



THE KENT TEST

2021

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- The Kent Test format changed in September 2014 and Kent reported that the test might change every year. Therefore what I talk about next may not be exactly what happens this year.

DATES

- The date of the Kent Test is currently 9th September.
- Online registration to sit the test opens on 1st June & closes on 1st July. <https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Parents/default.aspx>
- The results are emailed to parents on 21st October.

WHAT IS THE KENT TEST?

- The Kent Test is designed to assess whether grammar school is a suitable option for your child.
- Your child does not have to sit the test – it is optional.
- You must register your child online to sit the test
<https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Parents/default.aspx>
- In a typical year, roughly 20% of the year group is assessed as “G” on the basis of test scores alone.

PAPER 1

Paper 1 is split into two sections: English and Maths and will take approximately 1 hour.

Each section will involve a 5 minute practice exercise followed by a 25 minute test.

ENGLISH

The English section will involve a comprehension exercise as well as some additional questions drawn from a set designed to test literacy skills (such as spelling and grammar).

MATHS

- This section encompasses a wide range of mathematical abilities and its questions reflect the content of the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum.

PAPER 2

REASONING

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, spatial reasoning 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.

VERBAL REASONING

The Verbal test is a collection of questions that tests vocabulary and word and letter patterns.

NON-VERBAL REASONING

The Non-Verbal test provides a measure of reasoning ability that is not influenced by verbal skills.

SPATIAL REASONING

The Spatial Reasoning test assesses the efficiency of the thinking processes that use mental images of shape and space.

WRITING

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. Children will be provided with a choice of titles to base their writing on, which change every year.

SCORES

A child's raw score will be converted into a standardised score. Your child will get 3 standardised scores, one for English, one for maths and one for reasoning, and a total (aggregate) score.

SCORES

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 at a disadvantage e.g. a child born in September will have no extra standardised points added whereas an August-born child will have extra points (the amount varies per year).

SCORES

- For the grammar school threshold for last year – 2020- see below:
- To be given a grammar school assessment, children needed a total score of 332 or more, with no single score lower than 108. Test scores range from 69 to 141. The highest possible total score is 423.

SCORES

If you can see that your child did not reach the threshold score but were given a Grammar School recommendation then WJS will have referred their case to the local Head Teacher Assessment Panel, the panel will have looked at their achievement in school and examples of their work, including the writing task completed on the day, before a final decision was made.

EXAMPLE PAPERS

Example test papers can be found on the Kent County Council website.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test#tab-3>



PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL OR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS:

Any child with an EHC plan who wants consideration for a grammar school place will need to register for testing by 1st July, like other children.

The admissions team make it clear that; “we do what we can to give all children fair access to testing. There are no “blanket” concessions or automatic entitlements; each case is looked at individually using information collected via a standard form.”

If you feel your child requires any special arrangements please contact school and we will discuss your child’s needs with you. It is then the school’s responsibility to contact the admissions team by 12 July 2021 to apply for comfort adjustments (such as changing the appearance of the papers or allowing for separate supervision or rest breaks) or additional time

NOT SURE ABOUT REGISTERING YOUR CHILD?

- If you would like to talk to your child's class teacher about your decision to register or not register your child for the Kent Test you will have an opportunity to do this via our parent video call system. Your child's teacher won't be able to make the decision but will be able to tell you how your child is working in class. The dates are:
 - 5M- Wednesday 9th June 1:30pm - 6pm.
 - 5T – Thursday 10th June 1:30pm - 6pm
 - 5L – Monday 14th June 1:30pm - 6pm

ANY QUESTIONS?

- Please don't hesitate to contact me on aknoupe@whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk
- Or phone the school and ask to speak to me and I will do my best to answer any of your questions.