

Secondary Transfer Tests 2023

Presentation for Year 5 parents

-
- Registration for the Kent Test for children due to start secondary school in September 2024 will open on Thursday 1st June 2023 and close at midnight on Monday 3rd July 2023.
 - Assessment is done through testing during the Autumn term. This year, the tests are due to take place on Thursday 7th September 2023 for pupils in Kent primary schools. All children taking the test will do so in their classroom.

Things to know

- Children currently in Year 5 who were born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 can take the Kent Test 2023. The test is only valid for Kent grammar schools. Medway Council has its own Medway Test and London Borough of Bexley has its own Bexley selection test.
- Being grammar assessed in the Kent Test does not guarantee your child a place in a Kent grammar school.
- Make sure you know where the Kent grammar schools are, and what the admissions criteria are for the school(s) you are interested in. You can also search for Kent grammar schools in our Kent schools search. All information can be found on www.kent.gov.uk
- Many children will find the test difficult. Grammar schools in Kent provide for children in about the top 25% of the ability range.

If your child has SEND

- If your child has special educational needs or a disability that may affect the way they access the test, you need to discuss this with your current school's special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) – Mrs Carter - as soon as possible. Any proposal for alternative access requirements must be made by the school by 12 July 2023.
- When you register your child for the Kent Test online, you will need to confirm if you have discussed a request for access arrangements with your child's school.

The Kent Test will take place on:

- Thursday 7th September 2023 for children who go to school in Kent
- The weekend of Saturday 9th September 2023 for children who go to school outside Kent.

On the Day

- The tests are multiple-choice with a separate answer sheet. They are marked by an automated marking machine.
- 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. 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 by a local headteacher 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 paper and free papers

- https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/14513/Kent-Test-familiarisation-booklet.pdf
- <https://11plus.gl-assessment.co.uk/free-materials/>
- Please be aware this is a company who would also like you to purchase papers!

Results Day

- If you provided an email address when you registered, your Kent Test result will be emailed to you after 4pm on Wednesday 18th October 2023. They only send this to the email address used to register your child.
- If you did not provide an email address, they will post your child's result to you on results day by first class post. You can ask your child's primary school for their test scores the day after results go out.
- Assessed children who want to pursue a grammar assessment do so by naming one or more grammar schools on their SCAF and appealing for each school to an Independent Appeal Panel from March 2024

What the scores mean

- Your child will get 3 standardised scores, one for English, one for maths and one for reasoning, and a total (aggregate) score. The scores range from 69 – 141, with 100 being an average performance.
- Standardisation is a statistical process which compares your child's performance with the average performance of other children in each test. A slight adjustment is made to take account of each child's age so that the youngest are not at a disadvantage.
- To be given a grammar school assessment last year, children needed a total score of 332 or more, with no single score lower than 108. The highest possible total score was 423. The threshold for the 2023 tests will not be published until the results have been sent out.

Headteacher Assessment Panel

- The assessment decision is based on the test results. However, before you receive your decision, your child's Primary school Headteacher will have the opportunity to refer assessment decisions they disagree with to a panel of local Primary and Secondary school Headteachers, who will consider additional evidence before making a decision. This can include your child's test scores, recent work, the writing task and comments from your child's current school. The panel will look at a full range of work for a child, regardless of which scores may be below the threshold. To allow these referrals to take place, your child's Primary school will be sent your child's score and assessment decision.
- An assessment will only be changed by the Headteacher Assessment Panel if the panel is confident that the child will be well placed in a Grammar school.

Applying for a Grammar School Place

- Applications for the secondary school intake of September 2024 open in September 2023.
- For the normal point of entry to schools, Kent resident parents will be able to apply for their child's school place using a Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) either online at www.kent.gov.uk/ola or via an alternate method available on request. Kent County Council cannot accept multiple applications for the same child: a parent may use either of the above methods, but not both.
- Kent parents will be able to name up to 4 secondary school preferences.
- Applications close on 31st October 2023

If your child is assessed as suitable for grammar school

- Any Kent grammar school you apply for will consider your application, but this does not guarantee your child will be offered a place.
- Grammar schools are often oversubscribed, meaning they receive more applications than there are available places. Schools use their admissions criteria to rank all applicants in priority order, so it's important to read the admissions criteria for schools you are interested in.
- A Kent grammar school can only consider your child for a place if you have named it on your application and your child has been tested and assessed suitable for admission.
- If your child is not offered a place at the school, you will be able to appeal to an independent appeal panel and may be able to join the school's waiting list.
- If you are applying from outside Kent, school admissions are co-ordinated between local authorities. Even if your child qualifies for admission to a grammar school in more than one area, all your preferred schools must be listed on your home local authority's application form, and you will not be offered more than one school place. Independent schools have their own admissions processes.

If your child was not tested or was not assessed as suitable for a Kent grammar school

- You can still apply for a Kent grammar school but your application to that school will be refused.
- You will then have the right to appeal to explain why you think it is a suitable option for your child.

Applying for Secondary Schools

- https://www.kent.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/125456/secondary-admissions-book-2022.pdf
- Go to Kent Online Admissions kent.gov.uk/ola
- A simple, fast and secure way to apply for a Secondary school place in Kent.
- If your child has been assessed as G – you must put a Grammar School at the top of your preferences in order to stand a chance of getting a grammar place. If you were assessed as H but want to appeal, make sure you have your choice of Grammar school on your preference list, but your preferred non Grammar at the top of your preference list. In order to appeal you **MUST** have named the Grammar school on your application form as one of your 4 preferences.

Kent Test Timetable for Entry 2024

- Registration for Kent Test opens Thursday 1 June 2023
- Online Special Arrangements form available (for schools) Thursday 1 June 2023
- Closing date for registration Monday 3 July 2023
- Lists of children registered for testing sent to schools. Wednesday 5 July 2023
- Kent Test date Thursday 7 September 2023
- Results to parents Wednesday 18 October 2023

Any Questions?

- PESE (Procedure for entry to Secondary Education) Officer: Emma Blackwell
- Secondary Admissions Team: Wendy Bryant and Linda Kneller

Kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk

03000416678

- Thank you for coming!