

Procedure for Entry to Secondary Education (PESE) & The Kent Test (11+)

THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2026

Key Dates for secondary transition

Monday 1 st June	Online Registration for the Kent Test opens
Wednesday 1 st July	Closing date for Kent Test registration
Tuesday 1 st September	School applications open
Thursday 10 th September	Kent Test Date
Thursday 15 th October	Assessment decisions sent to parents/carers
Monday 2 nd November	Closing date for secondary school applications
Monday 1 st March	National Offer Day (emails sent after 4pm)
Monday 15 th March	Places must be accepted/refused
Tuesday 13 th April	Deadline for appeals to be submitted

Applying for a secondary school place

- ▶ Link is www.kent.gov.uk/ola
- ▶ You can name up to **four schools** in order of preference

Health Warning

- ▶ Naming one school does not give you a greater chance of acceptance
- ▶ If you are naming a grammar school, these should be number 1 (and 2) on your list
- ▶ If needed, you can only appeal for schools you have named

Kent County Council



[Sign In or Create Account](#)

Kent Online Admissions

You can use this system to apply online for school places. Please **log in** to access your account, remembering that your username is your email address. If you created your account before **June 2016**, it won't work anymore and you will need to **create a new one**. Please ensure you have read [KCC's Admissions Privacy Notice](#) before you apply.

Please note only Kent County Council residents should make applications for Secondary, Primary and Junior school on this website. If the child you are applying for lives outside KCC you will need to apply to the Local Authority where they live.

The application windows for the various online application rounds are:

Admission to Primary/Junior school in September 2020 - 5 November 2019 to 10 February 2020 (*offers released on Thursday 16 April 2020*). If you miss the date for on-time applications you can submit a late application between 11 February and 6 May.

Admission to secondary school in September 2020 - 2 September to 31 October (*offers released on Monday 2 March 2020*). *Online applications are now closed. If you are a KCC resident and need to apply for secondary school admissions please contact us on 03000 412121*

Kent Test for September 2020 entry to secondary school - 3 June to 3 July 2019
Results are released on Thursday 17 October 2019. If you applied online you will be sent an email after 4pm in addition to a letter which is posted first class post the same day. If you have not received your email by 5pm please log in to your account on this page to view your result and scores online. Please avoid emailing our team until you have received either your result email or letter in the post.

Local secondary schools

Comprehensive Schools

- ▶ Archbishops School
- ▶ Barton Manor School
- ▶ Canterbury Academy
- ▶ Spires Academy
- ▶ St Anselm's Catholic School

Grammar Schools

- ▶ Barton Court Grammar School
- ▶ Simon Langton Boys
- ▶ Simon Langton Girls

Other 'local' schools

Dover

- ▶ Dover Grammar School for Girls
- ▶ Dover Grammar School for Boys

Folkestone

- ▶ Folkestone Grammar School for Girls
- ▶ Harvey Grammar School for Boys

Deal

- ▶ Sir Roger Manwood Grammar

Year 6 Destinations

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Grammar Schools						
Simon Langton Boys' Grammar School	11	12	18	14	8	18
Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School	16	12	16	14	21	8
Barton Court Grammar School	7	5	3	6	2	3
Other	2	2	0	0	0	0
Comprehensive Schools						
St Anselm's Catholic School	20	16	14	12	16	20
Archbishops School	2	1	0	1	1	2
Barton Manor	n/a	1	3	5	2	3
Canterbury Academy	0	2	4	3	7	3
Other	1	3	0	1	5	2

Schools to note

- ▶ Canterbury Academy recommends that potential students sit a 'banding' assessment; this takes place on a Saturday morning and gives pupils higher priority up the admissions criteria
- ▶ Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys gives priority to those with 20 or more marks above the Kent Test threshold, living within 9 miles of the school
- ▶ St Anselm's require a Supplementary Information Form (they place an emphasis on a Catholic background but most practising Christians have qualified in recent years) NB: proof of baptism, etc. required to evidence this.
- ▶ The following grammar schools also offer places through their own tests:
 - ▶ Dover Grammar School for Boys & Dover Grammar School for Girls (the Dover Test)
 - ▶ Folkestone Grammar School for Girls & Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone (the Shepway Test)

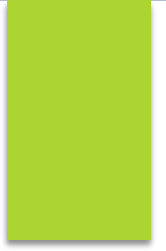
Children with an EHCP

- ▶ If your child has an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP) then the process for applying for a secondary school is different and this should be discussed with Charlotte McLean.

