

Stoke on Trent Choice Advisory Service



Stoke-on-Trent Choice Advisory Service

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Information for Parents & Carers on the Choice Advisory Service



What is a Choice Adviser?

The Stoke-on-Trent Choice Adviser is a service for parents and carers who are applying for a school place for their child/children and who, for whatever reason feel they would benefit from additional support.

- Would you like help to understand the admissions process?
- Are you confused by the paperwork?
- Would you like help to find the information to help you make your preferred choice?
- Do you need help with the secondary admissions appeals process?

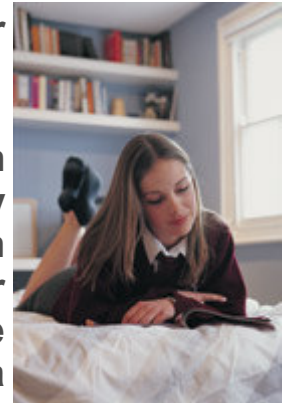
These are just some of the concerns that parents and carers often have. The Choice Adviser can help you with all of these allowing you to feel more confident about making the preferred school choices for your child.



Why have a Choice Advisory Service?

Changing school can be a stressful time for parents and children. That is why the government has introduced the Choice Advisory Service and issued guidelines to Local Authorities (LA) to ensure parents/carers “have the information they need to make Decisions about which school to apply for and receive support in making their application”.

Nationally 6% of parents/carers with children transferring to Secondary School do not return their application forms, and as a result in September each year, there are a considerable number of children who do not have a secondary place.



What can a Choice Advisor help with?

- Listening to parents' wishes and concerns and try to make the process clearer
- Filling in application forms
- Provide free, confidential and impartial advice on preference options
- May be able to help with the Appeals process in the event that the child doesn't getting a place in the preferred school