

Admissions Policy Statement



Starting in Year 7 in September 2027

Parents/Carers of Year 6 pupils will receive a letter and common application form from their primary school in early July 2026. Parents must complete the Rotherham Common Application Form and it should be returned to the Local Authority by **31 October 2026**.

To apply on-line go to <http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/schools>

Please remember that individual schools cannot allocate places. The form that you send to the Local Authority is the key to the process. Without it, your child cannot be placed.

Transition

At Winterhill School, it is planned for Year 6 pupils to have a transition week from Monday 12th July 2027. Transition allows for a more effective transfer between primary learning and secondary learning and supports pupils to settle early with their new peers and teachers – reducing the inevitable anxiety over the summer holiday that comes with moving from Primary to Secondary school. It is very popular with our pupils and parents.

Some Year 6 pupils will also take part in our bridging project. Small groups of pupils visit the school for a morning or afternoon prior to the transition week so that they can get to know key staff in advance of the transition week. This is typically for more vulnerable pupils, but the majority of pupils do attend a session.

Would you like to visit Winterhill School?

There are two ways to visit and you are welcome to use either or both as suits your needs.

The Open Evening – This will be held on an evening in September 2026, and will run from 4:30-6:30, for Year 5 and 6 families to visit. The exact date will be communicated closer to the time. Winterhill staff will be available for you to talk to, and there is the opportunity to meet the Headteacher and other senior staff. The evening is run on an informal basis, but you may wish to time your visit to include the Headteacher's talk in the hall. Please check our website for further details.

The Individual Visit - Would you like to see the school during a normal working day, talk to specific teachers, e.g. SEN, English as an additional language support staff or find out about another key area of interest? Please email admin@winterhill.org.uk to arrange a visit.

Admission Arrangements and Policy

All preferences for Community/Academy/Trust Schools are considered equally in accordance with the Co-ordinated Scheme for Admission to Secondary Schools. Parents/carers are able to name up to three preferences on the Common Application Form.

If you want your child to attend Winterhill School, you must express your wish in writing using the form provided. Applications must be returned to the Local Authority Admissions section by 31 October 2026 for consideration in the initial process. The outcome of this year's admission round (2026) shows that **210 pupils were allocated a place at Winterhill School, with 90 pupils on the waiting list and 20 appeals.** This cannot be taken as a guide to the position for 2026/2027; however, parents/carers may wish to consider this information when expressing a preference.