

Hackney Education
Hackney Service Centre
1 Hillman Street
Hackney
London
E8 1DY

4 September 2026

Dear parent/carers

Schools that admit pupils at the beginning of Year 10

You are receiving this letter because it is a legal requirement that all local authorities write to parents and carers of all pupils in Year 9 at the beginning of September to tell them about schools that admit pupils at the beginning of Year 10.

The Government wishes to ensure that parents and carers are well informed about all the options available for children of this age.

This does not mean that you have to move your child to another school – for the great majority of children the school they are already attending will remain the most appropriate place for them to continue their education. So if this is of no interest to you, please disregard this letter.

Schools which admit pupils in Year 10 are called University Technical Colleges (UTCs) or Studio Schools. UTCs are set up by universities and businesses and specialise in one or two technical subjects. In years 10 and 11 they offer a similar GCSE curriculum to a typical secondary school, including English and Maths, as well as their specialist subjects. You can find out more at bakerdearing.org/supporting-utcs/

Studio schools are similar to UTCs in that they have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience. They have a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school.

A list of all schools in the London area which admit pupils into Year 10, together with contact details and how to apply can be viewed at education.hackney.gov.uk/yr10opportunities

Yours faithfully

Terry Bryan
Assistant Director, School Estates Strategy
Hackney Education

