

13 May 2019

**Important Information for Year 5 Parents regarding PESE:
Procedure for Entry to Secondary Education and
Registering for the Kent Test**



Dear Year 5 Parents,

I'm sure for many of you it's incredible to think that you now need to consider secondary school choices for your child - they can't possibly have been at Upton that long! However, this is actually the case. If you want your child to take the Kent Test (11+), and therefore be eligible for grammar school if they pass, the key dates to register your child are set out below. Please ensure you read this letter fully and carefully as it contains not only information about the Kent Test, **but also about secondary school allocations** and our own upcoming PESE meeting for parents.

• **3rd June 2019**: Registration for the Kent Test opens. Parents who wish their child to take the Kent Test can register online via www.kent.gov.uk/ola (preferred option) or via post.

• **Tuesday 4th June 2019**: Year 5 Parents PESE Information Evening (6:00 pm School Hall)

• **3rd July 2019**: Online registration for the Kent Test closes

• **12th September 2019**: Date of Kent Test

• **17th October 2019**: Parents who applied online are notified via email at 4pm if their child was successful in the Kent Test.

The Kent Admissions team are encouraging parents to utilise the online registration website as this will allow the process to run much more effectively. If you register online, you will receive the assessment decision without having to wait for the assessment decision letter.

If you have not got online capability at home, please contact our School Office and they will make arrangements for you to use the facilities in the school. If you wish to receive a paper registration form, please contact the Secondary Admissions Team on **03000 41 21 21** or email kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk. You can also print off a copy of the form from www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions to complete and return.

It is our intention to hold a **PESE Information Meeting** for parents/carers of Year 5 children on **Tuesday 4th June at 6.00pm** in the school hall. This meeting will enable us to give you more information about the PESE process and answer any questions you may have.

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Year 5 will be undertaking the **Year 5 Cognitive Assessment Tests** (CAT tests) prior to the PESE meeting and we have forms of **standardised testing** at mileposts throughout the year that will help you to determine whether your child is at the level required for grammar school entry. These results will help inform your decision making **but regardless, the choice is entirely yours.**

At this time, I advise parents to begin looking at the entrance and admissions criteria for any secondary school they wish their child to attend if you haven't already. These criteria are published on the secondary school websites and it is **very important** that parents realise how this affects their child and the chances of being allocated a place in their preferred school. Often, the distance you live from the school **will not guarantee you receive a place.**

Once the results of the Kent Test have been published in October, you have to choose four schools in order of preference that you would like your child to attend. These schools will all allocate their spaces following their set entrance criteria, regardless of where you place them in order of preference. While actually formally choosing a school for your child won't happen until they are in Year 6, I urge Upton parents to check the criteria of the schools you would prefer for your child as soon as possible in case you don't currently meet their entrance criteria.

You are also asked to read the 'Admission to Secondary School in Kent 2019' booklet available on Kent Admissions website: www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

We understand the importance of the decisions that lie ahead for parents at this time and have exceptionally experienced staff who can help you. Our intention is to support you and share information with you that may impact upon the decision you make. If in any doubt about anything - please ask!

Yours sincerely

Miss D Arthur

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