FORWARD-THINKING

CHALLENGING

DISCOVERING

ACHIEVING

RESILIENT

INDIVIDUALITY

SUCCESSFUL SUPPORTED

READY

AMBITIOUS

ADMISSIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Kent College

WELCOME

We are delighted you are considering Kent College. This Admissions and Scholarships guide aims to help you understand the process of application and assessment here at Kent College, and the Admissions Team is here to help you at every stage.

Visits

Before applying for a place, we strongly recommend that prospective students and their parents visit the school to meet the Head, staff and students and to see the facilities. Visits are recommended in the two years prior to entry and can be arranged by contacting the Admissions Team on admissions@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk.

In addition to individual visits, we also hold Open Mornings and have regular events throughout the year.

Entry Points

In the Senior School, the main points of entry are at Year 7, Year 9 and the Lower Sixth. Occasionally places are available in Year 8 and Year 10. For those who attend a Prep School there is also the option to apply at Year 6 and defer entry to start in Year 9. Assessments for entry are held in the autumn term and offers of a place are made in December.

Parents who wish to proceed with an application to Kent College should complete the online Application Form. In addition, we also require a £180 registration fee together with a copy of your child's latest school report and passport. Upon receipt of the above, your child would be registered for entry and a member of the Admissions Team will be in touch to confirm the next steps.

Kent College

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

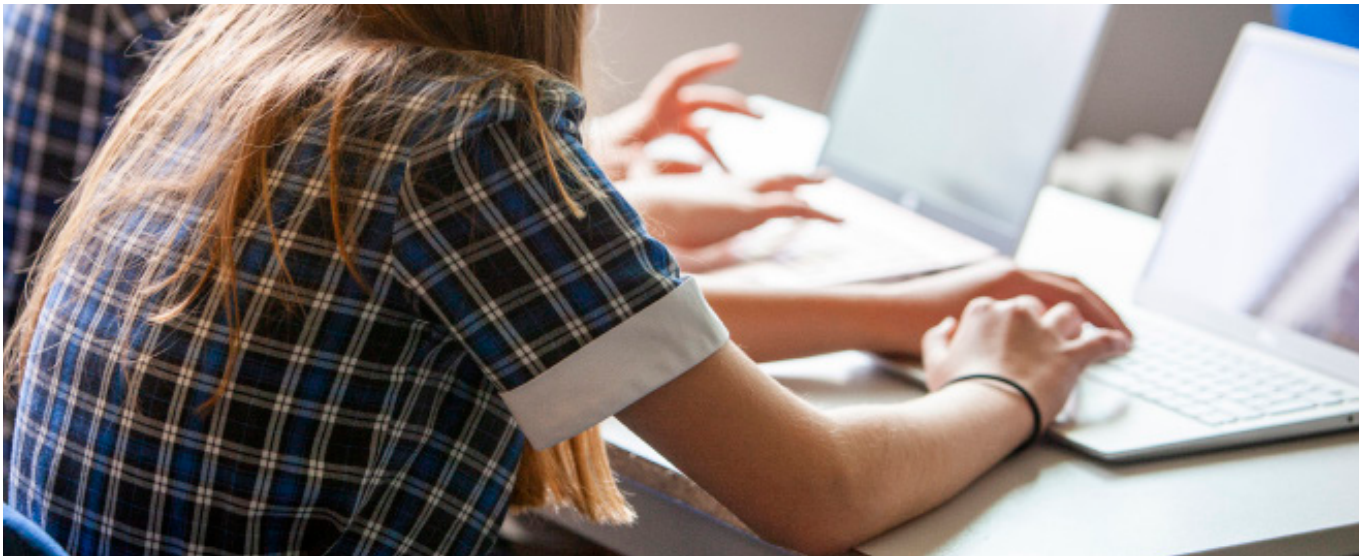
Kent College is an inclusive, gently selective school. Selection is not solely based upon academic merit, but on potential, with the priority being to successfully ensure that we are the right fit for your child. Our selection process is designed to identify students who have a sufficient level of ability or potential to access our balanced and well-rounded education with success and make a positive contribution towards the life of the school and thrive throughout their time here.

We host assessment days which are designed to help everyone feel settled and comfortable so they can showcase themselves at their best. Kent College will determine each student's ability to access the curriculum through a range of assessment tools.

Throughout the assessment, we will be looking for a range of characteristics and skills which show the students' potential, such as:

- enthusiasm for learning and curiosity.
- positive interactions with peers and teachers.
- kindness and a drive to contribute to the wider community.

Following the entrance assessments for all years, parents will be invited to a meeting with a member of the senior team to discuss the fit between families and Kent College, and how we can work together to help everyone thrive.



Year 7

Students applying for a place in September 2027 should be registered by Friday 23rd October 2026. The Entrance Day will take place on Saturday 14th November 2026.

Assessment

Students will sit the Kent College entry paper which will assess literacy through creative writing and mathematical competence.

Students will be observed in several settings including a lesson, a team challenge activity and a group interview with a senior member of staff.

A reference is requested from the student's current school.

All students who sit the Entrance Assessment are considered for an Academic Scholarship and will be invited for a further interview.

General entry decisions will be based on a student's performance across the entry assessments. Academic Scholarship entry will be based on results from the Kent College entry paper, and an interview. No preparation for the assessments is required.

Year 9

Students applying for a place in September 2027 should be registered by Friday 23rd October 2026. The Entrance Day will take place on Monday 16th November 2026

Assessment

Students will sit the Kent College entry paper which will assess literacy through creative writing and mathematical competence.

Students will be observed participating in several settings, such as lessons and attend an interview with a member of staff.

A reference is requested from the student's current school.

General entry decisions will be based on a student's performance across the entry assessments. Academic Scholarship entry will be based on results from the Kent College entry paper and an interview. No preparation for the assessments is required.

Sixth Form

Applications to the Sixth Form will be considered at any time during the year, however students are advised to apply by the end of the Autumn Term the year preceding entry to guarantee that they are able to study their chosen A Level or BTEC options.

Students are normally required to have at least six GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, with Grade 6 or above in the subjects being pursued at A Level. Students are usually expected to achieve a Grade 7 or above in Maths and the Sciences if they wish to study these subjects at A Level.

Following application, students will be invited to a taster day at Kent College where they will:

- be observed participating in a number of lessons.
- attend an interview with a member of the Sixth Form staff team.

International Applications

We welcome applications from full boarders, but also, depending on availability, for short stays of one term to one year. International families are encouraged to visit the school in person and should contact the Admissions Team to arrange a visit.

Following receipt of an application, international applicants are required to sit online entrance tests in Maths and English before being interviewed by our Deputy Head Academic or the Head of the International Study Centre.

Kent College does accept the UKiset test. Applicants who sit this assessment will not have to complete further assessments, but will be invited for an interview.

Other Applications

Where we have capacity, applications are welcome for other year groups. Please check availability with the Admissions Team before proceeding.

Accepting a Place

To formally accept an offer of a place we require a completed Acceptance Form, Parent Contract and deposit. Upon receipt of these, the place will be secure. For those joining Year 10 or Sixth Form we would also require a subject Options Form that will be sent to you. Closer to the point of entry a New Joiner Handbook and forms for completion will be sent to you with any other paperwork required.

AWARDS

Kent College is proud to offer a range of scholarship opportunities at Year 7, Year 9 and Sixth Form for Academic, Art, Dance, Drama, Music and Sport. They are awarded to students for demonstrating a particularly high standard of achievement.

It is possible for pupils to receive multiple scholarships. Students applying for Year 7 and Year 9 may apply for up to two Practical Scholarships and will be automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship. Sixth Form applicants may apply for an Academic Scholarship and up to two Practical Scholarships. External candidates awarded Practical Scholarship awards are required to meet Kent College's general academic entry requirements.