Individual Consultations

- ▶ Take place early June; booking available from Monday on Arbor - (usually 10 minutes!)
- ▶ Parental Viewpoint - What schools are you considering? Reasons why?
- ▶ School Viewpoint – Teacher assessments; CATs results; work in books
- ▶ Potential school choices
- ▶ Faith School? Supplementary requirements
- ▶ Grammar School? Kent Test? Access Arrangements? Dover/Shepway Test?
- ▶ Any other questions?

The Kent Test (11+)



Should my child sit the Kent Test?

- ▶ We would strongly recommend you discuss with the school, in the first instance, whether a grammar school may be the right place for your child.
- ▶ We can discuss, with you, the factors to consider when choosing a school for your child – where will they be happier/more confident and more likely to succeed?
- ▶ The children will take Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) which will give an indication of how likely your child is to perform.
- ▶ After these there will be an opportunity for an individual consultation (via Teams/Zoom) with Mr Tibbles to discuss secondary school options.
- ▶ **We will be here if you have any questions throughout the whole process**

Children with SEND

- ▶ If your child has a disability or special educational need that may affect the way they access the test, you need to discuss this with James Tibbles (Headteacher) at the consultation meeting.
 - ▶ When you register your child for the Kent Test online, you will need to confirm if you have discussed a request for access arrangements with your child's school.
 - ▶ The school has to submit requests for access arrangements by the end of June.
- ▶ Examples of access arrangements provided:
 - ▶ Large print (question and/or answer sheets)
 - ▶ Coloured paper
 - ▶ Laptop for the writing task
 - ▶ Use of equipment, ear defenders, wobbles cushions, etc.
 - ▶ Support of a reader
 - ▶ Support of a scribe
 - ▶ Support of a 'prompter'
 - ▶ Supervision in smaller room
 - ▶ Stop the Clock rest breaks
 - ▶ Additional time (one or more tasks)

The Kent Test (11+)

- ▶ Your child does not need to take the Kent Test unless you are interested (and your child) are interested in naming a grammar school in your application.
- ▶ There are three tests:
 - ▶ Maths (30 minutes)
 - ▶ English (30 minutes)
 - ▶ Reasoning (approx. 1 hour)
- ▶ There is also a Writing Task
- ▶ The school will support children through the test but cannot coach children for the test
- ▶ Register online at www.kent.gov.uk/ola

On the Day

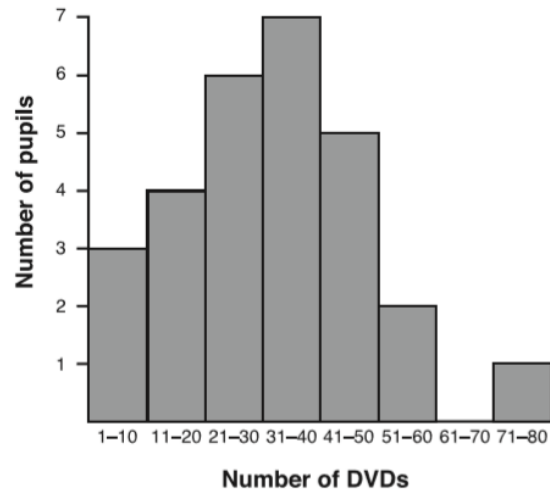
- ▶ Children not sitting the test will do a project-based task for the day
- ▶ We will be using the classrooms; school hall and a few smaller rooms, i.e. HT office, staffroom for those children with access arrangements
- ▶ Year 6 staff will administer and a member of staff from another school will invigilate
- ▶ Structure of the day:
 - ▶ 9.15am: Maths & English
 - ▶ 10.45am: Reasoning
 - ▶ 1.15pm: Writing Task

Maths & English

- ▶ The tests are multiple-choice with a separate answer sheet; they are marked by an automated marking machine
- ▶ The first test will be an English and Maths paper and 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 designed to test literacy skills
- ▶ Each paper is marked based on the number of questions correct and this provides a 'raw score'
- ▶ These raw scores are then standardised. This means that the scores are weighted to reflect the child's age at the time of taking the test.

Examples of maths questions

This shows the number of DVDs owned by a class of 30 pupils.



How many pupils do not own any DVDs?

- A 1 **B 2** C 3 D 4 E 61-70

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

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.

Examples of English questions

Example

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

reed wrote red read write 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 as a whole. 'Reed', 'red' and 'wrote' don't make sense grammatically, whereas 'write' is grammatically correct but doesn't make as much sense as 'read' does in the sentence as a whole. Therefore **read** is the correct answer and **d** has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15. Now try the practice question below:*

Practice

Johnny jumped under over across on in a muddy puddle and

splashed my new coat.

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

Pandas

The giant panda is a bear native to south central China. It has a black-and-white coat and is easily recognized by the large, distinctive, black patches around its eyes, over the ears, and across its round body. Scientists think that the bold colouring provides effective camouflage for the pandas in their snowy and rocky habitat. The giant panda's thick, woolly coat keeps it warm in the cool forests of its habitat. Pandas can be four to six feet long and male pandas can weigh up to 160 kg, which is about the same as two humans.

Practice

Why do scientists think pandas have a black-and-white coat?

Pandas have a black-and-white coat ...

- A** to attract other pandas.
- B** to make it easier to spot pandas.
- C** to keep pandas cool in the summer
- D** so that pandas blend in with their environment.
- E** so that pandas look different from other bears.

Reasoning Tests

- ▶ 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
- ▶ Each paper is marked based on the number of questions correct and this provides a 'raw score'
- ▶ The raw scores are then standardised. This means that the scores are weighted to reflect the child's age at the time of taking the test.

Examples of verbal reasoning questions

Example

dis [?] urt muc [?] ole

A p B h C e D s E k

The answer is **h** (the four new words are **dish**, **hurt**, **much** and **hole**) and this has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15. Now try the practice question below:

Practice

rea [?] ace fee [?] ost

A f B r C p D m **E l**

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

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:

Practice

(variety type) (arrange classify)

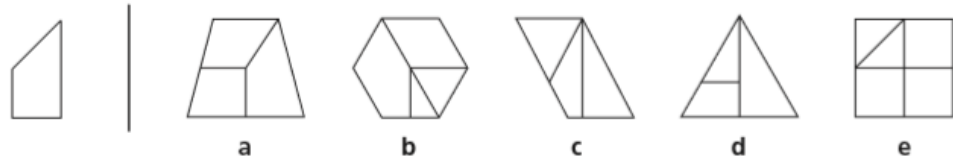
A kind B tidy C deal **D sort** E style

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

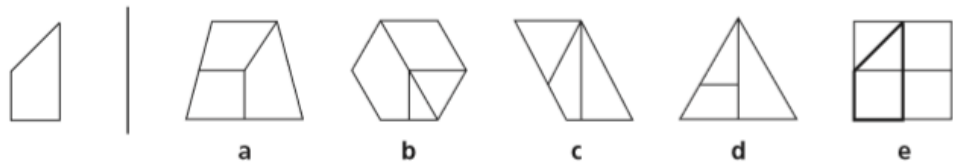
Examples of spatial reasoning questions

These questions contain hidden shapes. The shape on the left is the target. The target is hidden in one of the five shapes to the right of the line. **It is exactly the same size and same way round where it is hidden.** All of the sides of the target must be visible in the shape where it is hiding. Choose which of the five shapes contains the hidden target and **mark its letter on your answer sheet.**

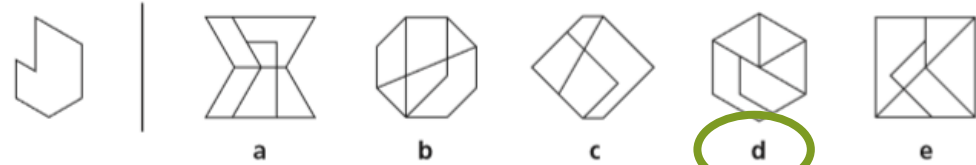
Example



The answer is **e**. The hidden target is shown in bold below so that you can clearly see this, and the answer **e** has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15.



Practice

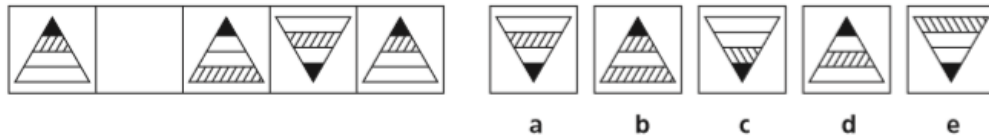


Work out the correct answer and mark it on the answer sheet.

