



KENT COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

OPEN TO
THRIVE



MOVING UP TO YEAR 7

**OPEN TO
THRIVE**



**"The quality of the pupils'
academic and other
achievements is excellent"**

ISI INSPECTION, 2022

MAKING THE TRANSITION TO SENIOR SCHOOL

Welcome to a new and exciting adventure! The job of our Lower School Heads of House for our new Year 7s is to ease the transition into Senior School and to welcome each child to this new stage of their education. One of the best parts of the job is to meet with all the students during the summer term, while they are still in Year 6, to begin to get to know them. This is an opportunity for them to ask any questions, and to express any concerns, that they may have about joining a new school.

The transition to Senior School is a milestone in a child's education, and the new environment and way of learning provide a wealth of new opportunities and challenges for pupils. While this can initially seem daunting for both child and parent, at Kent College we are committed to providing an outstanding system of support, to ensure our new Year 7 pupils thrive in our friendly school family.

We are delighted that our recent ISI inspection found the College to be Excellent in all aspects. This is testament to the hard work of our pupils and staff and to the values based community we have at KC.

Mr Mark Turnbull

Head

hm@kentcollege.co.uk

" I WAS QUITE NERVOUS TO START WITH BUT I HAVE MADE SO MANY NEW FRIENDS AND BECOME SO MUCH MORE CONFIDENT "

" EVERYONE IS SO FRIENDLY AND THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE TO HELP YOU AND ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS "

What
Year
7 had
to say
about
life at
KC:

" LEARNING IS FUN BECAUSE THE TEACHERS ARE SO PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR SUBJECTS "

" I HAVE ENJOYED EVERYTHING AT THE SCHOOL, THERE IS SUCH A WIDE VARIETY OF THINGS TO DO "

SETTLING IN

For our Year 7 pupils, the settling in process starts well before the beginning of September. All new pupils and their families are invited to a New Pupils' Welcome Day in June, which includes a short service in the Great Hall, and the chance for students to meet their Head of House and other pupils in their academic house, and to become familiar with the campus and where to find their common rooms. Meanwhile parents will have the opportunity to find out more about the parent - teacher - student relationship at KC before we all meet up again for a buffet lunch with the Senior Leadership Team of the college.

At the start of term, this process is continued with an induction morning that gives Year 7s an introduction to their timetables and key IT systems. There is also time to meet their mentors from Year 9 who will help to guide them through the first few weeks at Kent College. The induction process culminates in

a team-building day at Betteshanger Park in mid-September for all of the year group. Year 7 is a great opportunity for the pupils to get to know each other better, and for new friendships to start to form. There will undoubtedly still be times throughout their school career when pupils need a listening ear and encouragement from a friendly face. The strong pastoral network at Kent College means there are many people to turn to - tutors and teachers, the School Chaplain, pupil mentors and prefects, and the School Counsellor. In addition, we run health and wellbeing weeks for students during the year.

"Pupils are highly articulate, share their ideas willingly and listen carefully to each other"

ISI INSPECTION, 2022



PASTORAL CARE

Our pastoral structure at Kent College is designed to give all pupils the support they need throughout their school career. Our mission is always to be pupil-centred and to focus on enabling every child to become the best they can be.

We run a vertical pastoral system at Kent College led by our Deputy Head, Wellbeing and Pastoral. Students are allocated to one of four houses, Augustine, Becket, Chaucer or Marlowe, when they join the school. These are lead by four Heads of House and for Years 7, 8 and 9, who often have different needs from older students, four Lower School Heads of House will be responsible for your child's development during these important three years as they adjust to Senior School life.

Our four Lower School Heads of House lead a team of tutors who look after the pupils and act as the first point of contact for parents.

Year 7 tutors...

- > are the first port of call for parents when contacting the school (email is best)
- > register their tutees every morning
- > are always available for support and advice and to discuss any problems
- > are responsible for their tutees' welfare and academic progress
- > keep an eye on attendance and punctuality
- > monitor behaviour and involvement in activities

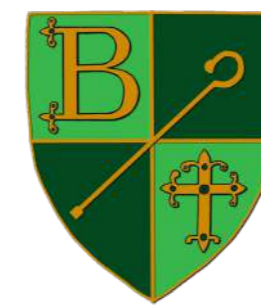
COMPETITIVE HOUSES



The four competitive Houses are Augustine, Becket, Chaucer and Marlowe. Pupils take great pride in representing their House. House competitions range from drama and music, to chess, problem-solving, photography, sport, and debating. In addition pupils earn House Points for academic and co-curricular merit, all of which contribute to the inter-House competition. Each term a cup is awarded in the Final Assembly to the House with the most House Points for that term.



