

13 December 2023

Dear Stakeholder

Maidstone Grammar School Consultation on Admission Arrangements for September 2025. Period of Consultation: Wednesday 13 December 2023 to Wednesday 24 January 2024.

As our own admissions authority, we are required under the School Admissions Code to review our admissions policy annually and consult on any proposed changes. The school is consulting to alter the admission arrangements for September 2025 as follow:

Year 7

There is no change to PAN. The proposed addition to our oversubscription criteria is to include priority to children of staff at the school, in either of the following circumstances:

- The member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or
- The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Sixth Form

Maidstone Grammar School also propose to amend our Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements to section (a) of the criteria and to section (c) of the oversubscription criteria as under:

- (a) Applicants must achieve at least an average GCSE grade of 5.7 from eight subjects (this must include at least one modern foreign language, at least one science and at least one humanity).
- (c) Qualifying applicants who are likely to achieve the highest academic grades. Applicants will be considered based on the grades achieved and ranked accordingly to their exact average GCSE point score across the eight subjects in the order of (a) siblings (b) children of staff.

The full policy and admission arrangements can be found on our website [HERE](#) with proposed changes highlighted. The definitions have also been updated to ensure clarity.

This consultation will open on Wednesday 13 December 2023 and close on Wednesday 24 January 2024. Any comments relating to the proposed arrangements will need to be received by 24 January 2024 using the Online Response Form via this [LINK](#) or, if you prefer, you can respond via email to dfriend@mgs.kent.sch.uk or by post to Denise Friend, Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 7BT. Paper copies are available on request. The proposed arrangements will also be available on Kent County Council's website.

The Governing Body will meet soon after the closure of the admissions consultation to consider any comments. If no comments are received the policy will be recommended for determination at their meeting in February 2024, a copy of which will be published on the school website.

Yours faithfully

C Norey
Chair of Governors



MAIDSTONE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1549

Admission Arrangements

For September 2025

Reviewed	Ratified by Governors	Next Review Date	Review Period
September 2022	22 November 2022	November 2023	Annually
September 2023	28 November 2023	November 2024	Annually

Maidstone Grammar School Admission Arrangements September 2025

Criteria for Admitting Pupils to Year 7 for September 2025

Maidstone Grammar School is a selective grammar school and complies with the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme which is administered by the Kent Local Authority. The school will admit boys into Years 7 to 11 and boys and girls into Years 12 and 13.

The School's Published Admission Number is 205. Entry is through the Kent age 11 assessment procedure. Before the application of the oversubscription criteria, children with an **Education Health Care Plan** who name the school will be admitted if agreed with the Local Authority. As a result of this, the Published Admissions Number will be reduced accordingly. When the school is oversubscribed, priority will be given to those children who meet the criteria in the order set out below:

Oversubscription Criteria:

1. All Qualifying children who are looked after and previously looked after children (see definition).
2. Qualifying children resident in one of the listed parishes, achieving a pass mark of 360 or more in the order of (a) children in receipt of Free School Meals at the time of application* (b) siblings (c) children of staff and (d) those living the shortest distance from the school.
3. Other qualifying children resident in one of the listed parishes, in the order of (a) children in receipt of Free School Meals at the time of application* (b) siblings (c) children of staff and (d) those living the shortest distance from the school.
4. Other qualifying children, in the order of (a) children in receipt of Free School Meals at the time of application* (b) siblings (c) children of staff and (d) those living the shortest distance from the school.

*Parents wishing to apply under this criterion must ensure they complete the attached Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school by the Local Authority application deadline.

Tiebreaker:

Where two or more children have an otherwise equal priority under the oversubscription criteria, random selection will be used to establish which is ranked ahead of the other.

Waiting List:

The School's waiting list, in oversubscription criteria order, will be re-ranked each time a child is added or before an offer is made.

Listed Parishes:

Addington, Aylesford (includes Eccles), Barming, Bearsted, Bicknor, Birling, Borough Green, Boughton Malherbe, Boughton Monchelsea, Boxley, Bredhurst, Broomfield and Kingswood, Burham, Chart Sutton, Collier Street, Coxheath, Detling, Ditton, Downswood, East Farleigh, East Malling and Larkfield, East Sutton, Frinsted, Harrietsham, Headcorn, Hollingbourne, Hucking, Hunton, Ightham, Kings Hill, Langley, Leeds, Lenham (includes Lenham & Platts Heath), Leybourne, Linton, Loose, Maidstone, Marden, Mereworth, Nettlestead, Offham, Otham, Platt, Ryarsh, Snodland, Stansted, Staplehurst, Stockbury, Sutton Valence, Teston, Thurnham, Tovil, Trottscliffe, Ulcombe, Wateringbury, West Farleigh, West Malling, West Peckham, Wichling, Wormshill, Wrotham, Wouldham, Yalding (includes Laddingford). See the note about transport below.

