



## **Kent County Council**

### **Admissions Arrangements Consultation for Academic Year 2028/29**

#### **Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys**

Kent County Council is running a consultation on the admissions arrangements for Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys. No significant changes are proposed – this consultation is instead being held to fulfil the requirement of Admissions Authorities to consult once every 7 years.

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 Wednesday 14 October until Wednesday 25 November 2026.

If you wish to comment on the proposal, please email [kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk) by Wednesday 25 November 2026.

Responses will be collated and presented to Kent County Council's Cabinet for determination. Once determined the final admission arrangements will be placed on Kent's website at [www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria](http://www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria).



# **Kent County Council**

## **Proposed Admissions Arrangements for Academic Year 2028/29**

### **Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys**

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Produced by:  
Admissions and Transport

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## Introduction / Background

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Each year, Kent County Council is required to determine its admissions arrangements. They must include:

- The over-subscription criteria / arrangements for entry to those schools for whom Kent County Council is the admission authority (Community and Voluntary Controlled schools).
  - The Published Admission Number (PAN) for those schools
  - Relevant Consultation areas
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## **Oversubscription criteria for Entry into Year 7 for Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys will be applied in the following priority order:**

The Published Admission Number for entry into year 7 is 300.

### **Entry to the school is through the Kent Assessment Procedure**

Applicants must reach the required standard in the Kent Test in order to decide which students should be deemed selective. The tests are 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 [www.kent.gov.uk/KentTest](http://www.kent.gov.uk/KentTest) and 'Admission to Secondary School in Kent' booklet.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school and who are eligible for admission to this academically selective 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. In the event of any of the criteria being oversubscribed, priority will be given initially to children in receipt of pupil premium\* who have completed and returned the attached Supplementary Information Form and then on the basis of distance with those closest being given higher priority, as described below.

**1. 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.

**2. 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 or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

**3. Health and Special Access Reasons** - Medical / Health 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 need means there is a demonstrable and significant need for their child 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.

**4. Children who live within a 3 mile radius of the school** - Children will be ranked according to the distance from their home to the Tunbridge Wells Grammar school for Boys with those living closest being ranked highest. The distance is measured between the child's permanent address and the school in a straight line using National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point within the child's home to a similarly defined point within the school as specified by NLPG.

**5. Children who live in the named parishes below** – Children will be ranked according to the distance from their home to the Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys with those living closest being ranked highest. The distance is measured between the child's permanent address and the school in a straight line using National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point within the child's home to a similarly defined point within the school as specified by NLPG.

|               |               |                         |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Badgers Mount | Hildenborough | Sevenoaks               |
| Bidborough    | Ightham       | Sevenoaks Weald         |
| Brasted       | Kemsing       | Shipbourne              |
| Capel         | Knockholt     | Shoreham                |
| Chevening     | Leigh         | Southborough            |
| Chiddingstone | Otford        | Speldhurst              |
| Cowden        | Pembury       | Sundridge with Ide hill |
| Dunton Green  | Penshurst     | Tonbridge               |
| Edenbridge    | Plaxtol       | Tunbridge Wells         |
| Hadlow        | Riverhead     | Westerham               |
| Halstead      | Rusthall      |                         |
| Hever         | Seal          |                         |

**6. Nearness of all other children's homes to school** – The distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school is measured in a straight line using 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's Tunbridge Wells campus 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 applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.

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.

**Children in Receipt of Pupil Premium\*** In the event of any of the criteria being oversubscribed, priority will be given initially to children in receipt of pupil premium. A child is eligible for Pupil Premium where they have been registered for targeted free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last 6 years. This does not include children who have only been eligible to receive Expanded Free School Meals or 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 priority 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.

#### **Tie breaker**

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.

#### **Admission for children outside their normal age group**

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 [www.kent.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

### **Waiting list**

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.

### **Appeal**

All applicants refused a place have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the [School Admission Appeals Code](#). Appeals can be lodged at [www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals).

### **In year admissions**

In year admissions: Applications made outside the normal admissions round, including applications for places in other year groups, are treated as in-year applications. Where a place is available, the child will be admitted. Where a waiting list is maintained or where there are more applicants than available places, priority will be determined in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above. Applications should be made direct to the school(s), using an In Year Application Form found at [www.kent.gov.uk/inyearadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/inyearadmissions). The school will coordinate in-year admissions for year groups other than the normal points of entry.

