

Medway Test 2021

- The 11+ is a selective test to see if children will be suitable for a Grammar School setting.
- These schools offer a rigorous academic education, which may not suit all children.
- We believe that all children should be given the chance to sit the 11+, and be supported to achieve the best they can.



What is the Medway Test?

- If you would like your child to be considered for a Medway Grammar school they will need to sit the Medway Test this is an **11+ test**.
- Medway has six Grammar Schools, and one bilateral school. (The Howard School).

Rainham Mark Grammar

- Holcombe Grammar
 - Chatham Grammar
 - Fort Pitt
 - Sir Joseph Williamson Mathematical
 - Rochester Grammar
- The **Medway test** is for admission to Medway Grammar schools **only**.
 - The **Kent test** is for admission to Kent Grammar schools **only**. You will need to apply separately to each Local Authority for secondary grammar schools within their area.



The 11+

- **The Medway Test (CEM centre)**
- **3 papers:**
 - English (extended writing task)
 - Mathematics – includes problem solving and multi-stage items
 - Verbal Reasoning – includes comprehension and vocabulary
- Children will take the test at Twydall School over 2 days in September 2021.
- Saturday mid-Sept for non-medway primary school pupils.

- **The Kent Test (GL assessment)**
- **4 papers:**
 - English (extended writing task)
 - Mathematics – includes problem solving and multi-stage items
 - Verbal Reasoning – includes comprehension and vocabulary
 - Non-Verbal Reasoning
- Children will take the test at school over 1 day in early September 2021.
- **Saturday early Sept 21 for non-kent primary school pupils.**



Should my child sit the Medway Test/go to Grammar School?

This should be an informed choice on whether a Grammar School may be the right place for your child.

Medway (and Kent) operate a 'testing before preference' system.

This means that your child will sit the Medway Test and receive their assessment decision before the closing date for school applications enabling you to make informed decisions as to which schools would suit your child best.

My child has an EHCP or Statement of Special Educational Needs. Can they sit the 11+ ?

The 11+ is open to all children currently in Year 5 who wish to be considered a grammar school place.

- You will need to discuss with the SEND team which schools you wish your child to be considered for.
- Your child's assessment decision will be taken into account when being considered for schools through the SEND processes.



I think my child may need special arrangements for accessing the Test. What can I do?

- Once you have registered your child for testing, you will need to discuss this with us.
- We will work with you to submit a request for special arrangements by completing the form provided by School Services.
Medway Council can only accept requests from schools, not from parents directly
- All requests submitted by the deadline will be considered objectively by the Special Arrangements Panel against NCA guidelines (as with SATs).
- Medway Council cannot guarantee that all requests will be upheld and special arrangements put into place.
- Please note that the decision made by the panel is final and there is no opportunity to appeal the decision.

Any request must be received by School Services from the school in July 2021 – date tbc

Late requests will not be considered.



Timeline of key dates

- **Spring 2021** – Parents may request Individual consultations with class teacher or member of Core Team.
- **Early June 2021** – Online registration for the Medway Test opens. (and Kent)
- **End June 2021** – Closing date for Medway Test registration (normally a week later for Special arrangements).
- **Mid-Sept 2021**– Medway Test Dates
- **Early Oct 2021**– Assessment decisions published to parents.
- **Mid Oct 2021** – Medway test review requests deadline
- **End Oct 2021** – National closing date for Secondary applications
- **Early March 2022** – National Offer Day

Actual dates registration/testing dates are not published until end April/May 2021



How can I prepare my child for the Medway Test?

- Twydall Primary school will not tutor or coach children prior to the tests over and above enabling the children to follow the national curriculum relevant for their age.
- We will continue to deliver teaching across the full curriculum during school hours, but also provided targeted curriculum support for English and Maths.
- Encourage your child to practice test type questions using example sheets available on the school website, other 11+ resource websites (eg Bond online) or via study guides. Study guides will be available to parents at cost price to the school or provided free to children eligible for Pupil Premium.
- Continue to encourage your child to read at home, practice times tables and spellings.
- Discuss your child taking the 11+ with your class teacher or member of the SLT when invited to do so.
- Do not overload your child with too much work or pressure now or during the run up to the tests.



Resource links

There are a number of resources available to support children in preparation for the tests, building upon and testing their core skills developed through their learning in school.

Many resources are free to download, however study books can be purchased from on-line retailers such as CGP and Amazon. **It is important that resources used are for the CEM 11+ assessment.**

Links to free/low cost resources

<http://www.twydallprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Medway+Test+%2D+practice+documents&pid=1084>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/info/preparing-for-the-11-plus-with-cgp/free-11-plus-practice-tests>

<http://www.11plusguide.com/11-plus-papers-books/free-11-plus-papers/free-sample-11-plus-cem-papers/#CEMpapers>

<https://www.11plusguide.com/exam-papers-books-grammar-school-region/kent-medway-11-plus/>

<https://www.sats-papers.co.uk/11-plus-papers/>

<https://www.bond11plus.co.uk/> - £6.50 per month for unlimited on-line access to practice assessments



Resource links

Practice books – there will be a cost per book

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/11-plus-13-plus-books/11/11-cem-range>_further extensive range of support and study guides

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=cem+11+plus+practice+papers+2020&crd=3BB6JI5XHFKYM&sprefix=cem+%2Caps%2C154&ref=nb_sb_ss_i_1_4

<https://www.whsmith.co.uk/books/cem-assessment-education-books/bks00597/>



How is the Medway Test Marked?

- Once all 3 papers have been marked, the raw scores are converted to standardised scores. These standardised scores will be weighted to reflect the child's age when they sat the test.
- English and Maths scores are then doubled and then added to the Verbal Reasoning to provide a total weighted standardised score.
- A minimum total weighted score is set each year at the 23rd percentile of the Medway cohort based on school census data.
- Pupils who reach the minimum score or above will be assessed as selective.
- Previous years minimum scores have been between 513 to 530.

What if I disagree with the assessment decision?

- Parents/Carers may request an **academic review** an independent review panel will look at work from the last 2 terms of Year 5 (English – extended writing, Mathematics – problem solving, and Science – investigation). Max 2% of children will be assessed as selective.
- Appeal directly to a Grammar School after National Offer Day. Please note you can only appeal to schools that were named on your child's application form.



Secondary Admissions 2021

Further information

Full detailed information on the entire Secondary Admissions process for 2022 will be available on the school website in May or from the Medway Council Website.

As soon as information is published by Medway we will share with parents.