Definitions:

Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care

Qualifying applicants who are looked after 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.

Qualifying

A child who has been assessed as suitable for admission to grammar school. To be eligible boys should be assessed through the PESE (Procedure for Entry into Secondary School) Selection Procedure.

Sibling / Current Family Association

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

Children of Staff

Staff who have legal parental responsibility for a child are classified as Children of Staff. Priority will be given (a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or (b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Nearness of Children's Home to School

We use the distance between the child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. We use measurements provided by the local authority and further information on how distances are calculated is available in the 'Admission to Secondary Schools in Kent' booklet provided by the local authority. 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.

Child's Home Address

A child's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence (not an address at which the child may sometimes stay or sleep) and which is either owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or leased or rented to them under a lease or written or rental agreement. Where partners live apart but share responsibility for the child, and the child lives at two different addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of week days.

Application for Children to be Taught Outside of their Expected Year Group

Requests for admission outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. This will allow the school and admissions authority sufficient time to make a decision before the closing date. 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.

Parents are required to complete an application for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This application can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year 7 the following year. Deferred applications must be made via paper SCAF to the LA, with written confirmation from each named school attached. Deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round. Offers will be made in accordance with the School's oversubscription criteria.

Admissions In Year Entry

Applicants at a time later than the normal admissions age should apply directly to the school using the In Year Admission Form (IYAF). Once a completed In Year Admission Form (IYAF) has been received applicants will be tested by the school to obtain evidence of ability to keep pace with the work of this selective school. Students will be required to attend the school to sit a selection of cognitive ability tests. The Published Admissions Number and over-subscription criteria apply as above.

Waiting List

A waiting list will be held and re-ranked in line with the published oversubscription criteria each time a child is added until the January of the following year.

Transport

Please refer to KCC documentation regarding transport.

Maidstone Grammar School Sixth Form Admission Arrangements - September 2025

There is a mixed Sixth Form at MGS. Priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria. Students applying to the school for entry into Year 12 must meet the following academic criteria to qualify for admission:

- (a) Applicants must achieve at least an average GCSE grade of 5.7 from eight subjects (this must include at least one modern foreign language, at least one science and at least one humanity).
- (b) Applicants must also have GCSE Mathematics and at least one English GCSE at a minimum of grade 5.

In addition to the above requirements, applicants wishing to be accepted on to a particular subject programme must achieve the requirements set down for that particular course in the Curriculum Section of the Sixth Form Prospectus.

The number of additional Year 12 places available for applicants being admitted to the school for the first time is 50. This figure may be exceeded in the event that this and the number of internal students transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall figure for the year group.

Admission will be in the order of qualifying applicants who are likely to achieve the highest academic grades based on the grades achieved and ranked accordingly to their exact average GCSE point score.

Application to MGS should be made using the online electronic application procedure. Applications must be submitted by the published deadline. Applications received after this date will be considered 'late' and will only be looked at in the event that we do not fill 50 new spaces. The School will not normally admit students into Year 13.

Oversubscription Criteria:

Following the admission of internal students transferring from Year 11, all remaining places will be allocated to applicants who have met the entry requirements above. In the event of more than 50 external applicants applying for admission to the school in Year 12 we will give priority to:

- (a) Qualifying applicants who are looked after 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.
- (b) Qualifying applicants in receipt of Free School Meals at the time of application. Parents wishing to apply under this criterion must ensure they complete the attached Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school by the application deadline.

- (c) Qualifying applicants who are likely to achieve the highest academic grades. Applicants will be considered based on the grades achieved and ranked accordingly to their exact average GCSE point score across the eight subjects in the order of (a) siblings (b) children of staff.

Tiebreaker:

Applicants whose homes are nearest to the School measured in straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. 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.

Appeals:

Parents have a statutory right to an independent appeal and this should be made in writing to the Clerk to the Governors, care of the School. Please note: appeals for students who achieve the 5.7 entry criteria but wish to appeal the individual subject entry criteria will be considered by the school.

