

Support & planning for Yr. 11 age learners who are new to the country

The Post 16 Participation & NEET team

Participation law requires all young people in England to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday *(vast majority of young people continue in some form learning until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18).*

If a young person is not participating, they are classified by the DfE (Department for Education) as

NEET = **N**ot in **E**ducation, **E**mployment or **T**raining

The caseworkers in our team, work with young people to support them with their next step.



What our caseworkers do



*yp = young person

Caseworkers work with young people aged 16 (academic year 12) – 18 and up to 24 if the yp has an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP)

UK Education phases

EYFS*	Primary	Secondary	Further Education	Higher Education
Ages: 0-5	Ages: 5-7	Ages: 11-14	Ages: 16 - 18	Ages: 18+
Academic Year: N -R	Academic Year: 1-2	Academic Year: 7-9	Academic Year: 12 & 13	Academic Year: N/A
KS**: N/A	KS: 1	KS: 3	KS: 5	KS: N/A
	----- Ages: 7-11	----- Ages: 14-16		
	Academic Year: 3 – 6	Academic Year: 10 & 11		
	KS: 2	KS: 4		
<i>*Early Years Foundation Stage</i>				

**A Key Stage (KS) is a block of the National Curriculum

Primary education

Year groups & Key Stages at primary school

Year R (Reception): age 4 – 5

Year 1: age 5 – 6
Year 2: age 6 – 7

Key Stage 1

Key Stage 2

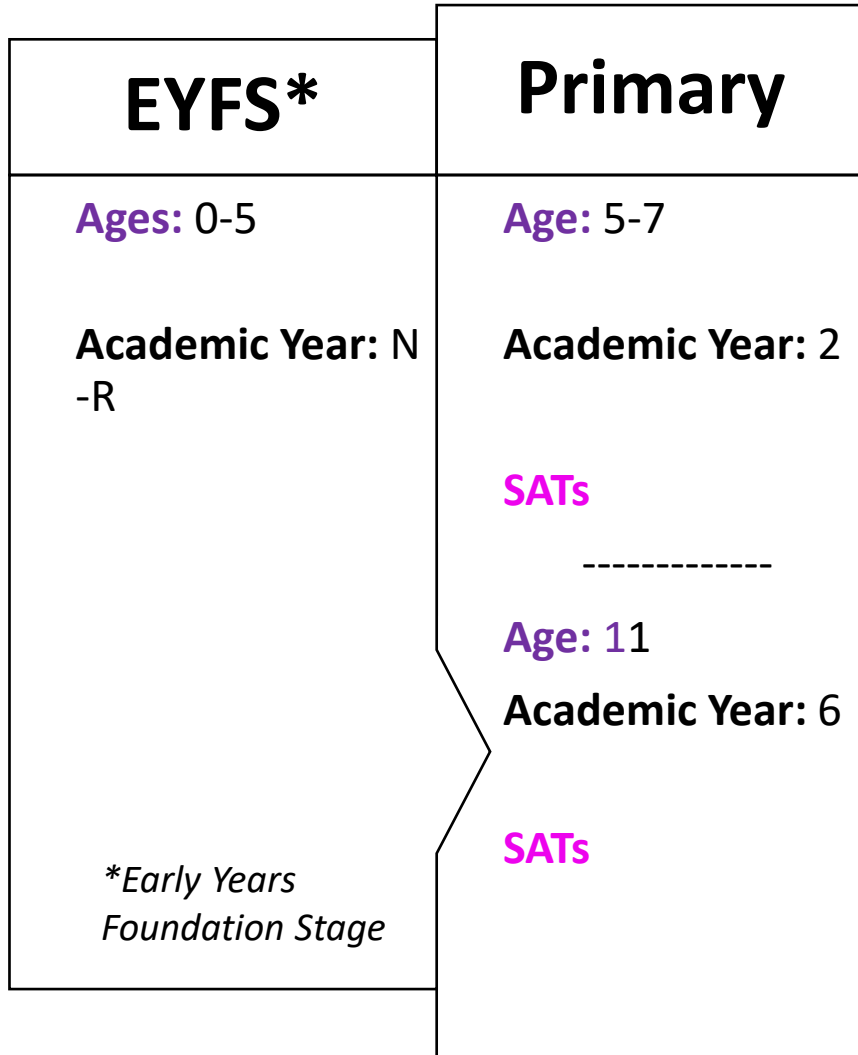
Year 3: age 7 – 8
Year 4: age 8 – 9
Year 5: age 9 – 10
Year 6: age 10 - 11

