

Applications to secondary schools

September 2026

Key dates

Thursday 16 October 2025	Kent Test (11+) assessment decisions sent to parents via email.
Friday 31 October 2025	National closing date for applications Online application process closes. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk .
Monday 8 December 2025	Deadline for on-time changes to application details to be considered for national offer day.
Monday 2 March 2026	National Offer Day Offers of school places are sent to parents via email.
Monday 16 March 2026	Deadline for parents to accept/refuse the school offered. Parents will also be given the opportunity to join the waiting list for schools named on the original application. Deadline of 'late' school applications to be considered for Kent Reallocation Day.

Key dates

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

Kent Reallocation Offer Day

KCC reallocates any places that have become available from the waiting list.

Parents that have received an offer of a school place from KCC can approach schools directly for alternative places.

Applications

- Applications are currently open and close on 31st October 2025. All applications are done online on the KCC website.
- You can name up to 4 schools in order of preference.
- It is in your best interest to name 4 schools as in the first instance you can only be offered one of the 4 schools you have named.
- Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school necessarily. You cannot name the same school more than once!

Applications

- Visiting the schools and looking at their websites and admissions criteria is key. On the KCC website there is a map of all mainstream schools in Kent.
- Some schools may need you to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). These are most needed for scholarship applications, faith schools or medical or social needs. Contact the school directly to obtain a form if needed.

EHCP

- It is a slightly different process for children with EHC Plans. If your child has an EHC Plan, please arrange to speak with Mrs Black to discuss this.

Scholarship applications

- Many secondary schools offer priority places to children who show aptitude in a specific area, such as art, dance, football.
- Please check the school's admissions criteria/scholarship information on their websites as each school differs. It is also important to go and visit the schools to gather more information and ascertain whether it feels like the right school for your child.
- Not all schools offer scholarship places so do check in advance of applying.

Appeals

- You can only appeal for named schools on your original application. This includes grammar schools and high schools.
- You must have registered your appeal by Monday 30th March 2026. This can be done at www.kent.gov.uk/appeals
- It is in your best interest to accept the place your child is offered, even if you have no intention of sending your child there. All KCC are required to do is to offer your child a Kent school so if your appeal is unsuccessful you could be offered a school outside of Maidstone.
- Admissions criteria varies year-on-year and from school to school so it is best to look at the school's website to ascertain if your child is eligible for appeal.
- The school will always try our best to support your parent appeal with any documentation (supporting letters, examples of children's work). As we will endeavour to support you with this, please do give us ample time to process this paperwork