

21st September 2020

Year 6 Secondary School Admission Guide 2020 - 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Under usual circumstances, at around this time of year, I would usually hold a meeting for parents and carers of pupils in year 6 in order to support you in the process whereby you would select and apply for a place at a local secondary school. Unfortunately, under the current restrictions, we are unable to hold a large meeting, but we hope the information in this letter will give you some support with the process, should it be needed.

All parents of children in year 6 will need to complete the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) to apply for their preferred secondary school. The closing date this year is midnight on the 2nd November 2020. This year, parents will be able to name up to six schools in order of preference on their list; this is an increase from four schools in previous years. This is because parents will not know their child's Kent Test results before applications need to be submitted.

As an initial line of enquiry, I would strongly recommend visiting secondary school websites, which will help to give you the information on the school and the admissions process. Do investigate all of our local schools and read their selection criteria. This will then help you to consider if your child would be happy at the school. Most schools have an admissions section, as well as an admission email contact. Schools are also beginning to prepare virtual tours this year for prospective students and their parents to visit. At this stage, it appears that secondary schools will not be running their usual open days for their prospective students. Therefore, I have prepared some suggested helpful points for parents.

Secondary Schools

Grammar Schools (For those children who have been successful in their Kent Test)

- Chatham and Clarendon Grammar School
- Dane Court Grammar School
- Sir Roger Manwood's Grammar School

High Schools

- The Royal Harbour Academy
- King Ethelbert School
- The Charles Dickens School
- St George's C of E Foundation School, Broadstairs
- Hartsdown Academy
- Sandwich Technology School
- Ursuline College

When carrying out your research, do consider: Will my child be happy? Will they meet my child's needs? What extras do they offer? Do I need to complete any religious supplementary forms?

Application Forms

This year, as in previous years, applications will be done online Website - <u>https://www.kent.gov.uk/ola</u> Phone - For more information, please contact KCC admissions on 03000 41 21 21 Email – <u>kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk</u> Secondary school applications opened on the 1st September 2020 and close at midnight on the evening of 2nd November 2020. You can log on and make changes at any time, but remember to re-submit the revised application. If you would like to apply online and would like support or do not have access to a computer at home, please contact the school office and we will help.

Some schools may need you to complete an additional form called a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). Please contact the secondary school to obtain the form.

Your form must be submitted by midnight on 2nd November 2020.

Kent Test Results

Parents will receive their children's results online on 26th November 2020 (after 4pm) or receive a letter the next day. Only children registered for the test will receive the results. The Kent website gives the following information - *Due to the changes in the Kent Test process as a result of COVID-19, we are expecting to release results by 26 November. Parents should be aware that this date is subject to change, but we will keep you informed of any adjustments that are required.*

Allocations

If you apply online, you will receive an email on the 1st March 2021 after 4.00pm, to tell you which school you have been offered. You can also log in after 5pm on 1 March 2021 to view your offer online. You must accept or decline the school place you've been offered. You will need to accept or refuse the offer directly with the school itself.

Appeals

Parents have the right to request reallocation for schools listed higher than the school which has been allocated. If you were unsuccessful in your choice of school the arrangements for appealing for a place at the school of your choice will be included with the letter. Each oversubscribed school will keep a waiting list where children will be placed in order according to the school's oversubscription criteria.

As in previous years, we would like to reassure you that we have a wealth of experience within school and can provide you with the guidance or support that you may need. If you do have any questions, please do contact our school office on 01843 221877, or email your child's class teacher:

Mrs Pegden – <u>6A@garlinge.kent.sch.uk</u> Miss Jenkins – <u>6B@garlinge.kent.sch.uk</u> Mr Shepherd – <u>6C@garlinge.kent.sch.uk</u> Mr Millership – <u>6D@garlinge.kent.sch.uk</u>

Finally, please do ask one of us if there is anything that you are needing support with,

Yours faithfully,

J. Williams

Mr J Williams Headteacher