



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery

Secondary Information for Year 6 Parents

Please find below a useful guide with the steps that you need to take after the 1st March 2021. All information here can also be found on the following website:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>

After you get your school offer

Accept or refuse your offer

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2021 you will be offered a place on 1 March 2021. You will need to accept or refuse the offer directly with the school.

The acceptance and refusal form submission period closes on 15 March 2021.

Not offered the schools you applied for

This may be because:

- your child was not eligible for the school
- there were more applications than spaces available so the school used its [oversubscription criteria](#) to prioritise which children to offer places to.

In these cases, we must offer your child a place at another school. This will usually be the nearest school to your home with available places.

If you are unhappy with the offer

We suggest that you view the school's website to find out more about it.

If you are still unhappy you can put your child on the waiting list or [make an appeal](#) for any of the schools you applied for. You can do either or both for the same school or for different schools. For example, you can appeal for one school and put your child on the waiting list for another.

We recommend that you still accept the place your child has been offered. This will not affect your waiting list position or your appeal. It will guarantee your child has a school place if no places become available or if your appeal is unsuccessful. If the waiting list or appeal are successful you must remember to tell the school you were originally offered that you no longer want the place.

Waiting lists

Secondary schools

The secondary school waiting list submission period closes on 15 March 2021.

Appeal a school offer

If you are unhappy with the school place you've been offered, you can appeal for any of the schools you named in your application.

We recommend you still accept the place your child has been offered. This will not affect your appeal and will guarantee your child has a school place if your appeal is unsuccessful. If your appeal is successful you must remember to tell the school you were originally offered that you no longer want the place.

Appeals during the coronavirus pandemic

The Department for Education has provided schools and local authorities with updated guidance about how school appeals can be heard in light of current coronavirus restrictions. Independent panel members will be responsible for deciding on an individual school basis how appeals are heard. Please submit your appeals as outlined and the panel clerk will contact you after the deadline to inform you of any changes that may be necessary.

Make an appeal

You cannot appeal the decision of the Kent Test result.

If your child is due to start Secondary School in 2021, you can appeal if you are refused a place at one of your preferred schools on National Offer Day (1 March 2021). You will also be able to appeal if your child was turned down for a place at a Kent grammar school because they were not assessed as suitable following the Kent Test.

Due to the updated guidance from Department for Education, the need for appeals to be heard within a specific timescale has been removed, however your appeal will be heard as quickly as possible.

Your appeals clerk will contact you directly to let you know when your appeal will be heard.

You can either:

- [appeal online](#) (**only** for community and voluntary controlled schools)
- appeal by post - [secondary school appeal form \(PDF, 46.4 KB\)](#)
- email details to appeals@kent.gov.uk including your child's name, address, date of birth, the name of the school you are appealing for along with reasons for wanting a place at the school.

Call [03000 41 42 22](tel:03000414222) or email appeals@kent.gov.uk for further advice.

Appeal hearing

The hearing lets you explain to an independent appeal panel why you think your child should be given a place at the school and lets the school explain why it could not offer your child a place.

Due to the current social distancing coronavirus restrictions, the appeals process will require adjustments which will vary from school to school. The panel clerk will contact those who have appealed directly to inform them how the appeal will be heard.

You will be informed of the date of your appeal at least 14 calendar days before it is heard and a complete copy of the appeals paperwork will be sent to you at least 7 calendar days before the hearing.

Decision

We will write to tell you the panel's decision as soon as possible. We cannot tell you the decision by telephone.

If your appeal is unsuccessful, you can't lodge another appeal to the same school for the same school year, unless you can show your circumstances have changed since the first appeal.

Get advice

Call [03000 41 42 22](tel:03000414222) or email appeals@kent.gov.uk for support.