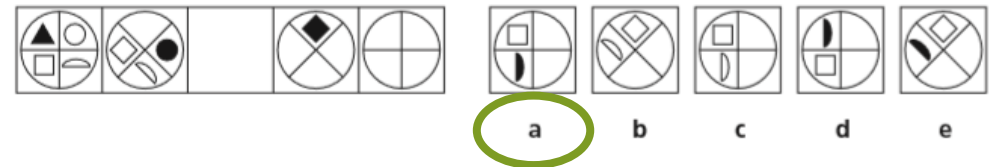
Examples of non-verbal reasoning questions

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**.

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:

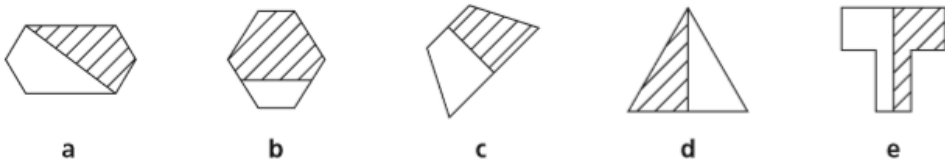


Work out the correct answer and mark it on the answer sheet.

Examples of non-verbal reasoning questions

Example: Find the odd one out

In each of the rows below there are five figures. Find the figure in each row that is **most unlike** the other four and **mark its letter on your answer sheet**.



The answer is **b** because all of the shapes are divided in half with one half striped except **b** which has more than a half striped, so **b** is the odd one out. This has been marked on the answer sheet on page 15. Now try the practice question below:

Practice



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

Writing Task

- ▶ There will also be a writing exercise **which will not be marked** but may be used by a local headteacher panel as part of the headteacher assessment stage of the process
- ▶ 40 minutes will be allowed for the writing task, including 10 minutes planning time
- ▶ The quality of a child's writing is viewed as a key factor when Headteacher panels assess a child's suitability for a grammar placement

Headteacher Appeal Process

- ▶ If a child does not meet the threshold in the Kent Test, there is still the 'Headteacher Appeal' process
- ▶ The school will only appeal for a place where we feel that there is sufficient evidence to support a grammar placement
- ▶ The Headteacher Appeal process takes place prior to 'results day' and we are not allowed to let you know if we are appealing or not

Results Day

- ▶ You will receive an email or a letter saying that your child has:
 - ▶ Been assessed as suitable for a grammar school placement (G)
 - ▶ Been assessed as suitable for a high school placement (H)
- ▶ Please do not ask us to give you your children's results on Results Day, we can only discuss them the following day.
- ▶ If your child was not tested or was not assessed as suitable for a Kent grammar school, you can still apply for a Kent grammar school but your application will be turned down.
- ▶ You will then have the right to appeal to explain why you think grammar school is a suitable option for your child.
- ▶ This 'Parental Appeal' normally takes place in Term 5 (April/May)

What can you do?

- ▶ Be realistic – different children suit different types of school
- ▶ Visit the secondary schools with your child. Secondary schools will be advertising their open days/evenings on their websites
- ▶ Involve your child in the decision making process
- ▶ Try to avoid placing pressure on your children – too many feel that they have 'failed' if they do not reach the Kent Test threshold
- ▶ Remember that we are here to help

Key Dates for secondary transition

	<i>Children complete the CATs (w/c 18th May)</i>
Monday 1 st June	Online Registration for the Kent Test opens
	<i>Headteacher consultations (bookable from 18th May)</i>
Wednesday 1 st July	Closing date for Kent Test registration
Tuesday 1 st September	School applications open
	<i>Kent Test familiarisation in school</i>
Thursday 10 th September	Kent Test Date
	<i>Headteacher Appeals</i>
Thursday 15 th October	Assessment decisions sent to parents/carers
Monday 2 nd November	Closing date for secondary school applications
Monday 1 st March	National Offer Day (emails sent after 4pm)
	<i>Headteacher meetings for appeals</i>
Monday 15 th March	Places must be accepted/refused
Tuesday 13 th April	Deadline for appeals to be submitted

Resources

Kent Test Familiarisation Booklet

https://www.kent.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/14513/Kent-Test-familiarisation-booklet.pdf

GL Assessment Familiarisation Materials

<https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/11plus-series-11-plus-practice-papers/11plus-familiarisation-materials/>

CGP Materials

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/info/preparing-for-the-11-plus-with-cgp/free-11-plus-practice-tests>

ElevenPlusExams

<https://www.elevenplusexams.co.uk/>

None of these links constitute an endorsement by the school or by any individual.

Questions?