

MEDWAY TEST 2024

INFORMATION NEEDED

Medway's website with all information about the Medway Test:

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200137/schools_and_learning/1049/medway_test_11/5

DATES

- **Monday 20th May 2024:** test registration opens on the [Medway Council](#) website
- **Friday 14th June 2024:** test registration closes
- **Monday 2nd September 2024:** Medway Council opens secondary school applications at 9am
- **Tuesday 17th–Wednesday 18th September 2024:** Medway Test takes place at Medway primary/junior schools (separate dates for those with special arrangements)

SITTING THE TESTS AT SCHOOL

- Children will come into school at the normal time
- Class teacher and TA will invigilate the test
- Children sit the test in their year 6 classroom
- Calm and quiet conditions

CHANGES TO THE TESTS FOR 2024

- The Medway Test has been changed for children taking the exam for entry to a grammar school in 2025. The test, which will take place in September 2024, will consist of three papers:
 - English
 - Maths
 - Reasoning
- This replaces the previous exam, which consisted of a writing test, a maths and non-verbal reasoning test, and a verbal reasoning test. These changes have been designed following a review of testing by Medway Council in cooperation with the grammar schools, and to create a fairer assessment of children's abilities.
-

ENGLISH

- 11 plus English exams assess the knowledge and skills children have learnt following the Key Stage 2 national curriculum. Most 11 plus exams include a [reading comprehension](#) exercise, where children need to show their understanding of a passage of text. Many tests also include questions which assess vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Children who read regularly and widely tend to perform well in 11 plus English exams. Engaging with a wide range of reading material helps improve skills in analysis, vocabulary, inference, comprehension, and imagination.
-

MATHS

- 11 plus maths exams test the content your child will have learned in their [Key Stage 2 maths](#) lessons. Your child should be comfortable with their times tables, and have an age-appropriate knowledge of:
- the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)
- fractions and decimals
- percentages and ratio
- geometry, including area, perimeter and measurements

REASONING

- Reasoning is usually divided into two different types: [verbal reasoning](#) and [non-verbal reasoning](#).
- Both types of reasoning involve analysing information and using logic to solve problems. Verbal reasoning focuses on written information – such as letters, words, numbers and symbols. Non-verbal reasoning involves using visual information, like shapes, pictures and diagrams.
- Verbal and non-verbal reasoning aren't taught on the primary school curriculum. Lots of grammar schools include reasoning tests in their 11 plus exam to look at potential, rather than learned knowledge.

FAMILIARISATION GUIDE

- Each year a familiarisation guide is sent to you for you to look through with your child.
- A few days before the test we go through it with the children at school. This is more so that the children are familiar with how to record their answers on the answer sheet.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

For some pupils, it **may** be appropriate to apply for special arrangements to allow them to access the Medway Test. This can include a variety of arrangements, such as: 25% additional time, a scribe, a reader, stop the clock, a prompt or test on own/in a small group.

Pupils must be registered for the Medway test in order to be considered for any requests.

A diagnosis DOES NOT mean that special arrangements will be granted.

Pupils with an EHCP will automatically be awarded 25% additional time for the tests.

Special arrangement requests **MUST** include a clear reason for the request, from the following options:

- * Has an EHCP

- *Receives SEN support for a learning difficulty which significantly impacts their ability to access the tests (such as a hearing impairment, visual impairment, processing difficulties, physical/motor difficulty)

- *Has a medical condition that requires management during the test (special arrangements are not needed for those able to self-administer Epipen or prescription medication)

- *Emotional, social and behavioural difficulties

- *Has English as an additional language (EAL) or limited fluency in English

The guidance about special arrangements is very strict and we are not able to make an application without suitable evidence that any requested arrangements are part of 'normal classroom practice'.

If you believe that an application for special arrangements is needed, please first speak to their current class teacher – we **MUST** be able to provide robust evidence that access arrangements are already part of normal classroom practice.

If the current class teacher feels that there is sufficient evidence, please email the school office to request a discussion/meeting with the SEN team to progress the application/request. Meetings/discussions will take place early in Term 6 in order to complete applications within the allocated timeframe. The deadline for special arrangements is Friday 21st June.

School must submit the request for access arrangements, which must be completed in conjunction with parents.

Applications/requests for special arrangements **WILL NOT** be accepted without parental signatures and suitable evidence.

This request is then discussed at a panel and parents are notified of the outcome by 19th July 2024. The final decision of what is or is not granted lies with the panel members and there is no capacity to appeal the decision made.

Pupils granted with special arrangements will take their tests on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th September 2024.