

Pupil Entry into Secondary Education and the PESE test

Green Park Community Primary
School

May 20th 2026

What is PESE?

- Every Year 6 parent, must select the schools that they would like their child to go to when they start in September 2027.
- This process is called PESE and takes place between July and 31st October 2026.
- You can register and apply on-line.
- <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>
- The school will help you do this if you would like.

Applying on-line

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Kent County Council website. The address bar shows the URL: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>. The page header features the Kent County Council logo and a search bar. The main content area is titled 'Secondary school places' and includes the following text:

You must apply for a secondary school place for your child to start year 7 at secondary school. You will need to do this when your child is in Year 6 at primary school.

If your child is already at secondary school and you want to move them to a different school you must apply for an [in year admission](#).

Below the text are four interactive buttons: 'Choose a school', 'Apply', 'Processing', and 'Offers', each with a downward arrow icon.

At the bottom of the page, there is a 'Give website feedback' section with three smiley face icons (green, orange, and red).

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 09:08 on 03/05/2019, and the browser zoom level is set to 125%.

Key Dates for Parents

Key Action	Scheme Date
Registration for testing opens	1st June 2026
Closing date for registration	1st July 2026
Test date for pupils in Kent primary schools	Thursday 10th September 2026
Dover Test date	Saturday 12th September 2026
Assessment decision sent to parents	Thursday 15 th October 2026

Choosing the school?

- Go and have a look round- all schools will have open events.
- Talk to other parents about their experiences.
- Read the Ofsted reports.
- **DO NOT LET YOUR CHILD MAKE THE DECISION**
- Pick the school that fits your child.

Oversubscription Criteria:

1. Students in Public Care.
2. Students with specific educational or social needs evidenced by professional advice.
3. Current Family Association
 - a: Children of staff members
4. Nearness of child's home to school.

Applying

- On-line
- You must choose 3. Put them in order of preference.
- Think about how likely your child is to get a place.
- Read the criteria- siblings, distance, religion.

Grammar Schools

- If you want your child to attend a grammar school they will need to sit a test.
- The Kent Test
- The Dover Test
- Please talk to your child's teacher and ask their opinion.
- The final decision is yours.

How does my child get a place at Grammar School?

Test name	Access to apply to Dover Grammar Schools	Access to apply to any Kent Grammar School
Dover Test	Yes	No
Kent Test	Yes	Yes

The PESE tests

- You must apply on-line to sit the [Kent test](#).
- Closing date for Kent Test applications- 1st July 2026
- <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>
- The Dover Test must be applied for separately
- Passing The Dover test will only aid application to the Dover Grammar schools.

The Kent Test

- One day of testing

First test will be a 1 hr Paper with two sections. The first section is English and the second section is Maths. Each section has a 5 minute practice exercise.

Second test has three sections, the first is verbal reasoning, the second is spatial reasoning and the third is non-verbal reasoning. The non-verbal reasoning section is divided into four sections each timed separately

Writing exercise of 40 minutes which includes 10 minutes of planning time. This will only be marked when looking at borderline cases, appeal.

The score

- Standardised score
- Pass mark is decided once all the papers have been marked.
- Pass mark: The minimum qualifying score in 2025 was an aggregate score of 332 across the 3 tests with no paper scoring less than 108.

The score

AGE AT TIME OF TESTING:	10 yrs old	10 yrs 6 mths	11 yrs old	10 yrs old	10 yrs 6 mths	11 yrs old
TO ACHIEVE A SCORE OF:	120	120	120	140	140	140
VERBAL REASONING	36/80 (45%)	39/80 (49%)	42/80 (53%)	58/80 (73%)	61/80 (76%)	63/80 (79%)
NON-VERBAL REASONING	35/72 (49%)	37/72 (51%)	38/72 (53%)	48/72 (67%)	49/72 (68%)	50/72 (69%)
MATHS	24/50 (48%)	26/50 (52%)	27/50 (54%)	38/50 (76%)	39/50 (78%)	40/50 (80%)

The Dover/Shepway Test

- Takes place on Saturday 12th September
- You must register separately to the Kent test (through the grammar schools).
- Tests take place at the grammar schools.
- Registration/English / Maths/ Verbal and Non-verbal reasoning

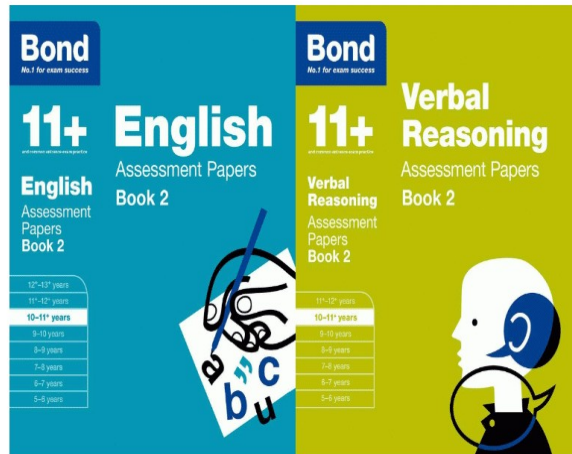
The Score

- 4 elements- English/Maths/Verbal/Non-verbal
- All 4 elements, including English written assessment, combined and age standardised.
- One overall score and pass mark.
- Last year, pass mark was 118.

