

St. Katherine's School
Creating our future by learning together.



Secondary School Transfer

Parent Information 2023

Objectives



- * Parents receive information regarding secondary admissions (the application process and key dates).
- * Parents are provide with key information for the Kent Selection Tests (11+).
- * Parents are familiar with the types of questions in the 11+ test.



Secondary Admission: Key Dates



- * Registration opens Friday 1st September 2023.
- * Parents apply using a Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) www.kent.gov.uk/ola (if you live in Kent).
- * Those that live outside Kent use their local authority's own SCAF.
- * Completed application must be submitted by Tuesday 31st October 2023.

Secondary Admission Dates



- * **School offers** are emailed to parents on **Friday 1st March 2024 (after 4pm)**
- * By **Friday 15 March 2024**, parents must inform the **school** whether they wish to **accept or refuse the place offered.**
- * **Admission appeals** are held between **April and June** (this can be very late before you know the outcome).

Key Secondary Transfer



- * You need to put down **4 choices** and apply on line at www.kent.gov.uk/ola.
- * It is important you **choose carefully!**
 - * If you choose a school as your first choice **too far away**, you could end up with none of your preferences.
 - * **Do not put one school only**, as this does not automatically mean you will get this school.
 - * Do not put just Grammar schools.

What Should Parents Consider?



- * **Best Interests** of YOUR child. Where is your child going to **thrive**?
- * What school is best going to **meet their needs**?
- * SEND needs - [Choosing a school for a child with a special educational need](#)
- * What school can offer your child a **curriculum and a learning approach** which will fit with them?
- * **School Ethos**
- * **Extra curricular opportunities** - clubs, activities etc
- * **Travel implications** and costs

Do Your Research



- * **Visit the school** - most schools have open days and evenings, for dates and times please check the school's website.
 - * Secondary schools hold open evenings **in/on about October**.
- * **Talk to parents** whose children attend the school.
- * Check the school's **admissions criteria** - this sets out how schools choose which children to offer a school place to.
- * Read the school's **Ofsted reports**
- * Think about what **school transport** is available.
- * Find out how the school can support your child if you are **choosing a school for a child with a special educational need**

What about Grammar Schools?

Places are selective and are decided by the outcomes of a secondary selection test:

- * **Kent Test/11+/ PESE** - All mean the same thing – just depends what era you are from, or which location geographically.
- * **Kent Test** - self explanatory.
- * **11+** - children leaving school 11+ (some parts of Kent still have a 13+ as well).
- * **PESE** – Procedure for Entry to Secondary Education.

Grammar Route – The Kent Test



If you want your child to attend a grammar school you must:

- * **Register** for your child to do the Kent test.
- * You can register online at [KCC Kent Test](#)
- * You can register from **1st June 2023 - 3rd July 2023.**
- * Only children whose parents have registered will be able to sit the tests.

The screenshot shows the Kent County Council website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the council's name and logo, a search bar, and links for 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) - rules, guidance and support' and 'Brexit - check what you need to do'. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Education and children > Schools > School places >'. The main heading is 'Kent Test'. The text below explains that registration for children starting secondary school in September 2021 closed on 1 July 2020, and that those starting in September 2022 can register from 1 June 2021. It also notes that assessment is normally done during the autumn term, but due to the coronavirus pandemic, the page is kept up to date with the latest information. At the bottom, there is a grid of six buttons with dropdown arrows: 'Register', 'Test dates', 'Test paper', 'Results day', 'What your score means', and 'Apply for grammar school'.



Date for the Kent Test

- * The Grammar School test will take place on Thursday 7th September 2023.
- * The published date for results is Wednesday 18th October 2023.



Special Arrangements



- * We can make **applications for access arrangements**, but these are considered and granted on a **case by case basis** (which is very rarely and cannot be guaranteed).
- * If you feel that your child may require specific arrangements to adequately access the test please discuss these with the Class Teacher and **Mrs Loveland (SENCO)**.

Kent Tests



- * The tests are **multiple-choice** with a separate answer sheet. They are marked by an **automated marking machine**.

Verbal Reasoning

In these questions, the same letter must fit into both sets of brackets, to complete the word in front of the brackets and begin the word after the brackets.

1

Example

dis [?] urt

muc [?] ole

A p

B h

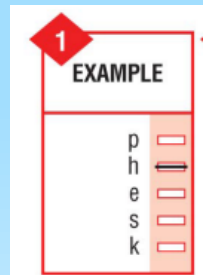
C e

D s

E k

Where do I write my answers?

You will be given a separate answer sheet on which you have to mark the correct answer by drawing a line with your pencil through the small rectangular box beside it, like this ⇐.



Test 1



- * The first test will be an **English and Maths paper**
- * It will take approximately **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**.

English

In this question you have to choose the best word, or group of words, to complete the sentence so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. You should choose one of the five answers and mark its letter on the answer sheet below.

6

Example

The letter was stained and crumpled but in the bright moonlight I could still

almost every word.

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

*The answer is **d** because **read** is the word that makes the best sense in the sentence*

Test 1



Maths

9

Practice

I think of a number.
I then double it.
Next I subtract 6.
The answer is 14.

What was the number I started with?

A 16

B 22

C 4

D 40

E 10

Work out the correct answer and mark it on the answer sheet.

Test 2



- * 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.

In these questions, there are two pairs of words.

Only one of the five possible answers will go equally well with both these pairs.

2

Example

(fall stumble)

(journey outing)

A holiday

B travel

C drop

D trip

E trap

*The answer is **trip**. The word 'trip' can mean losing your balance (**fall/stumble**) and also going somewhere e.g. on a holiday (**journey/outing**). This has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15. Now try the practice question over the page:*

Test 2

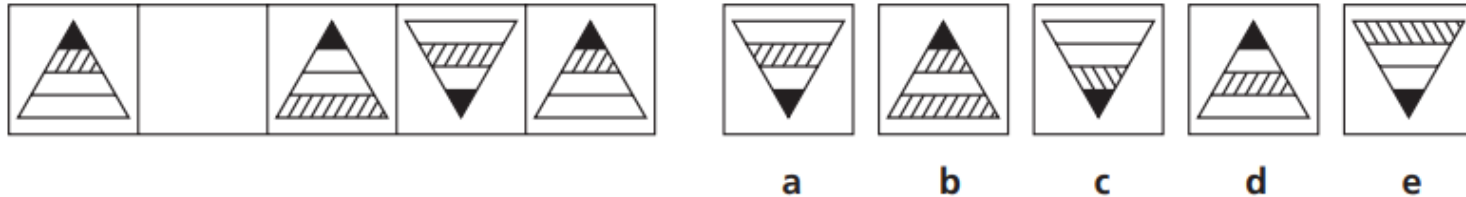


Non-Verbal Reasoning

To the left in the row of shapes below there are five squares arranged in order. One of these squares has been left empty. Find which one of the five squares on the right should **take the place** of the empty square and **mark its letter on your answer sheet**.

4

Example: Complete the series



*The answer is **a**. This series has two rules. Firstly, the triangle flips over to point up, then down, then up etc. Secondly, the striped bar moves down a row each time until it gets to the bottom of the triangle when it moves up again. Therefore the missing shape must be a triangle pointing down with the striped bar two rows down. The answer **a** has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15. Now try the practice question below:*

Practice/ Samples



- The [Kent Test familiarisation booklet \(PDF, 2.6 MB\)](#) gives a description of the different parts of the test and advice on approaching the types of questions asked.
- Papers are not permitted to be kept by schools.
- [GL Assessments](#) produce books you can buy online or at WHSmith's.
- Multiple Choice Papers - [Bond 11+ Books or online](#)



Standardised Scoring



- * Your child will get **3 standardised scores**
- * One for **English**
- * One for **Maths**
- * One for **Reasoning**
- * **And a total (aggregate) score.**

- * 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.

