



St Katherine's School & Nursery

Creating our future by learning together

Secondary School Transfer 2025/26



Objectives



- * Parents receive information regarding secondary admissions (the application process and key dates).
- * Parents are provided 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 on Monday 2nd September 2024.
- * 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 Thursday 31st October 2024.

Secondary Admission Dates



- * **School offers are emailed to parents on Monday 3rd March 2025 (after 4pm)**
- * **By Friday 17th March 2025, parents must inform the school whether they wish to accept or refuse the place offered.**
- * **Admission appeals are held between April and June.**

Key Secondary Transfer Advice



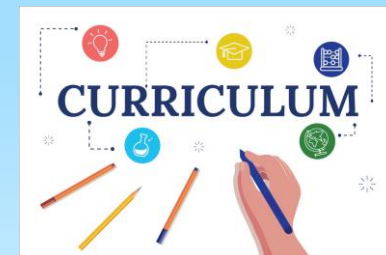
- * You can put down up to **4 choices** and apply on line at www.kent.gov.uk/ola.
- * It is important that you **choose carefully!**
 - * If you choose a school as your first choice that is **too far away**, you could end up with none of your preferences.
 - * **Do not put one school only**, as this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



What Should Parents Consider?



- * Decision based on the 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?



What Should Parents Consider?



- * **School Ethos**

- * *What does it feel like?*
- * *What are its values?*
- * *Is it aspirational?*

- * **Extra curricular opportunities** - clubs, activities etc

- * **Travel implications** and costs

- * What does **your child** think?



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 **around 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 report**
- * 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**.



Lee Downey



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 **3rd June 2024 – 1st July 2024.**
- * Only children whose parents have registered them will be able to sit the tests.

The screenshot shows the Kent County Council website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) - rules, guidance and support' and 'Brexit - check what you need to do'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Education and children > Schools > School places > Kent Test'. The page title is 'Kent Test'. The text on the page states: 'Registration for children due to start secondary school in September 2021 closed at midnight on 1 July 2020.' It then says: 'Those starting secondary school in September 2022 can register for the Kent Test from 1 June 2021.' Below this, it notes: 'Assessment is normally done through testing during the autumn term.' A final paragraph explains: 'Due to the situation with the coronavirus pandemic, we will keep this page up to date with the latest information on any adjustments that may need to be made to the Kent Test. Any reference to 'Kent Test' or 'registration' does not guarantee when or if testing will take place.' At the bottom, there are six interactive buttons: 'Register', 'Test dates', 'Test paper', 'Results day', 'What your score means', and 'Apply for grammar school', each with a dropdown arrow.



Date for the Kent Test

- * The Grammar School Test will take place on Thursday 12th September 2024.
- * The published date for results is Thursday 17th October 2024.



Special Arrangements



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



Kent Test

- * 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

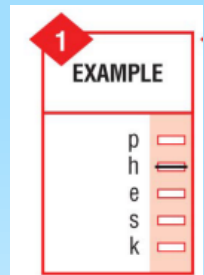
C e

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 **approximately 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

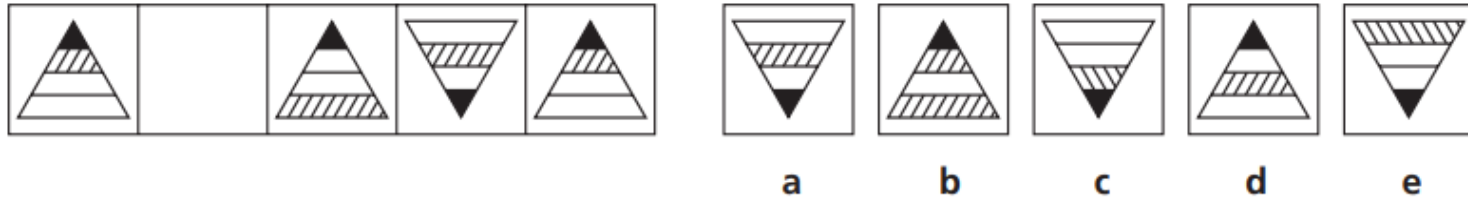


Non-Verbal Reasoning

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 WHSmiths.
- Multiple Choice Papers - [Bond 11+ Books or online](#)



Standardised Scoring



- * Your child will receive **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 disadvantaged.

Threshold



Grammar school threshold 2023

- * To reach the threshold, children needed a total score of **332 or more**.
- * **Children can have no single score lower than 108 from English, Maths or Reasoning.**
- * Test scores **range from 69 to 141**. The highest possible total score is 423.

Children can obtain a score over the aggregate score, but not score 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



Meeting the Threshold

- * Results emailed/posted after 4pm on Thursday 17th October 2024.
- * The test is designed to identify the top 25% of children, based on their test scores.
- * Test scores account for usually **20-22% of the passes.**
- * **3-5%** come from Headteacher appeals.

Appeals



If your child does not reach the threshold, their primary school can **refer their case to the local Head Teacher Assessment Panel** (this requires evidence to support the appeal) 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.
- **The year group are completing CAT tests this week.**

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.
- * A child can fail to pass the Kent Test, but pass a local school test and still 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 **20th May – 14th June 2024 at 5pm.**
- * 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 21st or Sunday 22nd September 2024.
- * The assessment decision will be sent out Wednesday 16th October 2024.





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 whether a school is oversubscribed.
- * If a school is oversubscribed you will need to look at the school's admission criteria.
- * You may also appeal as a parent/guardian.



The 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.	Monday 3 rd June 2024
Online Special Arrangements Form available.	From 3 rd June 2024
Closing date for Kent Test registration.	Monday 1 st July 2024
Deadline for Special Arrangements requests.	Friday 12 th July 2024
Application for Secondary Transfer opens.	Monday 2 nd September 2024
Test date for pupils in Kent Primary schools.	Thursday 12 th September 2024
Medway Entrance Test.	Weekend of 21 st / 22 nd September 2024
Assessment decision sent to parents.	Wednesday 16 th October 2024
National closing date for application forms.	Thursday 31 st October 2024
National Offer Day: e-mails sent after 4pm and letters sent 1st class.	Monday 3 rd March 2025
Schools send out welcome letters no earlier than.	Wednesday 5 th March 2025
The date by which places should be accepted or declined to schools.	Monday 17 th March 2025
Deadline for lodging appeals.	Monday 31 st March 2025



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](#)

Comments and Questions