Scholars at Kent College are automatically enrolled onto a specialist Scholars' Programme, which includes a dedicated staff supervisor with whom they meet regularly. Their supervisor helps them to balance the demands on their time, their expectations and those of their teachers and the wide range of commitments that many of our scholars have, as well as providing ongoing feedback. Scholarships are annually reviewed and subject to satisfactory performance and commitment.

A limited number of awards will be made and there are many applications of a very high standard. Scholarship is a competitive process; the criteria detailed in the pages that follow are guidelines only, they are not success criteria, and are simply there to help families determine whether to make an application.

ACADEMIC

Academic Scholarships are awarded to candidates who excel in the Entrance Day assessments and there is no need to apply. We expect our Academic Scholars to demonstrate a passion for learning, an ability to think outside the box and a curiosity to find out more. We want to see a willingness to persevere, the rigour to achieve excellence and the desire to embrace new opportunities.

An Academic Scholar at KC will receive:

1 Regular one-to-one mentor meetings with a dedicated scholarship supervisor who will offer support and guidance, assist with academic target-setting and encourage aspirational goals.

2 Invitations to our HALO (High Aspiration Learning Opportunity) lecture series. These lectures take place several times a term and cover a wide range of stimulating and challenging topics. The speakers will explore a variety of cultural, scientific and political themes which will take the pupils' thinking beyond the limits of the curriculum.

3 Years 7-11 Academic Scholars will have the opportunity to attend the fortnightly club, where they will work on a piece of independent research of their choice.

4 Sixth Form Academic Scholars will join a critical thinking discussion group which meets once a fortnight. They will examine ethical, philosophical or political issues which will lead to further research and wider reading around topics which spark their intellectual curiosity.

5 A wide range of extra-curricular and in-class enhancement activities, including, for example, CREST awards. Staff will ensure that significantly challenging material is always available for them.

6 Workshops and lectures with external speakers.

Assessment

There is no need to apply as all candidates will be automatically be considered for Academic Scholarship based on their performance in the Entrance Day assessment.

Those considered suitable for an Academic Scholarship will be invited for a further interview, and Kent College will seek a full confidential report from their current school.

ART

Art Scholarships are awarded to candidates who demonstrate a high level of skill and independent interest in Art.

Art Scholars are expected to play an active and positive role amongst art students within the school, and to participate in all scholar programme events.

An Art Scholar at KC will receive:

1 A weekly session led by the Head of Art and Art Prefect, where they not only work on their own pieces but also debate topics of interest and support each other's work. This mentoring approach is valuable to all involved and excellent preparation for A Level and university.

2 An exhibition attended by friends, family and the whole school community to display their work.

3 Access to the Art studios outside of timetabled lessons.

Facilities

Art is taught in modern studios in our purpose built Arts Centre, with equipment for exploration of a wide range of processes and techniques, including ceramics and print making. For those interested in photography, we have Nikon DSLR cameras with a wide range of lenses and software for digital post-production.

Assessment

Candidates for Art Scholarships must submit all completed forms by the published deadline. Kent College will seek a full confidential report from their current school, plus a specialist reference from the Art teacher at their current school before assessment.

Candidates' level of achievement, enthusiasm and future potential will be assessed during an interview to which candidates should bring a selection of up to six pieces of recent work. As well as their own work, they should also bring evidence of a recent gallery visit and responses to any artist's work that they found interesting. This could be written or drawn.

Candidates for Art Scholarships will be required to demonstrate the following:

- A high level of visual and practical competence.
- An informed knowledge and interest of Art and artists.
- The ability to work independently; at least two works from the portfolio must be work created from outside the classroom.

The Art Scholarship assessment will take the form of:

- An interview with the Art Department – to include discussion of work and gallery visit.
- An observational test on the day.

