

Frequently Asked Questions

HOW DO I MAKE AN APPLICATION?

You must apply directly to the Local Authority where you live, by submitting your Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF). This is available online, via your local authority's website. You must use the Secondary Common Application Form - this is the only way to make an application.

IF I LIVE OUTSIDE KENT, DO I STILL NEED TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO KENT COUNTY COUNCIL?

No. You must make your application to your Local Authority.

MY SON SAT THE BEXLEY TEST, DOES THIS MAKE HIM ELIGIBLE FOR A PLACE AT DGS IF HE PASSES?

No, your son must pass the Kent 11+ test in order to be eligible for Dartford Grammar School.

WHEN WILL WE GET KENT TEST RESULTS?

Kent Council will send results via email on Thursday 16th October 2025.

WHEN IS THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS?

The national closing date is Friday 31st October 2025.

IS THERE A SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM TO COMPLETE?

*Yes, **but only if you are applying under the Pupil Premium criterion** of our Admissions arrangements. The form is available from the school's website and should be returned to admissions@dartfordgrammarschool.org.uk between 1st September 2025 and 31st October 2025, along with evidence of your child's pupil premium status. **Please do not send the form if you are not applying under this criterion.***

IF MY SON PASSES THE KENT 11+ TEST, WILL HE BE GUARANTEED A PLACE?

No. We always have more applications than places, so places are allocated according to our oversubscription criteria, explained below.

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL ALLOCATE PLACES TO STUDENTS?

*The school has 180 places to offer to students **who have passed the Kent test**, but we will likely receive many more applications than we have places. We therefore apply our over-subscription criteria and offer places in the following way:*

*130 places are offered to students living in our **Priority Area**. These are applicants who live in the Dartford Electoral Wards which pay council tax to Dartford Borough Council or live in one of the parishes below:*

<i>Ash-cum-Ridley</i>	<i>Crockenhill</i>	<i>Eynsford</i>
<i>Farningham</i>	<i>Fawkham</i>	<i>Hartley</i>
<i>Hextable</i>	<i>Horton Kirby and South Darenth</i>	<i>Swanley</i>
<i>West Kingsdown</i>		

*Of the 130 places available, first priority is given to **Looked-After, or Previously Looked-After** applicants. After this, up to 13 places are reserved for students in receipt of **Pupil Premium** who have a Kent test score at least 20 points higher than the Kent test threshold, ranked according to score. Remaining places in this category are offered according to the child's **score** in the Kent test, to those who have achieved a score of at least 40 points higher than the Kent test threshold, ranked according to score.*

*We then have 50 places available for applicants regardless of address, where first priority is given to **Looked-After, or Previously Looked-After** applicants, followed by up to 5 places for students in receipt of **Pupil Premium** who have a Kent test score at least 20 points higher than the Kent test threshold score, ranked according to score. The remaining places are offered according to the child's Kent test **score**.*

WHAT IS THE KENT TEST THRESHOLD SCORE?

The Kent test pass mark this year is confirmed as 332.

WILL THE SCHOOL TAKE ALL PUPIL PREMIUM APPLICANTS?

No, not necessarily. We have a total of 18 priority places available to Pupil Premium applicants, and applications are ranked according to the child's score in the Kent test.

IF I LIVE IN DARTFORD AND MY SON HAS PASSED THE KENT TEST, BUT DID NOT GAIN A SCORE OF 40 POINTS HIGHER THAN THE KENT THRESHOLD SCORE, CAN I STILL APPLY?

Yes, you can still apply but you will not be ranked in the Priority Area group. You will be ranked in Category 2, which is open to all applicants regardless of address. Please note that this group is ranked according to score.

DO YOU HAVE A SIBLING POLICY?

No, we do not have a sibling policy.

DO I NEED TO PUT DARTFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL AS THE FIRST PREFERENCE ON OUR APPLICATION FORM?

If we are your first choice, then yes! You should ensure that your list of schools reflects your true order of preference.

MY CHILD DID NOT PASS THE KENT TEST, CAN I STILL APPLY?

You can still list us as preference on your application form, but your son will not be eligible for a place. However, by listing us, you will have the right of appeal when you are not offered a place.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DID NOT APPLY FOR MY SON TO TAKE THE KENT 11+ TESTS?

If you missed the deadline for registering for the Kent test, please contact the school so we can advise you further.

I LIVE VERY CLOSE TO THE SCHOOL. WILL THIS BE AN ADVANTAGE FOR MY SON'S APPLICATION?

Although there is an advantage of living in our Priority Area, please be aware that not all applicants who live near the school will pay their council tax to Dartford or be in one of the listed parishes. Within each over-subscription criterion, if applicants achieve a tied score in the Kent test, the boy living closer will be ranked highest.

IF I MOVE TO THE PRIORITY AREA, WILL MY SON BE GUARANTEED A PLACE?

No. There are no guarantees that your son will be offered a place, even if he passes the Kent test. We are always oversubscribed and will have many more applications than the 130 places available.

IF I MOVE TO THE PRIORITY AREA, WHEN IS THE DEADLINE TO MOVE?

This year, you must be able to provide proof to Kent Council that you are living in the Priority Area, by 8th December. You MUST notify Kent County Council as soon as you have moved.

WILL I BE ASKED FOR PROOF OF ADDRESS?

Yes, we will ask for a comprehensive list of documents to prove you are living at the address on your application form. It will not be sufficient to temporarily rent a property in the Priority Area whilst living elsewhere. This would be considered to be a fraudulent application.

WHEN WILL I FIND OUT IF MY APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

Offers of school places will be sent out by local authorities on 2nd March 2026.

IF I AM NOT OFFERED DARTFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, SHOULD I ACCEPT THE PLACE I HAVE BEEN OFFERED ELSEWHERE, EVEN IF I DON'T REALLY WANT MY SON TO GO THERE?

Yes. You should accept the offer made on 2nd March as there are no guarantees your son will be offered a place with us from the waiting list or through the appeals process. If he is, you can then decline the offer received on 2nd March, even if you have previously accepted it.

CAN MY SON JOIN THE WAITING LIST?

Yes, if he has passed the Kent 11+ test. Please refer to the offer letter from your local authority, which will contain details on joining schools' waiting lists.

WHEN WILL I FIND OUT IF MY SON HAS BEEN OFFERED A PLACE FROM THE WAITING LIST?

Offers from the waiting list will be made on 23rd April 2026.

HOW DO I APPEAL?

If you listed Dartford Grammar School on your SCAF and were not offered a place, you have the right of appeal if you feel that there has been a mistake made in the processing of your application or if you feel that you have strong reasons to suggest that your son needs to go to Dartford Grammar School. A strong reason would not normally be related to ease of travel. You must submit your appeal by 2nd April, and full details of the process will be on the school's website towards the end of February 2026.

I DID NOT LIST DARTFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL ON MY SCAF, BUT WOULD LIKE TO APPLY. WHAT DO I DO?

You must submit an In-Year Application Form directly to us after 23rd April 2026.