



**Updated guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): school admission appeals
Effective 24th April 2020 to 31st January 2021**

The new regulations are as follows;

- Appeal panels will not need to be held in person.
- There will be flexibility for panel hearings to take place either in person, by telephone, video conference or through a paper-based appeal where all parties can make representations in writing.
- The rules are relaxed with regard to what happens if one of the 3 panel members withdraws (temporarily or permanently) to make it permissible for the panel to continue with and conclude the appeal as a panel of 2
- The deadlines relating to appeals for the time that the new regulations are in force are amended.
- Appellants will be given at least **28 calendar days'** written notice of a new appeal deadline.
- and at least **14 calendar days'** written notice of an appeal hearing (although appellants can waive their right to this).
- All deadlines for the hearing of appeals must be as soon as reasonably practicable.
- Clerking duties for admission appeals will not be removed. Clerks carry out a key role in relation to appeal hearings and provide advice on admissions law as well as keeping an accurate record of proceedings. Democratic Services at Bristol City Council can be contacted via: school.appeals@bristol.gov.uk

This guidance is based on

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/admission-appeals-for-school-places/coronavirus-covid-19-school-admission-appeals>