Oil Pastel
Oil Pastel

DANCE

Drama Scholarships at Kent College are designed to reward, encourage and develop the acting, theatrical and performing skills of those students who demonstrate exceptional talent within Performing Arts. Scholars are provided with a mentor to help guide them on their Drama journey and open up creative opportunities and have access to a range of industry professional workshops, talks, masterclasses and trips organised by the Drama Department. We expect Drama Scholars to study Drama at GCSE and A Level and to take part in school productions either as performers or

A Dance Scholar at KC will receive:

1. A dedicated dance supervisor who will meet with them regularly.
2. Workshops with specialist teachers and industry professionals.
3. Regular theatre trips.
4. Scholars' dance company classes and performances.
5. Performance roles in the annual Dance Show and all school productions.
6. The opportunity to lead Dance Clubs and Workshops.
7. Academic support from specialist teachers.

Facilities

Dance is taught in our dance studios and in our state-of-the-art Countess of Wessex Theatre. The theatre is a modern, flexible performance space with a capacity of 210. With raked seating providing excellent sight lines, computerised lighting, and sound equipment, it is a first class venue for all performances.

Assessment

Candidates for Dance Scholarships must submit all completed forms by the published deadline. Kent College will seek a full confidential report from their current school, plus a specialist reference from the Head of Dance of their current school before assessment.

Candidates for Dance Scholarships will be required to demonstrate the following:

- The ability to show commitment and strong ability within a technical dance class.
- To be able to use clear interpretive and creative skills during performance.
- To be able to take corrections and use them to develop and improve their skills.

The Dance Scholarship auditions will involve the following elements:

- To take part in a technical dance class.
- To work creatively alone and in a group under direction.
- To present a prepared performance piece in any dance style for the duration of one minute.
- An interview during which the candidate should present a side of A4 documenting their performance history, displaying commitment and a genuine interest in the subject.

DRAMA

Drama Scholarships at Kent College are designed to reward, encourage and develop the acting, theatrical and performing skills of those students who demonstrate exceptional talent within Performing Arts. Scholars are provided with a mentor to help guide them on their Drama journey and open up creative opportunities and have access to a range of industry professional workshops, talks, masterclasses and trips organised by the Drama Department. We expect Drama Scholars to study Drama at GCSE and A Level and to take part in school productions either as performers or designers.

A Drama Scholar at KC will receive:

1. Support from a Drama mentor & the Drama Department.
2. Workshops, talks, clubs and masterclasses from industry professionals.
3. A range of theatre trips to inspire creativity and broaden cultural appreciation.
4. Access to career guidance, audition preparation and opportunities at the end of Key Stage 5. Support with developing a CV and show reel.
5. Opportunities at a range of performances and productions including a Scholars performance.

Facilities

Drama is taught in our drama studios and in our state-of-the-art Countess of Wessex Theatre. The theatre is a modern, flexible performance space with a capacity of 210. With raked seating providing excellent sight lines and computerised lighting and sound equipment, it is a first class venue for performances. The Performing Arts Drama, Dance, Technical and Music specialists work together to help students become more confident, creative and forward thinking while honing their craft within the Performing Arts.

Assessment

Candidates for Drama Scholarships must submit all completed forms by the published deadline. Kent College will seek a full confidential report from their current school, plus a specialist reference from the Head of Drama at their current school before assessment.

Candidates for Drama Scholarships will be required to demonstrate the following:

- The ability to analyse and evaluate a play.
- The use of own skills and imagination to create a meaningful performance.
- To be able to take direction and use it to develop and improve their skills.
- A positive attitude and a positive contribution to the Drama Department.

The Drama Scholarship auditions will involve the following elements:

- To take part in a creative devising workshop.
- To work alone and in a group under intense directorial intervention.
- To present a dramatic piece chosen by Kent College, learnt and prepared beforehand.
- An interview during which the candidate should present a side of A4 documenting their performance history, displaying commitment and a genuine interest in the subject.