Threshold



Grammar school threshold 2023

- * To be given a grammar school assessment, children needed a total score of **332 or more**.
- * **No single score lower than 108.**
- * Test scores **range from 69 to 141**. The highest possible total score is 423.

Children can of course have a score over the aggregate score, but not scored above the pass mark in all three tests:

e.g. $110+120+107=337$ This child has not gained at least 108 in all tests

e.g. $109+109+109=327$ This child has not gained at least above 332 in all tests

e.g. $110+120+109=339$ This child has gained at least 108 in all tests and scored a total above 332



Passing the test

- * Results emailed/posted after 4pm on 18 October 2023.
- * The test is designed to sort the top 25% of children.
- * Test scores account for usually **20-22% of the passes.**
- * **3-5%** come from Headteacher appeals.

Appealing



If your child does not reach the threshold their primary school can **refer their case to the local Head Teacher Assessment Panel**, with evidence and they can decide your child is suitable for Grammar School.

Please note that the school will only appeal **if...**

- a) There is sufficient evidence to show that their test outcomes on the day do not reflect their normal academic standard/ performance in school.

Evidence:

- Teacher assessments, test results and outcomes in books evidence a greater depth of understanding.

Grammar Route – Other Selective Tests



- * Passing the Kent Test will make you eligible for any Grammar School – apart from those which require a top 5% pass mark.
- * Passing an individual school test only makes you eligible for that school.
- * You can fail the Kent Test and pass a local school test and get in to that school.



Passing the test

- * The email /letter will indicate suitable for high school or grammar school (H or G).
- * Scores will not be given. Indications of appeals will not be given.
- * If parents wish to make a parental appeal, you must wait until a school place has been allocated which is usually in March.



Medway Test

- * You must register your child for the Medway Assessment between **1st June to 30th June 2023**.
- * If you do not register by this date, your child **will not be able** to be considered for the Medway Grammar Schools.
- * You can register on line at [Register for the Medway Test | Medway Test: 11+ | Medway Council](#)



Date for the Medway Test

- * The Medway test will take place on Saturday 16th or Sunday 17th September 2023.
- * The assessment decision will be sent out Tuesday 3rd October 2023.





If my child passes the test?

- * If your child passes the test, it does not guarantee they have a place in a grammar school.
 - * This depends on if the school is oversubscribed.
- * If the school is oversubscribed you will need to see the schools admission criteria.
- * You may also appeal as a parent/guardian.



School's role

- * There is a great deal of misunderstanding of the school's role in the Kent 11+ Test.
- * Primarily we are a venue for the test and nothing more.
- * Our role is not to coach children for the tests. The Kent guidance clearly states that schools who do coach children are at risk of having all of their results annulled.

Key Dates

Key Action	Scheme Date
Registration for Kent Test testing opens	Thursday 1 June 2023
Online Special Arrangements Form available	From 1 June 2023 tbc
Closing date for Kent Test registration	Monday 3 July 2023
Deadline for Special Arrangements requests	Wednesday 12 July 2023 tbc
Application for Secondary Transfer opens	Friday 1 September 2023
Test date for pupils in Kent Primary schools	Thursday 7 September 2023
DGSB/DGSG Entrance Test	Saturday 11th September 2023 tbc
Assessment decision sent to parents	Wednesday 18 October 2023
National closing date for application forms	Tuesday 31 October 2023
National Offer Day: e-mails sent after 4pm and letters sent 1st class	Friday 1 March 2024
Schools send out welcome letters no earlier than	Tuesday 5 March 2024
The date by which places should be accepted or declined to schools.	Friday 15 March 2024
Deadline for lodging appeals	Thursday 28 March 2023



Quick Links

- * www.kent.gov.uk/ola - Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF)
- * [Choose a school for your child with SEND – SEND advice](#)
- * [Kent Test](#) – Kent Test Registration
- * [Kent-Test-familiarisation-booklet.pdf](#) – Sample 11+ questions
- * [List of Grammar Schools in Kent](#)