

Kent Test

For children starting secondary school in September 2026

If your child is currently in Year 5, and you intend to apply to a Kent Grammar school, register online at kent.gov.uk/kenttest

Registration opens on 2 June 2025 and closes at midnight on 1 July 2025

Who is the Kent Test for?

The Kent Test is for children who wish to apply for a Kent Grammar school place for September 2026 and are either resident in the UK or are the children of UK Service Personnel / other Crown Servants returning to the UK. A list of Kent Grammar schools can be found [here](#). **Schools in Medway, Bexley and Bromley are outside the Kent Local Authority area.** If you live outside Kent, please consider carefully before registering whether your child can attend the testing session in Kent, and how they would travel to school if they were offered a school place in Kent.

How do I register for the Kent Test?

Go to kent.gov.uk/kenttest and create an online account for yourself as parent/guardian. Add your child's details to your account to start the registration process. When you have completed and submitted your registration you should get a confirmation email. If you do not, the registration may not have been completed correctly. *(Tip: Please check your junk/spam folder for the email before contacting us!)*

What if my child has access requirements?

If your child has a disability or SEN which will affect their access to testing, you should discuss this with their primary school before registering them, as the school will need to apply for any necessary access arrangements. Requests will not be accepted after 1 July 2025.

What happens after I register?

If your child attends a school outside Kent, we will email you details of their test centre by the end of August. Let us know if after registration you move house, change your email address or your child changes primary school. Otherwise, their test papers may go to the wrong place, or you may not get their results.

How do I apply for a Kent Grammar school?

You apply by naming the school as a preference on your Local Authority's secondary application form.

If my child is assessed suitable for grammar school by the Kent Test, will I automatically be offered a grammar school place?

No, a Kent Grammar school assessment does not guarantee your child a place in a Kent Grammar school.

Grammar schools are often oversubscribed, meaning more children apply than the school has room for. Oversubscribed schools use their admission criteria to rank applicants in priority order, so it's important to check the admission 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 can appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel and may be able to add them to the school's waiting list.

Key dates

Monday 2 June 2025	Registration opens at kent.gov.uk/kenttest . You will receive a confirmation email when registration is complete.
Tuesday 1 July 2025	Registration closes at midnight. If your child attends a school outside Kent, you will receive an email by the end of August with your Allocated Test Centre.
Thursday 11 September 2025	Children who attend a Kent primary school sit the test in their school.
Saturday 13 September 2025 / Sunday 14 September 2025	Children who attend primary schools outside Kent or are Educated at Home sit the test in a Test Centre.
Thursday 16 October 2025	Kent Test Decisions emails are sent after 4pm to the email address used to register the child.

Need help?

Further information about the test and about transport to grammar school for low-income families can be found on our website at kent.gov.uk. If your child is outside the age range for the test, or cannot take the test on a Saturday please email kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk.

For help registering please email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. Only one registration per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of registration. Keep your login details safe and use the email address you registered from for all communication with the team.