Augustine



Becket



Chaucer



Marlowe

DAILY ROUTINE

Monday-Friday

08:35	Registration with your tutor
08:40	Chapel three days a week and tutor time on the other two days
09:00	Lessons start. There are ten 35 minute lessons a day, generally in blocks of two
10:10 - 10:35	Break
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch - Year 7s. This is on a rota system but Year 7s always go in first
16:25	Lessons finish. Pupils can be collected from school but are encouraged to stay on to join in our clubs and activities
16:30 - 17:30	Study Hall (for completing homework) or school co-curricular activities
17:30	School buses leave



ACADEMIC MATTERS

Care and attention given to the individual is the key for academic progress throughout a pupil's time at Kent College. With small class sizes, a wide range of academic clinics, frequency of marking and reporting, and close attention to the individual in class, we aim to allow every student to achieve their potential and beyond. The curriculum in Year 7 aims to give pupils an overview of a broad range of subjects, with focus on the core skills needed for English, Maths, Languages and Science.

Study Hall

The Study Hall is an on-site area/classroom where pupils can complete their prep (homework) under supervision. This is particularly useful for Year 7 if they are finding it difficult to settle to work at home, if they lack resources or if you would welcome support from a member of staff. The Study Hall is always supervised by a member of staff who can give students help and guidance and this allows them to complete most of their prep before they go home!

Prep

Pupils are expected to become more independent in their learning, and this is reflected in the setting of prep each day. This will take many forms, including tasks, challenges and written work that is designed to reinforce what has been learnt in the classroom.

A Year 7 pupil will receive two pieces of prep per evening, and is expected to spend 20 minutes on each though they normally have a number of days within which to complete the work.

The habits and skills that students learn in Year 7 are those that will stay with them throughout their secondary school and future life.

TRIPS

Students take a number of trips during the school year from curriculum orientated trips to optional school trips such as our annual ski trip in February half-term. The school year begins with a team-building away day for students in the lower school, whilst in the last week of the summer term all students in the school take part in activities week. This involves students being engaged in fun day trips in the local area and projects to support local charitable projects such as primary schools, conservation groups and community organisations.



STAYING IN TOUCH

Moving into Year 7 can be challenging for parents as well, as your child becomes more independent. There are lots of ways to stay in touch with us at Kent College, some of which are listed below.



› **Mr Mark Turnbull, Head** is always happy to hear from you



› Your child's **Tutor, Lower School Heads of House** and **Heads of Department** are available to deal with any questions or concerns you may have. You can contact them by email or speak to them on the phone by arrangement



› We hold a **Year 7 parents' evening** once a year which you and your child can attend. There are also academic clinics held throughout the year where you can request discussions with teachers about individual subject progress



› Our annual **Year 7 afternoon tea** is held in October and gives you an opportunity to meet other parents and chat to your child's teachers



› There are a **variety of meetings** held throughout the year to provide you with information about life at school from the use of IT to the life of a Sport's Scholar



› You will receive a **weekly newsletter, KC News** from the Head with all the information that you need to know about school life



› **My School Portal** is our information system for parents. You and your child will be able to log on and access a wide range of information here from your child's school reports to sports fixture information



› Our **website** is full of useful information and links to areas such as school uniform. You will also find a **News and Events** section which details upcoming events for your diary and reports on activities and trips at school. We also love hearing about students' achievements outside school so please share them with us at marketing@kentcollege.co.uk



› Kent College has a thriving **social media community on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn** which will keep you up to date with everything happening at school



› Our **Friends of Kent College** hold regular coffee mornings for parents on Fridays throughout term time and also organise a variety of events during the year. The two Year 7 Friends representatives will also arrange a network group for Year 7 parents

CO-CURRICULAR

Year 7 pupils have a wide choice of activities and clubs to develop their interests and skills at Kent College. From archery to yoga there really is something for everyone. As well as our numerous sports, music and drama groups there are over 60 individual clubs and co-curricular activities to choose from including farm club, lego league, astronomy, photography, horse riding, eco warriors, charities committee, school council, British Sign Language Club, coding, textiles and design and Italian cooking.

Most co-curriculars take place at the end of the school day, from 16:30 to 17:30 though there are many clubs available during the lunchtime hour as well. Year 7 pupils are required to do two different activities per week but they can choose different clubs each term.

Rewards System

Kent College has a House Points system - the more points you earn, the more you contribute to your house total number of points. You can get House Points for:

- › Good academic work
- › Taking part in competitions
- › Winning competitions
- › Helping out other students, teachers and by contributing to the Kent College community

For every 50 House Points you earn, you will be awarded an Amazon voucher. Some students earn up to 250 House Points in the year and, at the end of the year, the house with the most points will win the House Cup.



