

Admission to

secondary school

in Kent 2026

For children born between
1 September 2014 and
31 August 2015,
transferring to secondary
school in **September 2026**

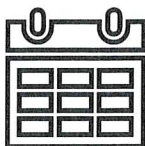


Use the simple, fast and secure way to apply online at:
www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Apply by: Friday 31 October 2025



What to do



Apply online by: Friday 31 October 2025

Choose a school	Apply	Accept or decline
<p>Read all the information provided in this booklet.</p> <p>Find out about the schools you are interested in.</p> <p>Use all 4 preferences to give yourself the best opportunity of securing a school you have applied for.</p>	<p>Apply online at www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions.</p> <p>Applications open Monday 1 September 2025 and close at midnight on Friday 31 October 2025.</p> <p>Tell us immediately via email about any change of address.</p>	<p>On Monday 2 March 2026, an email will be sent to you informing you of your offer.</p> <p>You must accept or decline this offer by Monday 16 March 2026.</p>

Key dates

Monday 1 September 2025	<p>Applications open Apply online at www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions.</p>
September – October	Parents to read all information available, visit school open events (if available) and make decisions on which schools to apply for.
Thursday 11 September 2025	Children in Kent who registered take the Kent Test (11+).
Thursday 16 October 2025	Kent Test (11+) assessment decisions sent to parents via email.
Friday 31 October 2025	<p>National closing date for applications Online application process closes. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk.</p>
Monday 8 December 2025	Deadline for on-time changes to application details to be considered for national offer day.
Monday 2 March 2026	<p>National Offer Day Offers of school places are sent to parents via email.</p>
Monday 16 March 2026	<p>Deadline for parents to accept/refuse the school offered.</p> <p>Parents will also be given the opportunity to join the waiting list for schools named on the original application.</p> <p>Deadline of 'late' school applications to be considered for Kent Reallocation Day.</p>
Monday 30 March 2026	Appeals for schools named on your original application must be lodged by this date to be heard before September. See www.kent.gov.uk/appeals for more information.
Thursday 23 April 2026	<p>Kent Reallocation Offer Day KCC reallocates any places that have become available from the waiting list.</p> <p>Parents that have received an offer of a school place from KCC can approach schools directly for alternative places.</p>

How to apply

Deciding which schools to apply to

Kent has a wide range of schools, including all-ability schools, comprehensive schools, academies (which take children of all-abilities) and grammar schools.

Comprehensive schools include church aided schools, which may give priority for admission to members of a particular religious faith.

Kent's grammar schools select their intake through the Kent Test assessment procedure (also known as the 11+). A Kent grammar school can only offer a place to a child who has been assessed suitable for admission to grammar school. Registration opened on Monday 2 June 2025 and closed on Tuesday 1 July 2025. More information on the Kent Test is available at www.kent.gov.uk/kenttest or see [page 29](#).

Schools publish lots of information about what they teach, the facilities they offer and what they aim to achieve for their pupils on their websites. Headteachers welcome enquiries from parents and will be able to tell you in great detail about their schools. You can find their website addresses in this booklet.

Please see [page 54](#) for a full list of Kent's secondary schools.

There is no substitute for seeing things for yourself. That is why all schools hold open days and evenings, usually during the September and October before the point of entry, where parents and children can visit and talk to teachers and existing pupils. We believe this provides a very good opportunity for you to get a feel of the school and encourage you to use the opportunities available. Please see school websites for information about when these open days will take place.

Even if you already have an older child at the school, you must apply for a place for your younger child. You will not automatically receive a place because you already have a sibling there.

Parents are also advised to consider whether they intend to apply for transport assistance when selecting their preferences, as they will be used when determining their child's eligibility. Kent will not normally provide transport where a parent prioritises a school which is not the nearest appropriate for transport purposes. Please see [page 36](#) and/or www.kent.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information.

We strongly recommend that you focus on the schools that interest you the most.

What if my child has additional needs or an EHCP?

The application process explained in this book does not apply to children with an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP). Further information around transfer to secondary school for children with an EHCP can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/SEND. Alternatively, you can email the Special Educational Needs Office at sendadmingeneral@kent.gov.uk.

If your child has additional/special educational needs but does not have an EHCP, even if you are in the process of statutory assessment, you should still apply for a secondary school place as described in this book.

More information is also available on [page 49](#).

Apply online

When you know what schools you are interested in, you can apply online at the web address below. An application form (SCAF) can be provided in an alternative format for accessibility reasons upon request by emailing kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk.



Apply online at:

www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

You need to apply by midnight on Friday 31 October 2025 for transfer to year 7 in September 2026.

You should complete the application by naming up to four schools; putting them in order of preference with the one you would like most first. Please see [page 12](#) for which address you should use on your application.

You can apply for schools inside or outside of Kent County Council's (KCC) area, but you must name all of them on the same application; you can only fill in one application and it must be submitted via a form supplied by the local authority you live in. Your local authority is the one in which you pay your council tax bill to.



Please note that you must NOT use Kent's online application process or SCAF if you do not live in Kent. Your application will be withdrawn and will not be processed.



Please ensure that all the information on the application is accurate before it is submitted. KCC will not take any responsibility in checking the contents of an application.



Please note if the application has not been submitted by the applicant, KCC will be unable to process it. Applications for Children in Care should be made by the assigned Social Worker of the Local authority that is the Corporate Parent.

If you have already registered your child online to take part in the Kent grammar school tests, you will be able to log into your account and add your school preferences to the information you have already submitted rather than starting from the beginning.

If you are applying online for school places and did not register your child for the Kent Test, you will have to register with the website and create a user account, selecting your own password.

The website will ask you to verify your account by clicking on the link provided in the email sent to the email address used to set up the account. This email is not an application. Once registered, you can then make an application for school places either straight away or by logging back in later, provided it is before the closing date. An application is only valid if it has been submitted by the closing date of Friday 31 October 2025.

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an email confirming that we have received it. Please check your spam/junk folders for this email before contacting the team.

If you apply online and then un-submit your application (either by making a change or for any other reason) KCC is not responsible for processing the unsubmitted application. You must ensure that your application is fully submitted by the closing date. If an application has not been submitted, KCC will be unable to process it.



Please remember to let us know if you change your home address or your email address after the closing date so that our records are kept up to date as we provide this information to the school you are offered. Any changes of information need to be sent from the email address used to apply.

It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that:

- they are selecting the correct school for each preference;
- the application states if the child will have a sibling in the school or a linked school in September 2026 and must provide the sibling's full name and date of birth;
- they send any supporting evidence to the relevant school they would like to be considered under health and special access reasons (if applicable) more information on health and special access criteria can be found on [page 20](#);
- they complete and return any Supplementary Information Forms (if available) to the relevant school.

If you require any support applying online, please email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk.