



Joy Lane Primary School

Grammar School Testing
Arrangements

September 2017

Key Dates

If you wish your child to sit the Kent grammar school test then you must register your child's details between 1st June and 3rd July 2017

- ▶ Registration opens- 1st June 2017.
- ▶ Registration closes- 3rd July 2017.
- ▶ All pupils registered for the Kent Test will take the tests on Thursday 7th September 2017.
- ▶ Assessment decision e-mail sent to parents after 4pm – 12th October 2017 and letters are posted 1st class on the 12th October 2017

Online Registration

- ▶ Parents/carers are strongly encouraged to register for the Kent Test online via **<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>**
- ▶ The Kent Admissions team are encouraging parents to use the online registration, as this will enable you to receive the assessment decision by e-mail.
- ▶ If this is an issue for you, someone from Joy Lane will be able to assist you with this.

So how can we help you make an informed decision?

- ▶ In May all pupils sat Cognitive Assessment Tests (CAT tests)
- ▶ There are 4 subject areas in the CAT tests: Verbal (which equates loosely to Literacy); Non-Verbal (Pattern Awareness), Quantitative (Numeracy) and Spatial. Ideally your child needs to score well in all 4 subjects, not just one or even two papers to be a suitable candidate for the Kent Test.
- ▶ The guide from CATs suggests that anything about 110 in each area is above average.
- ▶ This should not be taken as gospel.

CAT SCORES



- ▶ In term 5, we sent home the results of the CAT tests which we hope will help inform your decision making about registering for the KENT TEST.
- ▶ You also had the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss the scores.
- ▶ If you would like a further appointment with the class teacher or myself to discuss your child's scores and any guidance as to whether Grammar School may be the right choice for your child then please contact the school office.

The Kent Test Thursday 7th

September 2017

- ▶ Test 1 will be an English and maths paper in multiple-choice format. The English test is the first section which will involve a 5 minute practice session and 25 minutes worth of comprehension and additional questions to test literacy skills.
- ▶ New instructions will precede the maths paper with a 5 minute practice session and 25 minutes of multiple choice questions. These are quite difficult and may cover some aspects of maths that your child has not done before. Focus on the 1st half of the paper.

The Kent Test Thursday 7th September 2017

- ▶ Test 2 will be a reasoning paper in multiple-choice format. This will take an hour to administer, including the practice drills and questions.
- ▶ The paper will contain a reasoning section and non-verbal reasoning section of roughly the same length.
- ▶ There will also be a writing exercise with 40 minutes being allowed for the task and 10 minutes for planning.

The Kent Test Thursday 7th September 2017

- ▶ Each of the 3 sections will be scored out of a possible 141.
- ▶ The lowest possible score is 69.
- ▶ Your child will need to score 320 and above with no individual score under 106.
- ▶ To put this into perspective, the maths test from last year included 25 questions and you needed 12 answered correctly to reach 106.

The Kent Test – Preparation

- ▶ Up to the parent/carer to decide if or how much preparation is done at home.
- ▶ Lots of resources and books available online and in stores
- ▶ Familiarising children with the type of questions will give them a greater opportunity to show their capabilities.
- ▶ Don't let them have too much fun over the summer holidays.

School closure

- ▶ Due to the ongoing building works at Joy Lane, the school will be closed from the Monday 4th of September and will open on Monday 11th September.
- ▶ The children will come into school on the morning of Thursday 7th for breakfast to see their friends and to ensure they are focused for the test that day.
- ▶ The children will then spend the day taking the test which should finish after lunchtime.
- ▶ Further details of what time the children will be collected after the test will be sent out closer to the day.

Any questions?



- ▶ Just go to <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>
Familiarisation tests.
- ▶ How to register and test dates.
- ▶ Results day and scores.
- ▶ What your score means?
- ▶ <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>