

Media Release
Wednesday, 16 October 2019

Kent Test results day

The wait is almost over for the 16,207 children who sat the Kent Test in September, as they will find out whether they have been assessed as being eligible for a grammar school place this afternoon.

Families who registered online will be sent an email from Kent County Council after 4pm today (Thursday, October 17) with their child's assessment result. Due to the volume of emails sent out, some internet service providers may delay the delivery of the emails to personal email accounts; this is outside the control of the county council.

Families who registered online can also log on after 5pm today and view their child's results and test scores if they have retained their log-in and password details.

First Class letters will be sent to all families this afternoon, to arrive on doormats from Friday.

Parents/carers must now submit an application for their child's secondary school and the deadline for doing so is midnight on Thursday, October 31. They can name up to four schools in order of preference and are encouraged to make use of all four options. Families are also reminded that passing the Kent Test does not guarantee a child a place at a grammar school.

Matt Dunkley, Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education, said: "Kent Test results day can be an exciting time for those young people who discover they are eligible to apply for a grammar school place, however, we also recognise that families can feel under pressure when applying for school places so we try to make the process as straightforward as possible.

"Kent is lucky to have a rich variety of both selective and non-selective schools and it is in parents/carers' best interests to name four schools on their application forms as this will increase the chance of their child getting a place at a school they have selected. It is also important that parents carefully consider how their child will get to school, before applying for a school place.

“We anticipate the 4,941 Kent children who have been assessed as being suitable for grammar school will, in most cases, enjoy priority for the 5,305 places available in the county over pupils from other authorities.

“Although KCC supports the right of all parents, including those of the 2,794 eligible children outside of Kent to name our schools among their preferences, the nature of the school admissions process means that most children will ultimately secure places in their own local authority area.”

Details of secondary schools in Kent and how to apply can be found here:

www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

KCC’s guidance on home-to-school transport allows parents to see whether there is any help available for their child. Details can be found here:

www.kent.gov.uk/schooltransport

For further advice on completing applications call 03000 41 21 21 or email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk

...Ends....

Notes to journalists:

1. **Kent Test in figures (comparing last year to this)**
 - a. Number who registered for the test (starting school September 2019): 17,575
 - b. Number who registered for the test (starting school September 2020): 17,413
 - c. Number who sat the test (starting school September 2019): 16,656
 - d. Number who sat the test (starting school September 2020): 16,207
 - e. Number assessed suitable for grammar school, admission September 2019: 7,706 (4,641 Kent / 3,065 out of county and others such as 'educated at home')
 - f. Number assessed suitable for grammar school, admission September 2020: 7,735 (4,941 Kent / 2,794 out of county and others such as 'educated at home')
 - g. Grammar school places available for September 2019: 5,214

h. Grammar school places available for September 2020: 5,305*

*Grammar schools retain the ability to request that the county council make offers in excess of their planned admission number, so this number may increase.

2. If a child passed the Kent test, will they automatically be offered a grammar school place?

No. A Kent grammar school assessment does not guarantee a child will be offered a Kent grammar school place. If more children apply for places than a school can accommodate the school will use its oversubscription criteria to decide which children it can take. Some children assessed suitable for grammar school may be offered places at all-ability schools if no local grammar school can offer them a place or if their parents name it as a higher preference.

3. When will families find out which school they have been allocated?

The national offer day is Monday, March 2, 2020. Families who registered online and provided a valid email address will be sent an email after 4pm on March 2 or can view their offer online at 5pm on the same day.

Families will also be sent a letter posted 1st Class on March 2, advising which school their child has been offered.

4. How is the Kent Test scored?

Children will get three standardised scores, one for English, one for Maths and one for Reasoning.

Standardisation is a statistical process which compares a child's performance with the average performance of other children in each test. A slight adjustment is made to take into account each child's age so that the youngest are not at a disadvantage.

This year's score ranges will be published later this month.