



Kent test Information for Parents

2025/2026

Which School for My Child?



- Academic ability: Kent Test.
- What the school offers - range.
- Distance from home.
- Travel Implications
- Research
- OFSTED Reports
- Religious Preference.
- School Ethos.
- What is offered: Clubs / Activities / Opportunities.
- Visit

Admissions Criteria



There is a ranking of criteria for each school so ensure that you check this for admissions. Some examples of this are:

- Children in care.
- Educational Health and Care Plan.
- Siblings.
- Distance.
- Medical.
- Pupil premium Funding.
- Scholarships.
- Entrance Scores - Kent Test.



The Kent Test

Registration for the Kent Test for children due to start secondary school in September 2025 will open on Monday 2nd June 2025 and will close at midnight on Monday 1st July 2024. They cannot accept late registrations.

The tests are due to take place on Thursday 11th September 2025 for pupils in Kent primary schools, and on the weekend of Saturday 13th & 14th September 2025 for other pupils.

The assessment results will be sent on Thursday 16th October 2025 after 4pm.

[Register here!](#)



Application for Secondary School.

Applications for the secondary school intake of September 2026 will open on **Tuesday 2nd September 2024** and will close on **Thursday 31 October 2024**.

- Name 4 Schools
- If you received a 'G' result, name Grammar Schools (**results 16th October**).
- If you received an 'H' result but intend to appeal against a high school allocation - name the Grammar School you wish to appeal as one of your 4 choices.

We will be happy to support you in the appeal process.

Application to Secondary School.



Kent parents will be able to name up to 4 secondary school preferences - complete all 4 as if you only put 1 or 2 and DON'T get offered a place KCC will allocate based on availability.

PREFERENCES – (Please read the below before completing your preferences)

- You can name up to 4 schools on this form (minimum 1 – maximum 4)
- If you would like to express reasons for any preferences please attach a separate sheet
- Please check if your preferred school requires a Supplementary Information Form (SIF)
- If you are applying under Medical/Social criterion please provide written evidence directly to the school.
- If the child you are applying for has a Sibling attending one of your preferences please fill in Sibling details

PREFERENCE 1

SCHOOL NAME

LA & DFE NUMBER

TOWN/POSTCODE

SIBLING NAME

DOB

GENDER

PREFERENCE 2

SCHOOL NAME

LA & DFE NUMBER

TOWN/POSTCODE

SIBLING NAME

DOB

GENDER

PREFERENCE 3

SCHOOL NAME

LA & DFE NUMBER

TOWN/POSTCODE

SIBLING NAME

DOB

GENDER

PREFERENCE 4

SCHOOL NAME

LA & DFE NUMBER

TOWN/POSTCODE

SIBLING NAME

DOB

GENDER

The Kent Test



The test assesses whether Grammar School is a suitable option for your child.

- Approximately 25% of the Year 6 children in Kent will be selected for Grammar School.
- Approximately 23% of them are selected using the test.
- Approximately 2% are selected from appeals.

The Tests.



The tests are multiple-choice with a separate answer sheet. They are marked by a computer.

The first test will be an English and maths paper and will take 1 hour. Each section will involve a 5 minute practice exercise followed by a 25 minute test. The English section will involve a comprehension exercise as well as some additional questions drawn from a set designed to test literacy skills.

The second test will be a reasoning paper (verbal and non-verbal). It will take about 1 hour, including the practice sections and questions. It will contain a verbal reasoning section and a non-verbal reasoning section of roughly the same length. The non-verbal reasoning will be split into short sections, administered and timed individually.

There will also be a writing exercise which will not be marked but may be used in an appeals panel as part of the headteacher assessment stage of the process. 40 minutes will be allowed for the writing task, including 10 minutes planning time.

[Familiarisation Booklets.](#)

Also a link on the website to some free materials offered by GL Assessment.



Special Consideration

We can request special arrangements in the tests for children whose access to testing is compromised by disability or SEN. **The deadline is 12 July.**

- Special Arrangements are to give children access to testing, not to maximise their test scores.
- Each request is given individual professional consideration – there is no blanket concession.
- The school is notified of the decision once it has been processed, and asked to let parents know.
- The Special Arrangements Panel's decision is not subject to appeal - EVIDENCE

Requests not involving additional time.

Requests involving additional time.

Please liaise with Mr Hadfield.

EAL

Scoring:



3 Separate scores are given - Maths, English, Reasoning. They are all multiple choice and marked by machine with a high degree of accuracy.

- These are age standardised.
- They are also combined for an aggregate.
- **Grammar school threshold 2024.** To be given a grammar school assessment, children needed a total score of 332 or more, with no single score lower than 108 - Test scores range from 69 to 141 for each paper. The highest possible total score is 423.

M - 110 E - 112 R - 118 AG - 340 = G

M - 107 E - 116 R - 110 AG - 333 = H

M - 106 E - 109 R - 110 AG - 325 = H



How the Decision is made.

Schools receive test scores in late September.

Headteacher appeal if necessary:

- Test Scores.
- School work / reports.
- Writing task.
- Headteacher comments.



Results to Families

Parents will be informed (email 4pm / sent a letter) of the decision on Thursday 16th October 2025. They can only send the results to the email address used to register your child.

- The email / letter will indicate suitable for Grammar School (G) or High School (H).
- The scores WILL NOT be given or indications of appeals.
- This information (scores) can be obtained from the school.
- If you wish to make an appeal, you must wait until a school place has been allocated in March.



Parental Appeals for Grammar

School places are allocated in March. If a child did not achieve the threshold scores on the test, they will be allocated a high school (H) place.

- Parents can then lodge an appeal against the allocation of the school place - based on the fact that a Grammar School place is the most suitable for the child.
- School can provide supporting letters and evidence upon request.
- Appeal panels are held in late May / June.



Should my child take the test?

If in doubt, register for your child to take the test - you can withdraw on the day.

Your child's Year 5 teacher will / can advise you as to which type of education your child might be best suited to.

Understand expectations of the Grammar School.

What is the School Doing to Prepare Children for the Test?

Kent schools are not instructed to prepare or coach children for the test.



We do:

English and Maths lessons covering the National curriculum - including differentiated learning opportunities and challenge tasks.

We do not teach the Kent Test.



The Role of the CAT Tests.

- Year 5 pupils have taken the Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs)
- These are for our use to see how pupils are performing.
- They take the form of verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests.
- They are an indication of academic potential.
- They can also be used by parents as a measure as to whether your child might have the capacity to access the Kent Test.



What can you do?

- Encourage children to do their best and take on a challenge every day.

Evidence in their books can be very important.

Effort, quality of work and learning, presentation - all very important (especially for appeals)

Test familiarisation - buy or [KCC Site](#).

Tutoring.

The Whole Process...



- Register for test.
- Tests taken.
- Scores to school
- Headteacher appeals.
- Results to families.
- Apply for secondary schools.
- Secondary school places allocated.
- Parental Appeals can be lodged.
- Appeals heard and outcome sent to families.

Finally...



All schools provide similar opportunities - research.

You don't need to go to grammar school to achieve high academic success.

Many routes lead to the same destination - it is about your child.

Parents decision - talk to your child.

Supportive family who value education!

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Key Dates:



Registration for testing opens:

2nd June 2025

Closing date for registration:

1st July 2025

Test date for pupils in Kent Primary Schools:

11th September 2025

Key contacts



For any advice relating to admissions and the Kent test:

03000 41 21 21

kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk

