
- dismiss a school as a preference solely on hearsay, instead visit the school and see it for yourself;
- just make unrealistic preferences.

