

Secondary Admissions 2026-2027

Statistics for 2026 entry

Preferences

- More than 96% of pupils were offered one of their four preferred schools.
- Out of the 18,636 parent and carers who applied for a place for their child, 17,941 received an offer from one of their preferred schools.
- The number of Kent pupils offered a place at their first-preference school is 14,715 and this year 304 more children were offered one of their preferences, compared to last year.
- 79% of children were offered their first-preference school.

Key Information and Dates for Parents

[Secondary school places - Kent County Council](#)

[Secondary-admissions-book 2026-2027.pdf](#)

Key dates

Tuesday 1 September 2026	Applications open Apply online at www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions .
September – October	Parents to read all information available, visit school open events (if available) and make decisions on which schools to apply for.
Thursday 10 September 2026	Children in Kent who registered take the Kent Test (11+).
Thursday 15 October 2026	Kent Test (11+) assessment decisions sent to parents via email.
Monday 2 November 2026	National closing date for applications Online application process closes. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk .
Monday 7 December 2026	Deadline for on-time changes to application details to be considered for national offer day.
Monday 1 March 2027	National Offer Day Offers of school places are sent to parents via email.
Monday 15 March 2027	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.
Tuesday 13 April 2027	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.
Tuesday 27 April 2027	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.

Find out about a school

To find out if a school is suitable for your child:

- visit the school - most schools have open days and evenings, for dates and times please check the school's website
- ask other parents what they think about the school
- check the school's [admissions criteria](#) - this sets out how schools choose which children to offer a school place to
- read the school's [Ofsted reports](#)
- learn how [Ofsted inspect schools](#)
- check [school league tables](#)
- think about what [school transport](#) is available
- check the school is accessible for your child. Use the [School Accessibility App](#) to find this out
- find out how the school can support your child if you are [choosing a school for a child with special educational needs](#)
- check you have a [right of abode](#), or that the conditions of your immigration status otherwise permit you to access a state-funded school before you make an application (if you are an overseas national entering the UK).

Year 7 Open Events for September 2027

Open Event for Parents and Carers of Current Year 6 Students



CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR SPACE TODAY!

Are you considering sending your child to The Abbey School in September 2027? Join us at our Open Evening for a chance to take a look around our school!

Date: Thursday 1st October 2026

Time: 5pm - 8pm. Bookable Principal Talks at 5:30pm and 6:30pm

What to Expect:

- Tour our school grounds, and get a taste of the fantastic facilities we have on site
- Speak to our staff and students to hear about life at The Abbey School
- Visit our classrooms to learn more about our exciting curriculum
- Hear from Dr Speller, our Principal, at a number of bookable talks

2027 Open Events

Save the date! Our Open Events for students looking to join us in September 2027 will be on the following dates. More information regarding these events, including registration links, will open later in the school year.

- Open Evening: **Thursday 1 October 2026**
- Open Mornings: **Monday 5 October 2026 & Wednesday 7 October 2026**

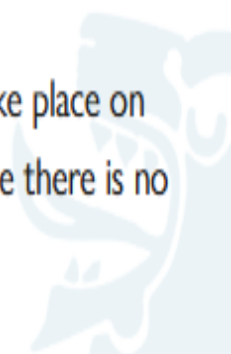


A SPACE TO...
INSPIRE



Open Mornings and Evenings 2026

Open mornings will take place on Thursday 8th and Tuesday 13th October 2026 from 9:00-12:00. The open evening will take place on Thursday 15th October from 17:30-19:30. There is no need to book to attend these events, all are welcome but please note there is no facility to park on the school site, however there are plenty of local car parks within easy walking distance of the school.



The Canterbury Academy

A School for all the Talents



Part of The Canterbury Academy Trust

Save our dates Open Events 2026 For Year 6 into Year 7



Open Evening, Thursday 8th October

Open Saturday, 10th October

**Open Mornings, Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th,
Thursday 15th and Friday 16th October**

Knight Avenue, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8QA
Tel: 01227 463971 www.canterbury.kent.sch.uk

**Bookings for our open events will open on
Wednesday, September 9th at 2 pm.**

OPEN EVENING

**SEPTEMBER 2027
YEAR 7 INTAKE**

Thursday 17 September 2026
5.00pm - 7.30pm



For full details and to
book, scan the qr code
or visit the website
www.thesittingbourneschool.org.uk



- **Headteacher Speech (no booking required)**

Speech times are: 5:10pm | 6pm | 7pm

- **Guided Tours**

You will have the opportunity to speak to staff, students and see our facilities.