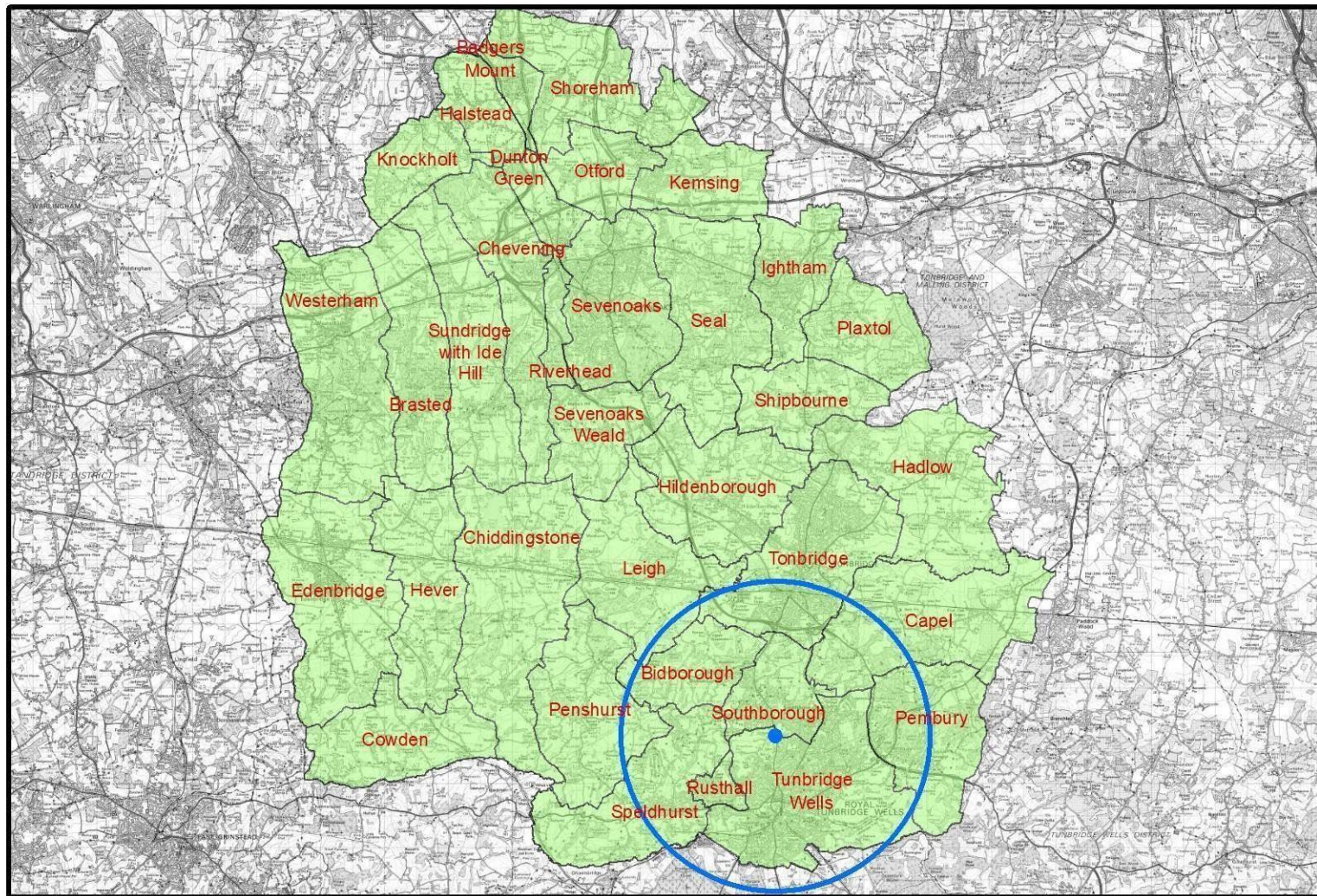
Parents who move to Kent after the Kent Test has taken place will still need to be assessed to be considered for admission to the school. This will be arranged directly

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 Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys will consist of electronic CAT tests (cognitive ability test) and students will be required to meet the threshold mean score of 115. 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.

Consultation

# Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys Priority Areas



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0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Produced by: Admissions and Transport  
Dated





## TUNBRIDGE WELLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS 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 targeted 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](http://kent.gov.uk/ola)

### CHILD'S DETAILS

| FORENAME | SURNAME | DATE OF BIRTH |
|----------|---------|---------------|
|          |         |               |

**ADDRESS** (This address will be used on all future correspondence unless otherwise notified. Please use house numbers and names where applicable)

**Postcode:**

### PARENT / CARER DETAILS

| TITLE | FORENAME | SURNAME | RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD |
|-------|----------|---------|-----------------------|
|       |          |         |                       |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| TELEPHONE NUMBER |  |
| EMAIL ADDRESS    |  |

**PRINT NAME:**      **SIGNATURE:**  
Please return to – TUNBRIDGE WELLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS,  
St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9XB by 31st October.

## **Admission Arrangements for Entry into Year 12 for Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys:**

Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys operates a sixth form for a total of 400 students. 200 places overall are available in year 12 (the year 12 capacity) for internal students who meet the entry criteria. There will only be places available for external students if the Sixth Form is undersubscribed by internal students and, in such circumstances, the same admissions criteria will apply. In the event of oversubscription by external candidates, we will apply the published oversubscription criteria to those students who meet the entry criteria.

### **Entry Criteria**

The academic entry requirements will be at least 48 points from your best 8 GCSE grades with no less than a 5 in English Language and Mathematics.

Students wishing to study Mathematics at A Level must have a minimum of grade 7 at GCSE. For other subjects at least a grade 6 is required in the subject you wish to study at A Level or in a closely related subject for those subjects that are new to the Sixth Form curriculum. Specific subject entry requirements can be found in the sixth form prospectus.

### **Application process**

Offers of places will be made on the basis of forecast (and any actual) grades meeting these standards. Admission is dependent upon achieving the grades set out in these criteria.

If the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in accordance with the determined admission arrangements.

Our internal students transferring to the Sixth Form will take priority over external applications. Any places after the admission of internal students will be allocated to learners who have met the entry requirements for the particular course of study. Where there are more learners seeking places than the number of places available, the above over-subscription criteria will be applied to rank pupils until the overall figure for the year group is reached.