THE CREATIVE ARTS

Music, Art, Design and Drama are central to life at Kent College with pupils in Year 7 having timetabled lessons in all these areas.

Outside the curriculum, art, drama and music run clubs throughout the year and there are opportunities to learn a musical instrument, perform in recitals and concerts in our Great Hall or join our award-winning choristers. Budding actors can tread the boards in the lower school productions and take part in the wide range of arts based inter-house competitions, which bring together younger and older pupils in creative collaboration. We frequently have visiting artists to provide inspiration and guidance to our budding talent.

"The school offers an outstanding range of curricular and co-curricular activities that provide opportunities for pupils to excel"

ISI INSPECTION, 2022



SPORT

All pupils are encouraged to take part in a sport at Kent College, whatever their experience and skill level. Our Sports Department aims to provide something for every pupil in the school – from recreational sport and promoting fitness to top-level coaching for our elite players. The main school sports are hockey, cricket, tennis, athletics and netball, but there are many other sports on offer including football, basketball, trampolining, cross-country running, rugby and badminton. A busy sports fixtures calendar ensures maximum participation for our Year 7 pupils.



FARM AND RIDING

A much-loved feature of Kent College for many Year 7 pupils is the school farm. A short walk from the Senior School, Moat Farm is run by a dedicated Farm team and is equally popular with pupils who want to be Young Farmers or who simply love the experience of spending time with the wide array of farm animals. Students have lessons at the Farm covering subjects such as biodiversity.

Moat Farm also has a riding school and arena, where pupils can learn to ride, study horse care and stable management and compete in competitions.

“Pupils identified that aspects of school life contribute to the development of resilience and adaptability, such as working with animals at the school farm or on expeditions with the DofE”

ISI INSPECTION, 2022



APPLYING FOR YEAR 7

Visiting KC

We love welcoming families to KC and a visit enables you to get a real feel about whether KC is the right fit for your child. Taster days are also available as part of the application process.

Applying

The first stage to apply for a Year 7 place at Kent College, and for your child to be assessed for entry into the school, is to complete the online registration form available on the school website. There is a registration fee (£100) which covers administration costs and is non-refundable. Completing a registration form does not in any way commit you to the school, nor does it guarantee admission. The closing date for applications for Year 7 entry 2024 is Thursday 30 November 2023.

Assessments

Pupils wishing to enter Kent College in Year 7 take the school entrance assessments, held on Tuesday 23 January 2024. These tests cover English, Mathematics and Non-Verbal Reasoning. There is also a 'Getting to Know You' session for both pupils and parents with a member of the Senior Leadership Team on Saturday 27 January 2024.

Offers

Offers of places at Kent College are generally sent out during the February half-term. Owing to high demand for places in recent years, we recommend confirming the acceptance of your child's offer of a place within two weeks of receiving the letter.



Bursaries

The school is committed to providing access to a Kent College education to those whose circumstances may mean they cannot afford the full fees, or for those whose circumstances may change once their child is a pupil at the school. A bursary is a form of financial assistance that is means-tested, based on a family's financial position. Bursaries are not dependent on academic ability but are awarded to pupils who are likely to gain most from the education we offer and who will contribute fully to the life of the school. Scholarships may be supplemented by bursary assistance, although the maximum remission awarded by the school will not exceed 50 percent.

As bursary funds are limited, we recommend that applications for bursaries are made either before or at the same time as registration. Bursaries can only be considered prior to the school offering a place.

All bursaries are awarded at the Bursar's discretion. All applicants for bursaries are required to disclose, in confidence, their financial details on a Bursary Application Form. The application process may include a home visit, an interview and a review by an external company specialising in this area. Bursaries are offered for the duration of the pupil's education but are reviewed on an annual basis. If a family's financial position changes, the bursary might be amended accordingly.

Please note, applications for Year 7 must be submitted by 31st December. As a general rule, applications from households with a combined income of over £80,000 are not usually approved for a bursary. As with scholarships, the total combined remission must not exceed 50 percent.

When making an assessment the school will take into account some or all of the following: combined household income, savings, benefits, equity in property, other income, assets and outgoings.

If you would like to enquire about bursaries, please contact the Bursar at bursar@kentcollege.co.uk

Learning Support Centre

Kent College offers learning support through our Learning Support Centre, and individual tuition. Please let us know at the registration stage if your child needs extra support and provide us with any assessment reports. Once we have all the relevant information there will be an opportunity to meet our Learning Strategies Coordinator or SENCO to discuss your child's needs, and to make sure that Kent College is able to meet these needs.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Kent College has a long tradition of recognising and rewarding talent by awarding scholarships in academic achievement, Art, Drama, Music and Sport.

