



Joy Lane Primary School

Grammar School Testing
Arrangements

September 2021

Key Dates

If you wish your child to sit the Kent Grammar school test then you must register your child's details between 1st June and 1st

- ▶ July 2021
- ▶ Registration opens- 1st June 2021.
- ▶ Registration closes- 1st July 2021.
- ▶ All pupils registered for the Kent Test will take the tests on Thursday 9th September 2021.
- ▶ Assessment decision e-mail sent to parents after 4pm – ? October 2021 and letters are posted 1st class ? October 2021

Online Registration

- ▶ Parents/carers are strongly encouraged to register for the Kent Test online via **<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>**
- ▶ The Kent Admissions team are encouraging parents to use the online registration, as this will enable you to receive the assessment decision by e-mail.
- ▶ If this is difficult for you, someone from Joy Lane will be able to assist you with this.

So how can we help you make an informed decision?

- ▶ In May all pupils sat Cognitive Assessment Tests (CAT tests)
- ▶ There are 4 subject areas in the CAT tests: Verbal (which equates loosely to Literacy); Non-Verbal (Pattern Awareness), Quantitative (Numeracy) and Spatial. Ideally your child needs to score well in all 4 subjects, not just one or even two papers to be a suitable candidate for the Kent Test.
- ▶ The guide from CATs suggests that anything about 110 in each area is above average.
- ▶ Remember the CAT scores are only a guide.
- ▶ Historically many pupils pass the Kent Test with lower than expected CATS scores

CAT SCORES



- ▶ In term 5, we sent home the results of the CAT tests which we hope will help inform your decision making about registering for the KENT TEST.
- ▶ You will also have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss the scores.
- ▶ If you would like an appointment with the class teacher or myself to discuss your child's scores and any guidance as to whether Grammar School may be the right choice for your child then please contact the school office to make an appointment.

The Kent Test Thursday 9th

September 2021

- ▶ Test 1 will be an English and maths paper in multiple-choice format. The English test is the first section which will involve a 5 minute practice session and 25 minutes worth of comprehension and additional questions to test literacy skills.
- ▶ New instructions will precede the maths paper with a 5 minute practice session and 25 minutes of multiple choice questions. These are quite difficult and may cover some aspects of maths that your child has not done before. Focus on the 1st half of the paper.

The Kent Test Thursday 9th September 2021

- ▶ Test 2 will be a reasoning paper in multiple-choice format. This will take an hour to administer, including the practice drills and questions.
- ▶ The paper will contain a reasoning section and non-verbal reasoning section of roughly the same length.
- ▶ There will also be a writing exercise with 40 minutes being allowed for the task and 10 minutes for planning.

The Kent Test Thursday 9th September 2021

- ▶ For the last Kent Test each of the 3 sections were scored out of a possible 141, with 423 being the maximum standardised score a pupil could achieve for all three
- ▶ The lowest possible score was 69.
- ▶ For a Grammar Assessment in 2020 an aggregate score of 332 or more with no single score lower than 108, although this varies each year.

The Kent Test Thursday 9th September 2021

- ▶ To put this into perspective...
- ▶ The maths test from last year included 25 questions and you needed 12-13 (depending on age) answered correctly to reach 108
- ▶ The English test from last year included 25 questions and you needed 13 -14 (depending on age) answered correctly to reach 108
- ▶ The verbal and non-verbal test from last year included 80 questions and you needed 34-37 (depending on age) answered correctly to reach 108.
- ▶ This does vary slightly each year.

The Kent Test Thursday 9th September 2021

- ▶ If your child does not pass, the school will have a professional discussion to decide if the individual has an adequate score to be taken to the Headteacher Assessment Panel or has underperformed on the day for a variety of reasons
- ▶ The pupil's CATs scores, the writing assessment along with various pieces of work that demonstrate their capabilities would be submitted at Headteacher appeal to assess suitability for Grammar School
- ▶ It is vital that your child works particularly hard during term 6 and ensures their work demonstrates their full potential as this is where additional evidence comes from

The Kent Test – Preparation

- ▶ Up to the parent/carer to decide if or how much preparation is done at home.
- ▶ Lots of resources and books available online and in stores
- ▶ Familiarising children with the type of questions will give them a greater opportunity to show their capabilities.
- ▶ Example questions on the KCC website

Any questions?

- ▶ Just go to <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>
Familiarisation tests.
- ▶ How to register and test dates.
- ▶ Results day and scores.
- ▶ What your score means?
- ▶ <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>