MUSIC

Music Scholarships are awarded to talented musicians with at least a Grade 3 in one instrument (including voice). Music Scholars are ambassadors for the Department; they help raise the standard of music-making within their own year group and the school through their skill set, enthusiasm and passion for the subject. They are also expected to play an active and positive role within the School.

A Music Scholar at KC will receive:

1. A dedicated Music supervisor who reviews progress both in and out of school.
2. Pastoral and professional development advice and guidance from the Head of Music.
3. Masterclasses and workshops with professional musicians.
4. Solo roles in concerts and high profile events.
5. The opportunity to lead sectionals, take rehearsals and start up their own musical groups.

Facilities

We have a dedicated Music block with a recording studio, specialist teaching and practice rooms and a state-of-the-art computer suite with sound equipment, software and keyboards. There is access to the Countess of Wessex Theatre, the Organ Room and Old Church for concerts and shows. A wide range of instruments are available.

Assessment

Candidates for Music Scholarships must submit all completed forms by the published deadline. Kent College will seek a full confidential report from the Head of their current school, plus a specialist reference from the Head of Music, at their current school before assessment.

Expected ability level in at least one instrument.

Year 7 - Grade 3.
Year 9 - Grade 5.
Sixth Form - Grade 7.

The Music Scholarship assessment will take the form of:

- A practical audition on one or more instruments.
- Sight-singing and aural skills.
- An informal interview where candidates can demonstrate their knowledge and love for the subject.

Candidates with one instrument (including voice) should prepare TWO contrasting pieces for audition. Those with more than one instrument (including voice) should prepare ONE piece on each instrument.

SPORT

Sport Scholarships are awarded to candidates outstanding in one sport or excellent in three, ideally those competed in at Kent College. The programme supports talented sportsmen and sportswomen, offering guidance beyond PE and School Sport. Scholars are expected to play a positive, leading role, act as ambassadors for school sport, uphold high standards in training and competition, and remain committed to representing the school in teams as required by the Sports Department.

A Sport Scholar at KC will receive:

1. A dedicated mentor who meets with them weekly to discuss academic performance, their sporting schedule and general wellbeing. Goals are set and extra study support is put in place during busier training or competition periods to ensure they keep on top of their schoolwork and meet academic deadlines.
2. A weekly programme that includes lectures with nutritionists, physiotherapists, sport psychologists and other specialists in the field.
3. Strength, conditioning and fitness sessions in our onsite fitness suite with the PE team.
4. Sport specific coaching and performance analysis programmes.
5. Visits to watch elite sport and talks by top-level athletes.
6. PE staff work collaboratively with coaches and parents to support the athlete holistically, both on and off the field.

Facilities

Sports facilities include a full size astro pitch and athletics track, seven tennis courts, nine netball courts, two modern sports halls with viewing galleries, dedicated PE teaching classrooms, fitness suite with cardio and strength training machines, a cross country course, an outdoor assault course, three competition size trampolines and top-level gymnastics equipment.

Assessment

Candidates for Sport Scholarships must submit all completed forms, including a CV (not exceeding one side of A4) summarising sporting activities and achievements over the last two years, by the published deadline. Kent College will seek a full confidential report from their current school, plus a specialist reference from the Head of PE at their current school before assessment. If relevant, Kent College will also seek specialist references from external coaches/clubs.

Candidates are expected to be either:

- Outstanding in any one sport (i.e. performing at County level or above in any sport) or
- Excellent in three sports - cricket, netball, football, rugby, hockey, gymnastics, swimming, athletics, tennis, cross country, equestrian - i.e. representing A teams in all three sports or have the potential to perform at Regional or County level in any two.

To support the CV, candidates are asked to bring a portfolio of achievements (which may include video evidence, if appropriate) for discussion at interview.

The Sport Scholarship assessment will take the form of:

- Fitness assessments.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate their practical skills individually and within a team where possible, or video evidence will be sufficient.
- An interview with the Director of Sport where the candidate's CV and portfolio will be discussed.

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Kent College

2026-2027