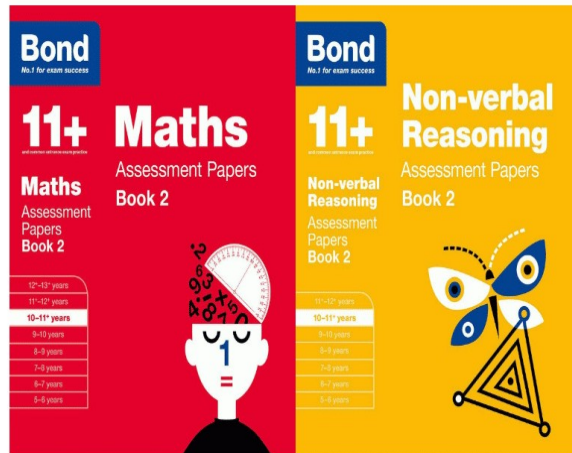
Preparing for the tests

- **Atom Learning:** An adaptive, AI-driven platform widely used by Kent families and schools. It provides tailored practice questions, video lessons, and unlimited mock tests.
- **EdPlace:** Offers targeted Key Stage 2 and 11+ resources for both GL and CEM exam formats. Great for tracking progress and pinpointing specific weaknesses in reasoning and Maths.
- **Prep4All:** Provides 11+ interactive lessons, knowledge nuggets, and practice tests designed to break down the syllabus into manageable, year-by-year targets.

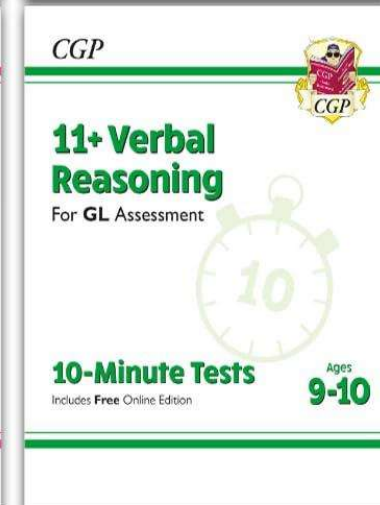
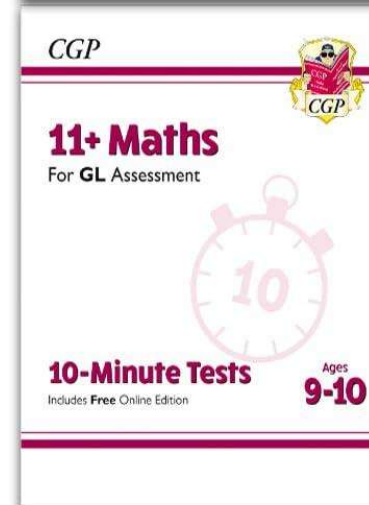
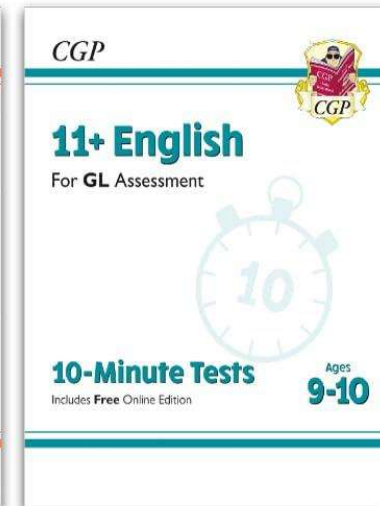
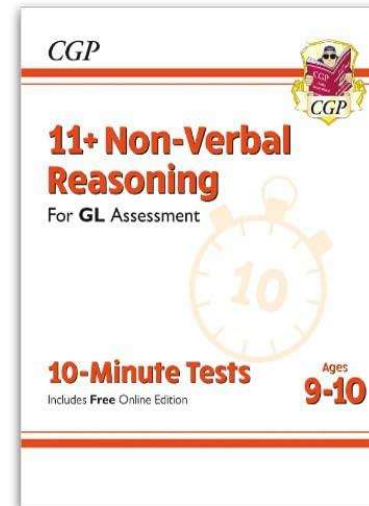
Preparing for the tests



OXFORD Take your learning further with bondtplus.co.uk OXFORD Take your learning further with bondtplus.co.uk



OXFORD Take your learning further with bondtplus.co.uk OXFORD Take your learning further with bondtplus.co.uk



What if my child has SEND?

- Let us know that you have applied to take the test.
- The school will apply for special arrangements- large print/ additional time, etc.
- We will let you know if these have been permitted.

The results

- Kent Test results: On-line after 4pm on 15th October
- Posted 16th October.
- Dover Test results are posted after this date.

If my child passes...

- Put the Grammar school as your 1st choice.
- It does not guarantee a place.

If my child does not pass?

- The school may have appealed already.
- You should not put the grammar school as your first choice- you will not be given it, but you can then appeal directly to KCC at a set date- the appeal pack will come with the school offer.
- We will help you with this.

Any questions?

