



Bapchild & Tonge CE (Aided) Primary School

Headteacher: Mr C Kelly

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Dear Year 5 Parents

I hope you and your family are all well and keeping safe.

Many Y5 parents may be thinking about the Kent Test which is due to start in September and are anxious to know what will happen about the Kent Test when the new school year starts in September.

Kent County Council are carefully considering what might be deliverable, depending on advice from central government as the pandemic runs its course and decisions are made about the easing of lockdown for children of primary school age. Many factors could change between now and the end of term and this means that they are currently unable to tell you exactly how they will assess children for grammar school in the new academic year.

The LA can confirm, however, that there will need to be some way to identify which children are eligible. They state that testing has the benefit of being available to the thousands of grammar school applicants they normally assess every year however recently they have arrived in Kent and wherever they usually study, even if they are home educated, so it would be the most straightforward option if it is possible.

Whatever is decided, though, they need to be confident that they can keep the risk to children and their teachers as low as possible, allowing grammar schools to meet their legal obligations in a fair and transparent way, while allowing KCC to stay within the national timetable for coordinating school admissions.

The LA appreciates that everyone of school age is missing classroom teaching, but it is fortunate that there are many resources available through sites for children. Familiarisation material for the Kent Test can also be found in the "Test Paper".

The LA will update the website <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test##tab-3> for everyone's benefit when they receive further guidance from the Department for Education and there is a clearer understanding of what arrangements may be possible.

In the meantime, if you are thinking about your child taking the Kent Test, they will need to be registered using the link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test#tab-1>. Registration opens today – 1st June 2020 and closes at midnight on 1st July 2020 for children due to start secondary school in **September 2021**.

I have attached the slide show I would have used for our meeting on the website under Letters with further information and details. Please be aware these details were correct at the time of writing.

I am also aware that many parents will have paid or will be paying for the PGL residential organised for late September. We are seeking further information from PGL about how they intend to re-open. We will keep you up-to-date when we find out further information.

We do hope to welcome Year 5 back as soon as we have further Government guidance and it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely

C Kelly

Mr C Kelly
Headteacher