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Mr A McAuley – Head of School

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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5,

I writing with details of the Kent Test which is scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Registration for the test opens on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and closes at midnight on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Your child must be registered for the test in order to take it. If you do not register by 1<sup>st</sup> July, your child **will not** take the test.

- Registration and full details are online here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test>

### **What do the Tests consist of?**

- English and Maths paper – 60 minutes. English is first and test comprehension skills as well as literacy skills. (Multiple choice)
- Reasoning paper – roughly 1 hour - including the practice sections and questions. It will contain a verbal reasoning section and a non-verbal reasoning section of roughly the same length. The non-verbal reasoning will be split into short sections, administered and timed individually. (Multiple Choice)
- Written exercise – 40 minutes. This will not be marked but may be used by a local headteacher panel as part of the headteacher appeals stage of the process.

### **Scoring:**

- Papers are sent away and marked by an automated machine. Test scores are generated – Maths, English & Reasoning and these are age standardised and totalled producing 4 separate scores.
- In 2023 to be judged as suitable for grammar, children needed to score at least 108 in each of the three tests and have an aggregate score of 332.

### **Scores and Headteacher Appeals:**

- The school receives scores in late September.
- Based on those scores and our knowledge of children we will raise Head Teacher appeals for children who have not achieved thresholds but who we believe are of ‘selective ability’.
- Scores will have to be close to the thresholds to be considered for an appeal (particularly in English)
- Class teachers prepare children’s books; highlighting key evidence as proof of their suitability for a grammar school place.
- We will prepare a supporting document, outlining other key information; evidencing why a grammar school place should be allocated. **Mr McAuley will work closely with Mrs Law to prepare all of our evidence for the appeal.** This evidence is taken along to appeal panels.
- Head teachers from schools across Kent sit in small groups and consider the evidence provided by schools. They make a decision whether the evidence provided by the school demonstrates that a child is suitable for a grammar school place. These decisions are then final.
- The results of the panels are sent back to the school about a week later.

### **Results to Families:**

- After the panels, results will be emailed to parents on 17<sup>th</sup> October after 4pm
- Letters will be sent on the same day

## **‘One Childhood One Chance’**

Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by Viking Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



- The result will indicate 'suitable for high school or grammar school (H or G)' and you will be able to log in to access scores. No indication of whether an appeal was raised will be given (but if you have scores below threshold and a Grammar decision, this means an appeal was successfully raised).

#### **Applications to Secondary Schools:**

- No matter the result of the test, you should then submit an application to Secondary schools in the normal way (by 31st October 2024)
- School places are allocated in March 2025. If your child was not successful in being assessed as suitable for grammar through the test, you may then raise a parental appeal against the allocation of a high school place

#### **Cognitive Ability Tests**

The children will be sitting these tests during the week beginning the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024. The tests are similar in format but not identical to the Kent Test papers. Scores from these can be used as an indicator on how children may perform in the Kent Test and can help parents decide on whether their child will sit the Kent Test. We will send the results of the tests to you when they have been completed and teachers will be happy to discuss any queries you may have.

I will keep you posted if I receive any updates. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Alex McAuley

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