

**Q: What happens at an induction meeting?**

A: You will be invited with your child. This is a formal meeting to discuss expectations. This is an opportunity to raise any concerns and put support plans in place to ensure the placement has every chance of success.

**Q: Can the parent / pupil withdraw from the process?**

A: Yes, either you as the parent, or your child can withdraw from the process at any time. Please liaise with the representative from your child's current school if this is a consideration.

**Q: What happens if the placement is at risk?**

A: The new school will contact you as the parent and will arrange an emergency review meeting to discuss the concerns. You, your child and a representative from your child's previous school will be invited. Expectations will be re-established and targets set in collaboration with all parties.

**Q: What happens if the placement breaks down?**

A: The decision will be made in collaboration with the previous school at an emergency review meeting. Your child will return to their original school. A reintegration meeting will be

arranged as soon as possible to make sure education is not missed. Your child will return to single registration at their previous school.

**Q: Will I be entitled to free transport?**

A: If you receive certain benefits and the new school is more than 2 miles away from your home, you will be entitled to a free bus pass. If the new school is more than 3 miles away from home, your child will qualify automatically for a free bus pass.

**Q: Will I receive any additional financial support with purchasing school uniform?**

A: Depending on circumstances, you may receive some additional financial support to purchase the new school's uniform. Please speak to the representative at your child's current school.

For more information, please contact:  
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# Fresh Start

## A guide for parents and carers

In Year Fair Access  
Secondary Schools



Derby City Council

## What is a Fresh Start?

A 'Fresh Start' is an early intervention to support a pupil to maintain a school placement and to offer a supported 'Fresh Start' in another mainstream setting.

A 'Fresh Start' should be the best option for a pupil and the current school **must** have provided appropriate support before a 'Fresh Start' is considered.

A 'Fresh Start' **must** not be used as an alternative to a Permanent Exclusion.

A 'Fresh Start' is not appropriate for a pupil who has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), is going through the assessment process or is a Looked After Child (LAC).

The parent and pupil **must** agree to the 'Fresh Start' process which **must** be clearly explained by the current school. The referral form **must** be completed by the current school and signed by the parent, pupil and the headteacher of the current school.

All referrals are presented to a panel of Behaviour Leads from each mainstream secondary school and Local Authority representatives, who meet once every half term.

If the referral is successful, the pupil will start at the new school as soon as possible. The pupil remains on the roll of their current school and is added to the roll of the new school. During this transitional period, the pupil will be dual registered.

Placement reviews will take place regularly until the pupil settles into the new school and both schools agree to end the transitional period. At this point, the pupil becomes single registration at the new school and is removed from the roll of the previous school.

## Step by Step guide

The process is discussed and agreed between the parent, the pupil and the current school

The referral is presented to a panel of Behaviour Leads and Local Authority representatives who meet once every half term during term time

If agreed by the panel, a new school / schools will be offered during the meeting

The current school will arrange a meeting with the parent and the pupil, and a representative from the new school.

At the meeting, the following will be arranged:

- A start date will be agreed
- The review process will be agreed
- Support strategies will be agreed

It can take up to 10 school days for the induction meeting to be arranged and a start date to be provided

If the placement is successful, the pupil will be confirmed on the new school roll following the review period, and the pupil will then be removed from the previous school roll.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: Can I choose a school?

A: Unfortunately no, schools will offer a place to your child at the Behaviour Leads panel meeting. If there are any concerns relating to a particular school or schools, then you, as the parent can voice your concerns to the current school representative and this can be raised at the initial meeting before the referral is presented.

### Q: When will I be informed of the school the panel have chosen?

A: You will be informed as soon as possible after the Behaviour Leads panel meeting by a representative from your child's current school.