Scholarships are designed to attract talented pupils from all backgrounds who would benefit from the unique educational experience offered by Kent College. The school undertakes to nurture and develop a scholar's ability and, in return, scholars are expected to make a significant contribution to school life.

As a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC), the group of schools that includes the top independent schools in the country, it is agreed that the maximum amount of scholarship available will be 50 percent of tuition fees. The maximum percentage for one area is 30 percent, however it is possible to be awarded a scholarship in more than one area of expertise. The maximum overall value will not exceed 50 percent.

"Pupils enjoy and appreciate the opportunities provided by the school to take on and fulfil responsibilities and make a positive contribution to the lives of others. Pupils are open-minded and inclusive, valuing the diversity within the school community"

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SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 7 ENTRY

Academic: scholarship awards are based on a pupil's performance in the Kent College entrance assessments - no additional examinations are required

Art: submit a portfolio of work; short interview with the Head of Art; supervised test for pupils to demonstrate their drawing and observational skills

Drama: perform a monologue (specified by the school) and a poem; brief, informal interview with the Head of Drama to discuss the pupil's dramatic interests and experience

Music: minimum Grade 3 ABRSM/Trinity standard on main instrument or voice; assessment includes a variety of musical activities, including ensemble playing and singing; individual audition on main instrument (or voice) and on a second instrument if applicable; general aural tests; informal interview with the music staff

Sport: portfolio to include testimonials or references from sports coaches; practical tests for pupils including hockey, football, cricket, athletics, netball and fitness testing

If you wish to enter your child for any scholarships you need to fill out the relevant forms by following the scholarship application details on the online registration page available on the school website kentcollege.com

Pupils' highly positive attitudes to learning are evident from their excellent levels of engagement in lessons where they work with focus and determination, both individually and collaboratively"

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KEY INFORMATION

Uniform

Students are expected to wear their uniform with pride and to look smart at all times.

A full uniform and sports kit list is available on the school website where you will also find links to our online uniform providers. There is also a school thrift shop on site where you can purchase second-hand uniform and try out different sized samples of key items.

Appointments are offered during the summer holidays for students to check their correct size. Please contact uniform@kentcollege.co.uk

Medical Centre

The school also has its own Medical Centre, which is staffed and open 24 hours a day during term time and pupils can go to the centre if they are feeling unwell.

Student medication is kept at the Medical Centre and administered by the staff there during the day. For more information contact medicalcentre@kentcollege.co.uk

Catering

As all the pupils at Kent College know, we are passionate about every aspect of food, where it comes from, how it's cooked, and the wider implications of large-scale catering such as food waste and recycling. Holroyd Howe create all our meals at KC and has been providing innovative catering to selected independent schools for over 25 years. Our chefs create vibrant menus of both classic and innovative dishes as well as authentic international cuisines. Healthy and wholesome food is at the heart of our approach to food at KC and with this in mind our chefs source the best seasonal produce from local suppliers. We cater for special diets such as gluten-free, or lactose-intolerant and work closely with the staff in the school's Medical Centre to ensure that pupils with specific needs are well looked after. The kitchens also provide a wide range of snacks enjoyed by the pupils at break time, either in the main dining hall or in the school's cafe, 1885.

Please contact sowen@kentcollege.co.uk with any queries.

Buses

Kent College operates its own in-house, bespoke transport scheme with a fleet of school minibuses and dedicated drivers, all of whom are MIDAS accredited and have first aid training. This service offers parents peace of mind, particularly for younger passengers. We recommend early reservation of places as the service tends to be heavily subscribed.

Full details of routes can be found on our website. Please contact transport@kentcollege.co.uk to book your child's place.

YEAR 7 KEY DATES FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2024

Saturday 30 September 2023	Senior School Open Morning - Please register for this event at kentcollege.com
Wednesday 18 October 2023	Scholarships at KC Evening - Please register for this event at kentcollege.com
Thursday 30 November 2023	Closing date for applications for Year 7 entry
Late December	Individual scholarship attendance schedules are sent out
Tuesday 23 January 2024	Year 7 Kent College entrance assessments
Wednesday 24 to Friday 26 January 2024	Year 7 scholarship assessments for Art, Drama, Music and Sport
Saturday 27 January 2024	"Getting to know you" sessions for parents and pupils with senior members of staff
February half-term holidays 2024	Offer letters are sent out
Sunday 9 June 2024	New Pupils' Welcome Day

"Across the school, pupils' desire to produce excellent outcomes is clear, and they respond well to the high expectations, enthusiasm and passion of their teachers, in line with the school's values of ambition and curiosity"

ISI INSPECTION, 2022



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