

Kent Test / 11+ 2018

(Entry to secondary 2019)

Information Meeting



Ramsgate
Arts Primary School

Registering:

- You must register children to take the test before Monday 2nd July (open now)
- www.kent.gov.uk/ola
- - details, email address etc.
- Ensure that you name the correct Primary school!

The tests – Thursday 6th Sept

- English and Maths test – 60 minutes. Two separate sections – English is first. Multiple choice format (marked by machine).
- Reasoning test – 60 minutes. One verbal reasoning section. The other is non-verbal reasoning – split in to several short sections (strictly timed)
- Written exercise – 40 minutes. This isn't marked and does not affect test scores but may be considered if a Headteacher appeal is raised.

Scoring

- 3 separate scores are given – Maths, English, Reasoning.
- These are age standardised.
- They are also combined for an aggregate.
- In 2017 the thresholds were an aggregate of 320 with no single score lower than 106.
- M – 107, E – 108, R – 110, AG – 325 = G
- M – 108, E – 104, R – 109, AG – 321 = H
- M – 106, E – 106, R – 107, AG – 319 = H

Scores

- The school receives scores in late September.
- Based on those scores and our knowledge of children we will raise Head Teacher appeals for children who have not achieved thresholds but who we believe are of “selective ability”.
- Scores will have to be close to the thresholds to be considered for an appeal.
- Class teachers prepare children’s books; highlighting key evidence as proof of their suitability for a grammar school place.
- Headteacher prepares a supporting document, outlining other key information; evidencing why a grammar school place should be allocated.

Headteacher Appeal Panels

- This evidence is taken along to appeal panels.
- Head teachers from schools across Kent sit in small groups and consider the evidence provided by schools.
- They make a decision whether the evidence provided by the school demonstrates that a child is suitable for a grammar school place.
- These decisions are then final.
- The results of the panels are sent to Headteacher

Results to families

- After the panels, results will be emailed on 11th October from 4pm. Letters will be sent on the same day
- The results of the test will now be final.
- The letter will indicate suitable for high school or grammar school (H or G)
- Scores can be accessed at website. Indications of appeals will not be given.
- This information can be obtained from Headteacher in person, after you have received the results.
- If you wish to make an appeal, you must wait until a school place has been allocated in March.

Application for Secondary School

- Secondary School applications must now be made in the normal way – and submitted by 31st October.
- 4 schools must be named
- If you received a “G” result, name grammar schools (only 3 will be ok)
- If you received an “H” result but intend to appeal against a high school allocation, name the grammar school you wish to appeal for as choice 1 followed by 3 high schools that you would want your child to go to should an appeal be unsuccessful.

Parental Appeals for Grammar

- School places are allocated in March. If a child did not achieve the threshold scores on the test or go through a HT panel successfully, they will be allocated a high school 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.
- The test result is not the subject of the appeal – the high school allocation is.

Parental Appeals cont.

- Paper work for appeals comes by post with the school allocation (and is available online)
- Intention must be lodged and then parents prepare the appeal
- School can provide supporting letters and evidence upon request.
- Appeal panels are held in late May to June
- Decisions are made quickly
- Downside – the time in limbo between test and decision.

Should my child take the test?

- The next 7 years of education
- Where is the best school for my child?
- Where will my child be most successful?
- Where will my child be happy for 7 years?
- Being able to score well on a test does not mean that a child would be successful at a grammar school.
- Grammar schools are fast paced, challenging and unrelenting environments where the expectation of academic achievement is extremely high.
- High schools stream their pupils by ability to ensure all are appropriately challenged.
- There may be an opportunity on occasion to take a 13+ and gain a place at grammar.

What we do

- We are not permitted to coach, practise or group children for the test or provide example papers.
- In class, we provide additional challenge and appropriate opportunities for children to demonstrate all that they can do in their learning.

What you can do:

- Encourage children to do their best and take on challenge every day. Evidence in their books can be very important. Effort levels, quality of learning and presentation will be key!
- Test familiarisation. Practice papers readily available to buy.
- Example questions and familiarisation materials are published at www.kent.gov.uk/ola

Special arrangements

- If you feel that your child may require specific arrangements to adequately access the test please discuss these with your class teacher and email Mrs Hughes (SENCo)
- We can make applications for access arrangements, but these are considered and granted on a case by case basis (and are not guaranteed).

The Whole Process:

- Register for test
 - Tests taken
 - Scores to school
- Headteacher appeal panels
 - Results to families
- Apply for secondary schools
- Secondary school place allocated
 - Appeals can be lodged
 - Appeals heard

Key Dates

- Register by 2nd July 2018
- Tests date – 6th September
- Results to families – 11th October
- Secondary application submitted by 31st October
- Secondary School places offered – 1st March
- Appeals to be lodged by 29th March
- Parental Appeal panels heard – May and June

Next Steps

- CAT scores sent home on Monday.
- Welcome to speak to the class teacher re academic performance.
- Familiarise yourselves with the expectations of the tests.

Questions or queries

- Please do come to us with any questions and queries at any point in the process over the next year.
- Your child – your decision.
- We can give guidance.
- If a child is entered for the test, they don't have to take it on the day – you can change your mind.
- There will be another meeting in the Autumn term regarding the Secondary applications process.
- Kent contacts: www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/
- Email: kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk