

Admission Arrangements

For September 2026

Ratified by Governors
November 2024 for
September 2026 cohort

Next Review Date
November 2025 for
September 2027 cohort

Review Period
Annually



Maidstone Grammar School Admission Arrangements September 2026

Criteria for Admitting Pupils to Year 7 for September 2026

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.

* **Supplementary Information Form for Free School Meals – to qualify for entry under the Free School Meals criterion, pupils will need to be in receipt of free school meals at the time of application.** Please complete the appeal form via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/h3xxVTLjHJ> and email your evidence to clerk@mgs.kent.sch.uk.

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 (see area map below):

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, Trottiscliffe, Ulcombe, Wateringbury, West Farleigh, West Malling, West Peckham, Wichling, Wormshill, Wrotham,



Wouldham, Yalding (includes Laddingford). See the note about transport below.

In Year Admissions

Criteria for admitting students after the start of the academic year:

Students can test once a year for a place at MGS. Our Planned Admission Number is 205 in each year group. An In Year Admissions Form (IYAF) will need to be completed which can be found on the school website along with our Frequently Asked Questions about appeals.

Students admitted at the start of Year 7 each academic year will have been identified as suitable for Grammar School education under the Kent selection procedure. Year 7 students applying for a place into Year 7 between September and December will take the Kent Test. From January, Year 7 students will take the School's own in-year admissions test. Students can test once each year for a place at the school. If a student is unsuccessful following testing for a place in a particular year group they can request to be tested again in the following year. This applies to all year groups up to Year 11.

Year 7 students who have not taken the Kent Test at their primary school and students wishing to join into Years 8 – 11 should apply for a place at the school using the In year Admission Form (IYAF) available on the school website. Within 15 days of receipt of the IYAF the school advise the next available testing date. The cognitive ability tests include quantitative, non-verbal reasoning and verbal reasoning. Student scores should place them in the top 25% of the national ability range in each test.

The test papers are marked in school and you will be notified in writing or via email of the results of the test within 10 working days and given further information on what to do next. If a place is available in the year group applied for and the student has successfully passed the test, a place in the school will be offered.

If a student is unsuccessful following testing or they pass the test but we are unable to offer a place because we are at or above our planned admission number in that year group, parents/carers have the right to appeal against the decision not to admit. Appeals are undertaken using Kent County Council's Independent Appeals Procedure.

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

Where a member of staff has legal parental responsibility for children, those children 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 (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a 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. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the 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.

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 2026

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 Sixth Form Curriculum Booklet.

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 according to their exact average GCSE point score across the eight subjects in the order of (a) siblings (b) children of staff (c) remaining students.

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.

Supplementary Information Form for Free School Meals - to qualify for entry under the Free School Meals criterion, pupils will need to be in receipt of free school meals at the time of application. Please complete the appeal form via this <https://forms.office.com/e/h3xxVTLjHJ> and email your evidence to clerk@mgs.kent.sch.uk.

