

## **Kent County Council**

### Admissions Arrangements Consultation for Academic Year 2025/26

#### **Dover Grammar School for Girls**

Dover Grammar School for Girls proposes to alter its sixth form entry requirements.

The proposed changes are as follows:

- The minimum requirement is three 6 grades and three others at 5 grade.
- At least a grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics.
- Photography will also no longer be offered as a 4<sup>th</sup> A level option.

Please find the full proposed admission arrangements attached. The proposal also includes updates to the wording of the policy to ensure clarity of the process in compliance with the admissions code.

The consultation of the proposed changes will run from Thursday 30 November 2023 until Thursday 11 January 2024. The consultation documents can be found at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria">www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria</a> along with any other own admission authority school consultations. Responses should be made to <a href="mailto:kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk">kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk</a>.

Responses will be collated and presented to Kent County Council's Cabinet for a determination. Once determined the final admission arrangements will be placed on Kent's website at <a href="www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria">www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria</a>

# Oversubscription criteria for entry into Year 7 for Dover Grammar School for Girls will be applied in the following priority order:

Entry to the school is through the Kent Assessment Procedure or Dover Test Applicants must reach the required standard in the Kent Test or Dover Test in order to decide which students should be deemed selective.

The Kent Test is marked and the scores age standardised. Receiving a Grammar assessment in the Kent Test does not guarantee a Grammar school place at offer day. All applications are assessed in line with each school's oversubscription criteria. More information about the Kent Test Assessment Procedure can be found at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/KentTest">www.kent.gov.uk/KentTest</a> and 'Admission to Secondary School in Kent' booklet.

Dover Grammar School for Boys (a Foundation School) uses a dual testing arrangement to determine eligibility for admission (boys may be found eligible through the school's own "Dover" test and/or Kent's 11+ process), a practice most recently confirmed by the Schools Adjudicator in 2019 (ref: ADA 3581). The Dover Grammar School for Girls remains a Community School, but provision has been made for a matching arrangement, also confirmed by the Schools Adjudicator in 2019 (ref: ADA3580) so Dover Grammar School for Girls will include in its oversubscription criteria that "Entry is through the Kent age 11 assessment procedure or the school's own "Dover" test."

The Dover Test normally takes place on a Saturday in September. More information can be found at <a href="www.dggs.kent.sch.uk">www.dggs.kent.sch.uk</a>. The school will make provision for an alternative date for candidates who are unable to take their test on the published date because of illness or by reason of religious observance. Application to take the test should be made on the school's online application form which is available from the school's website.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

If the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

**Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children** – A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

**Current Family Association -** a brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry.

In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters.

Health and Special Access Reasons – Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.

Children in receipt of Pupil Premium – A child is eligible for Pupil Premium where they have been registered for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last 6 years. This does not include children who have only been eligible to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals. Pupil Premium is also afforded to Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care, however these children will be prioritised in the relevant criteria above. Parents wishing to apply under this criterion must ensure they complete the attached Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school by 31 October in the year of application. Parents must also complete an application (via online or paper Secondary Common Application Form) naming the school, otherwise their child cannot be considered for a place.

**Nearness of children's homes to school** - we use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for an oversubscribed Community or Voluntary Controlled school, these straight line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school.

Where a child lives at more than one address, we will distance to the home at which they sleep for the majority of school nights (Sunday to Thursday) in the first academic year, using community school term dates excluding school holidays. In the unlikely event that a child spends an equal time at both addresses, KCC will use the address that is closer to the school that is named as the child's first preference.

In the event of any of the above criteria being oversubscribed, priority will be given based on distance as described above with those closest being given higher priority.

In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place. This will be supervised by someone independent from the school.

If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets, etc) apply for a school and the school would reach its Published Admission Number (PAN) after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, the LA will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN.

Waiting list will be held for at least the first term of the academic year in oversubscription criteria order and will be re-ranked each time a child is added or before an offer is made.

Requests for admission to Year 7 outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher the school as early as possible. As entry to the school is through the Kent Test procedure, parents need to ensure they allow the school and admissions authority sufficient time to make a decision before the closing date for Kent Test registration.