- **Day Tours**

Day time tours will be announced on the evening with details on how to book.

Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF)

As in previous years LA are actively promoting the Online Admission Website (www.kent.gov.uk/ola) and ask primary schools to continue to encourage parents to apply online.

Parents must fill in their home authority's online application.

Kent parents are invited to express up to **four** preferences in priority order.
*Putting down one school only will **not** improve the chance of getting a place.*

Place your choice of schools in your order of preference.

*If you have previously registered your child online to complete Kent test ,
log on with the same details and resubmit your form.*

Supplementary Information Forms

Academies/VA/Foundation Schools can require parents to provide additional information (on a supplementary form) but only where this is necessary to apply their oversubscription criteria (e.g. religious affiliation or specialism).

Those schools requiring a supplementary form are clearly identified in the booklet and on the information form. The form should be **obtained from and returned to** that school.

Changing Preferences

Once parents have made their preferences, local authorities will not allow them to be changed without a genuine reason for doing so – for example, if the family has recently moved address

Verifying Addresses

- Parents must provide proof.
- Important as Appeals panel will seek confirmation that all offers were made correctly
- Examples include utility bills, bank or credit card statements with personal financial details blacked out, Council Tax bill, a bank statement of a savings account in the child's name, child tax and working tax credit letter (TC602), child's medical card or a letter from a medical centre, hospital GP surgery (any formal document that would prove you were living at your address at the time of application.)

Verifying Addresses

- Documents should not be more than three months old
- Should show residence at closing date not application date
- Ensure that you keep notes of any conversations that you may have with parents regarding the evidence

Verifying Addresses

- The home address for a child is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence and not an address at which the child may stay during the week such as a friend's, grandparent's or childminder's home
- It must be:
 - owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian **OR**
 - leased or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under a lease or written rental agreement **OR**
 - a property that the applicant has exchanged contracts on or have a lease/rental agreement for by **31st October 2025**, the deadline for completing the SCAF
 - If applicants have exchanged contracts or have a rental agreement after they submitted their application, they can advise Admissions and provide us with the appropriate documentation.

Allocating Places

The LA operates an “Equal Preference” scheme.

The LA tells schools who has applied for places, not whether they were named first, second, third or fourth, and the schools place their applicants in a rank order based on their oversubscription criteria.

All applicants must be ranked, even if the school is very oversubscribed or undersubscribed.

The published criteria determine which children can be offered places.

The order in which a parent named the schools on the SCAF only matters if more than one of the schools could offer a place. In that case, the LA looks back at the original order and offers a place at whichever of them the parent named highest on the form.

Distances

For Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, distances will be measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data.

Kent's software measures distances from a defined point within the child's home to a defined point within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey.

The LA's straight line measurements are provided to all schools, but some VA/Foundation schools use different means of measurement. These will be stated in their oversubscription criteria. Where schools use an alternative means of measurement they should contact the Admissions Scheme Co-ordination Team.

If a school has not published how it will measure distance, the LA's measurements are to be used.

Brothers and sisters

Where the term 'brother' or 'sister' is used in the oversubscription criteria, it means children who live as a brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters.

Transport

As a general rule, your child will only get free home to school transport if the secondary school they will be attending is:

The “nearest appropriate school” for transport purposes

Is more than three miles from home using the shortest walking route.

Additional statutory entitlements to free home school transport for children entitled to free school meals or one of these benefits:

Income support

Income based jobseekers allowance

Child tax credit (details in booklet)

Maximum level of Working tax credit

Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

Income related Employment and Support Allowance

Can apply on the above basis if:

Child attends one of the three nearest schools to their home and it is between 2 and 6 miles from their home

Or

The school has been selected on the basis of the parent's stated religion or belief and is the nearest school of that type to the child's home and is between 2 and 15 miles from the home.

Receiving your offer



Accept or refuse by Monday 15 March 2027

On Monday 1 March 2027, KCC will contact Kent parents to inform them of the school they have been offered.

You will receive only ONE offer. E-mails will be sent on this day to parents who provided an email address on their application, and letters will be posted first class to all other parents. All online applicants can also log back onto their online applications after 5pm and view their school offer.

Please be aware that KCC has no control over email delivery times once they have left our servers and some email providers may delay sending the messages to account holders. Parents are also advised to check their spam folders for the email before contacting the Admissions Team.

The applying parent must let the offered school know whether they are accepting or refusing the place by Monday 15 March 2027.

Where can I get advice?

Contact the school office for an appointment

Ring the secondary admissions team on
03000 41 21 21 during office hours

E-mail kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk