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11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers of Year 6 Pupils

### **Admissions to Secondary Schools in Kent 2024**

It is very important that your child attends the senior school that will best suit their ability and personality and enable them to thrive.

To state your preferences for the state secondary school that you would like your child to attend, you must register your child at [Secondary school places - Kent County Council](#) and complete the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) **by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**.

If you choose an independent school, you will not have to complete the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF), although we recommend that a back-up school is ALWAYS planned for.

When completing the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF), parents are required to put their selection of schools in order of preference. Parents can choose four schools and I recommend that you take advantage of this. Putting only one school down will **not** guarantee your child a place at that school.

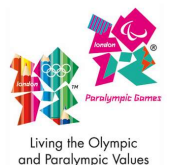
The following information is a summary of the key points that may affect your decision when choosing the next school for your child and further information can be found online: [Choosing a school - Kent County Council](#)

There are three main opportunities for children at the end of Year 6, each with different admissions criterion.

**1. Non-selective State Schools:** There are a number of such schools in the local area and for most of these, you need to be residing in the school's catchment area (which unfortunately can change on an annual basis depending on demand for places) to be offered a place. Children do not sit entrance examinations for these places, but some may require a supplementary application form to be completed. Schools with religious affiliations require a separate statement with referees indicating the family's commitment to the religion.

**2. Selective State Schools:** These are commonly known as 'Grammar Schools' and entrance is based on the child's pass rate in the Kent Test. Parents will find out if their child has passed the test or not next Thursday, and will then be able to use this information to inform their choice of school.

**3. Independent Schools:** The admissions for independent schools will vary, depending on the academic levels that they require for their intake. The children will be required to sit an entrance examination, usually consisting of Mathematics and English Tests. These schools are also likely to offer an interview to each child,



giving them the opportunity to demonstrate their attitude to learning and personal qualities. Places are offered based on the child's performance in the examinations and at interview.

If you intend to apply for an independent school, it is advisable to speak to the Admissions Staff of the school to find out about the procedure for application.

When completing the SCAF, I advise you to put your selection of schools in order of preference, and if your child did not pass the Kent Test, **you should name a Grammar School on your SCAF if you wish to submit a parent appeal for that school.**

It is imperative that you provide the School Office with a printout of your application form as we have no access to your school preference list.

Please ensure you have completed your SCAF by the deadline of **31<sup>st</sup> October** and provided the school with a copy of your application.

Yours sincerely



Gillian Lovatt-Young  
Head