Where a parent is requesting for their child to apply early, parents are advised to contact the school shortly before the opening of the Kent Test registration process for the year they wish their child to start. If the request for early testing is accepted, the child cannot sit the test again.

Where a parent is requesting for their child to apply later than expected, they should make their request shortly before the opening of the Kent Test registration process associated with the child's date of birth. Parents are advised to complete a Kent test registration for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This registration can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year 7 the following year, allowing the child to apply for the Kent Test the following year.

Parents are not expected to provide evidence to support their request to defer their application, however where provided it must be specific to the child in question. This might include medical or Educational Psychologist reports. There is no legal requirement for this medical or educational evidence to be secured from an appropriate professional, however, failure to provide this may impede a school's ability to agree to deferral or early admission to their secondary phase of education.

The school will take into account the year group the child has been taught in leading up to transition. Deferred applications must be made via paper Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) to the LA, with written confirmation from the school attached. Early or deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round and offers will be made in accordance with each school's oversubscription criteria. Further advice is available at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/schooladmissions">www.kent.gov.uk/schooladmissions</a>.

The school will coordinate in-year admissions for year groups other than the normal points of entry.

Parents who move to Kent after the Kent Test and Dover Test have taken place will still need to be assessed to be considered for admission to the school. This will be arranged directly with the grammar school being applied for. Until the end of the first term in the school year, all grammar schools will use the Kent Test. After this, the grammar school will use its own assessment process. In these circumstances, testing for Dover Grammar School for Girls will consist of a electronic CAT test (cognitive ability test) and a written test, and students will be required to meet the threshold mean score for each year group. Reaching the appropriate standard does not guarantee a place as all applications are assessed in line with the school's oversubscription criteria.

The test is only to be taken once in any single academic year. As such, the school may share test outcomes with the Local Authority and other local grammar schools should an application be made to more than one grammar school.

#### **Admission Arrangements for Entry into Year 12**

The Published Admission Number for entry into Dover Grammar School for Girls Sixth Form is a total of 150 students.

#### **Entry Requirements**

- The minimum requirement is three 6 grades and three others at 5 grade.
- At least a grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics.
- Students will require a grade 6 or above in most subjects to study that relevant subject at A level.
  - To study Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages or a Science subject you will require a grade 7.
  - To study Economics a grade 7 or above in Mathematics is required and a grade 6 or above in a Business or a related subject.
  - Students may be able to study a Science subject with a grade 6 but their 4<sup>th</sup> option choice must be a STEM Access forming part of your Personal Enrichment Pathway.
  - For Further Mathematics you will need an 8 or 9 and this will be your 4<sup>th</sup> A Level subject.
- Short courses are equivalent to half a GCSE.

#### **Oversubscription Criteria**

The school may enroll students above the expected number of places in the Sixth Form if there are sufficient places on the particular combination of courses requested by suitably qualified applicants. If the number of applications to the Sixth Form exceeds the number of available places, priority will be awarded to those who meet the entry requirements on the basis of the admissions criteria given above.



## DOVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS SUPPLEMENTARY FORM for PUPIL PREMIUM INFORMATION

To qualify for Pupil Premium you have to be eligible under one of the following criteria...

#### 3.1 Ever 6 FSM

The pupil premium will include pupils recorded in the January school census before application who are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) in any of the previous 6 years, as well as those first known to be eligible at that January.

#### 3.2 Children adopted from care or who have left care

The pupil premium will include pupils who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as residence order).

- Please fill in the details below and send the form back to the school with your evidence. For further information on what evidence is required please contact the school for assistance.
- Please remember to also fill in a Secondary Common Application Form online via kent.gov.uk/ola

**CHILD'S DETAILS** 

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FORENAME	SURNAME	DATE OF BIRTH		
ADDRESS (This address will be used on all future correspondence unless otherwise notified.				
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EMAIL				
ADDRESS				

PRINT NAME: SIGNATURE:

Please return to – DOVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, Frith Road, Dover, Kent, CT16 2PZ by 31st October.