Admission to primary school

- **When to apply:** a year ahead: *(your child will be 3 or just turned 4)*
- **Applications open:** September
- **Applications close:** 15 January
- **Placements confirmed:** 1 March *(known as National Offer Day)*
- **In-year admissions:** available – apply online
- **More information:** <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/school-admissions>



Exams at primary phase

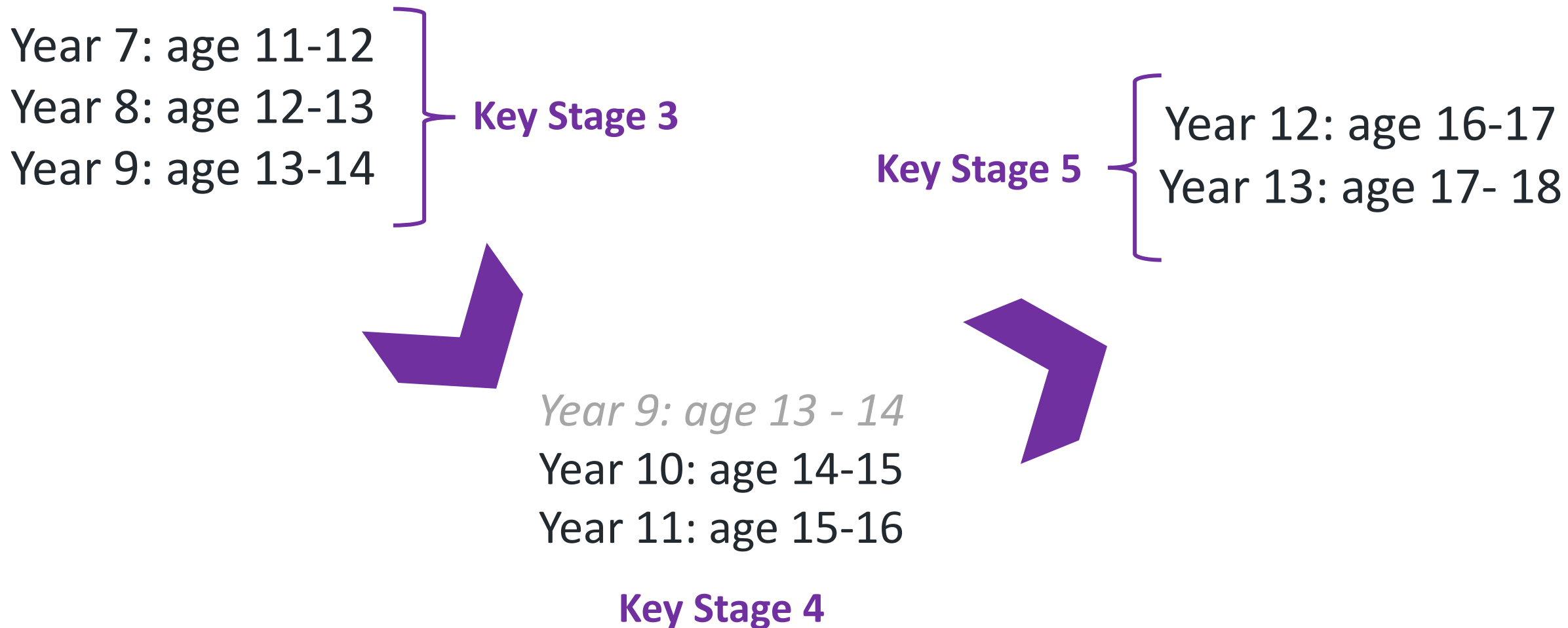


SATs: Standard Assessment Tests

- Assess the progress of a child.
- Exams are in May each year.
 - Usually over a few days.

Secondary education

Year groups at secondary school



Admission to secondary school

- **When to apply:** a year ahead.
- **Applications open:** September.
- **Applications close:** 31 October *(late applications can be made)*
- **Placements confirmed:** 1 March *(known as National Offer Day)*
 - *If you decline an offer, there is a deadline.*
- **In-year admissions:** available – apply online.
- **More information:** <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/school-admissions>



Exams at secondary phase

Secondary	Further Education
<p>Age: 16</p> <p>Academic Year: 11</p> <p>GCSEs*</p> <p>Functional Skills</p> <p><i>*General Certificate of Secondary Education</i></p>	<p>Age: 18</p> <p>Academic Year: 13</p> <p>A-Levels</p> <p>BTEC</p> <p>International Baccalaureate (IB)</p> <p>T-Levels</p>

GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education)

- Students prepare for **GCSEs** in the **last 2 years of secondary school**.
- Students study up to 12 subjects
 - **Compulsory:** English, Maths and 2 or 3 Sciences, a Humanity (History or Geography) and a Modern Language.
 - Students choose the remaining subjects on offer (based on ability and availability).
- Subjects at GCSEs are important for further studies and for Higher Education (university) admission.

Intensive 1 year GCSE programme

- Offered in some (mainly independent / private) schools for Yr. 11 international students. ([Kingston College \[non-fee paying\]](#) also).
- Available for students aged 15+, with the appropriate academic level from their own country.
- Maximum of 6 subjects are studied.

IGCSE

- **International** General Certificate of Secondary Education prepare international students for A-Level and/or International Baccalaureate (IB).
- Students study between 5 & 7 subjects (inc. English, Maths & Science).
- Each school has a list of available subjects for IGCSE students.
 - 43 schools offer IGCSEs in the UK: <https://whichschooladvisor.com/uk/school-curricula/igcse>
- At the end of Year 11, students take exams in each studied subject and receive IGCSE Certificates.



**Further education
(school or college)**

Further Education (aged 16 – 18): types of settings

- **School:** *learners are usually 16 – 18.*
- **6th Form College:** *learners are usually 16 – 19 and up to 24 if they have an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP).*
- **Further Education college:** *for learners age 16+.*
- **Online / fee paying settings***
**please note (further) education is free up to the age of 19.*



Further Education: types of settings (online & fee paying)

- [CloudLearn](#)
- [Kings Interhigh](#)
- [Open Study College](#)
- [Oxford Open Learning](#)
- [Oxbridge Home Learning](#)
- [My Choices at 16+ guide](#) *(see page: Other colleges & 6th Forms)*
- [National Extension College](#)



Some points to note:

- The above are **not** recommendations, **just examples** of providers that have previously been used by Croydon residents.
- Be mindful to research about the quality of assurance of any online provision

Admission to Further Education (FE): school

- **When to apply:** a year ahead
- **Applications open:** September
- **Applications close:** usually January (check specific date with schools)
 - *Late applications accepted at the school's discretion.*
- **Placements confirmed:** **conditional** offers usually in March. **Confirmed** offers after GCSE results day (*usually the third Thursday in August*).
- **In-year admissions:** usually in extenuating circumstances & at the discretion of the school.
- **More information:** check each school website.



Admission to Further Education (FE): college

- **When to apply:** a year ahead.
- **Applications open:** September.
- **Applications close:** no official closing date, but the earlier you apply, the better.
- **Placements confirmed:** anytime after GCSE results day (*usually the third Thursday in August*).
- **In-year admissions:** usually in extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the college. More common for lower-level courses.
- **More information:** check each college website



Vocational vs. academic subjects



Vocational

- ✓ Practical, skill-based learning.
- ✓ Great way to gain experience in a field your child is interested in.
- ✓ Qualify and prepare learner for a career.
- ✓ Available at numerous levels of ability.
- ✓ Assessed (*assignments, tasks or tests*) after each unit.
- ✓ Can lead on to study at a higher level.
- ✓ Examples: Health & Social Care, Hairdressing, **Media**, AAT Accountancy & Business.

Academic

- ✓ Akin to GCSEs, but at a more advanced level.
- ✓ Great way to develop knowledge in a subject.
- ✓ Does not qualify a learner for a specific career.
- ✓ Assessed at the end of the year (*written or spoken exam*).
- ✓ Can lead on to study at a higher level.
- ✓ Examples: History, Politics, Psychology, **Media**.

Advanced level (**A-level**) study

- After Yr. 11, a student can start a 2-year programme which leads to A (Advanced) level examinations.
- Students specialise in 3 or 4 subjects, that are usually relevant to the degree subject they wish to follow at university.
- A-levels are state examinations and are recognised by all UK universities and by institutions worldwide.



International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme

- After Yr. 11, if your child wishes to study more than 3-4 subjects, they can opt to study a broader number of subjects with the IB programme.
- Students typically study 6 subjects; 3 at higher level (HL) and 3 at standard level (SL).
 - The IB programme also includes a compulsory core programme: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Extended Essay (EE) and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS).
- Usually offered by some private / independent schools.
- Each school offers different subjects at different study levels (HL/SL).
- Students take written examinations on each subject at the end of their courses.

Sitting GCSEs or A-levels as a private candidate

- An establishment registers the learner as a candidate and allows them to sit an exam.
- There's usually no teaching involved as a private candidate. You will need to arrange your own tuition (via online learning).
- Not available through state funded schools, so you will need to consider paying fees.
- Below are the ones that we know Croydon residents have previously used. Please note, these are **not** recommendations.
 - [Croydon Metropolitan College](#)
 - [Cambridge Tutors College | CTC](#)

Things to think about if you're coming from overseas

1. If English isn't your 1st language

Your child may need to:

- Sit an assessment of English and Maths
- Provide evidence of certificates/qualifications obtained before coming to England.

2. Right to live, work and study in the UK

- You may also need to provide evidence that you have the right to live, work and study in the UK.
- Most post 16 learning in England is funded by the government, but there are rules about who is eligible for 'free' learning.



For governments: education systems, frameworks, recognition

3. Getting grade equivalents

- You may need to have your child's internal grades appraised against the UK qualification framework.
- Schools and colleges use an organisation called [UK ENIC](#).
- A (costed) service is also available for individuals.

If your child has an additional learning need

- If your child has an additional learning need, education establishments should make reasonable adjustments and offer extra help to support.
- If your child has a diagnosed special educational need and / or disability, they may need an **Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP)**
 - *An EHCP is a legal document that outlines the extra help and adjustments a learner needs in order to thrive in their setting. This is issued only after assessment and involves specific / allocated funding.*
- For more information:
 - Look at the [My Choices at 16+](#) guide.
 - Look at the [Croydon Local Offer](#).
 - Contact the SEN (Special Educational Needs) team:
SENEnquiries@croydon.gov.uk



Higher Education (HE)

Higher Education



- Can study as an undergraduate (*pre-degree*) or a post-graduate.
- If your child has a career in mind, there may be specific subjects that they should study at Further Education (16 – 18) level.
- Foundation level courses are available if your child opts to switch to another subject in the same field.
- There are costs associated with HE.
 - Scholarships and bursaries are however available.
- www.ucas.com (**U**niversities & **C**olleges **A**dmissions **S**ervice)



Admissions

- Information about [admissions to primary and secondary school](#)
- The School Admissions team at Croydon Council: SCHOOL.ADMISSIONS@croydon.gov.uk

Further Education

- School and college websites *(for course and application information)*
- [My Choices at 16+](#) guide
- [The National Career Service](#) *(special mention: Explore Careers tab)*

Higher Education

- [UCAS](#): information about Higher Education: *(special mention: Explore Subjects tab)*

General

- Post 16 team: ☎: 020 8726 7485 // 🖱 Post16@croydon.gov.uk // 💻: <https://youngcroydon.org.uk/education-training-jobs/>