



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

A summary of the new regulations is set out below and is based on

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

- 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