

## **Frequently Asked Questions regarding Admissions to TWGGS**

### **How many places are offered on 1<sup>st</sup> March?**

The Published Admissions Number for the school is 145. Children must have successfully passed the 11+ tests. The first 131 places are allocated by mainly by distance (following the school's admissions criteria listed below) and 14 places as Governor places on score to pupils residing in the priority parishes.

### **What is the catchment area for the school?**

The school does not have a 'catchment area', however, it does give priority to pupils living in certain parishes.

### **Which parishes does the school give priority to?**

Badger's Mount, Bidborough, Brasted, Brenchley, Capel, Chevening, Chiddingstone, Cowden, Dunton Green, East Peckham, Edenbridge, Hadlow, Halsted, Hever, Hildenborough, Horsmonden, Ightham, Kemsing, Knockholt, Lamberhurst, Leigh, Otford, Paddock Wood, Pembury, Penshurst, Plaxtol, Riverhead, Rusthall, Seal, Sevenoaks, Sevenoaks Weald, Shipbourne, Shoreham, Southborough, Speldhurst, Sundridge with Ide Hill, Tonbridge, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Westerham.

### **What is the furthest distance you have offered to in the past?**

18.11 miles for entry in September 2019, however, this was a most unusual year that has never been this distance prior to 2019 or since. Discounting this unusual year the furthest distance was 4.95 miles, in area. The distance will change each year according to where applicants reside.

### **What is the Governor cut off score?**

This changes each year and is not pre-set by the school; it cuts off where the 14 places run out.

### **How are the 145 places allocated?**

The Published Admissions Number is 145; 14 are Governors' Places, which will be allocated according to criterion 7. The school is usually over-subscribed. Before the application of oversubscription criteria children with a Statement of Special Educational Need or Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school and who are eligible for admission to this academically selective school will be admitted. As a result of this, the Published Admissions Number will be reduced accordingly. If the number of preferences is greater than the number of places available, the following criteria for over-subscription will be applied in priority order:

- 1. Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care** – a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
- 2. Children who are designated as receiving 'Pupil Premium'** - Applicants under this criterion must fulfil criterion 5, **and** complete a Supplementary Information Form (Appendix 4) so that checks can be made to determine eligibility. Places offered under this criterion will be offered to children in receipt of Pupil Premium who have passed the Kent Selection Test (11+). Children are eligible for Pupil Premium where they have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) during the last 6 years. (This does not include pupils who have only been eligible to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals). Pupil Premium is also afforded to Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care, however, these children will be prioritised in the relevant criterion above. Parents wishing to apply under this priority must ensure they complete the attached Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school by 31 October in the year of application. Parents must also complete an application (via online or paper Secondary Common Application Form) naming the school, otherwise their child cannot be considered for a place.

All children, in receipt of Pupil Premium, who gain a place at Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School can receive financial assistance towards items such as school uniform, equipment and school trips. **For more information on Pupil Premium places please refer to the Supplementary Information Form (1) attached. The deadline for submitting this form is 31 October.**

3. **Current Family Association** - Eligible girls living within the areas/ parishes as defined in criterion 5 who have a sister who will still be attending the school when the applicant joins; please see Appendix 1 for map. In this context, sister means girls who live as sisters in the same house, including natural sisters, adopted siblings, stepsisters and foster sisters.
  
4. **Health and Special Access Reasons** – Medical / Health and Special Access Reasons will be applied in accordance with the school’s legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those girls whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend TWGGS. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents’/guardians’ physical, mental health or social needs means there is a demonstrable and significant need for their child to attend TWGGS. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and TWGGS.
  
5. **Eligible girls who live in the named parishes below or within a 4 mile proximity of the school** (Please see Appendix 1 for map) –  
 Children living within a four mile radius of the school or those living within the parishes listed below. The 4 mile radius distance is measured between the child’s permanent address and the school in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data.  
 Named parishes: Badger’s Mount, Bidborough, Brasted, Brenchley, Capel, Chevening, Chiddingstone, Cowden, Dunton Green, East Peckham, Edenbridge, Hadlow, Halsted, Hever, Hildenborough, Horsmonden, Ightham, Kemsing, Knockholt, Lamberhurst, Leigh, Otford, Paddock Wood, Pembury, Penshurst, Plaxtol, Riverhead, Rusthall, Seal, Sevenoaks, Sevenoaks Weald, Shipbourne, Shoreham, Southborough, Speldhurst, Sundridge with Ide Hill, Tonbridge, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Westerham.
  
6. **Distance from home to school** – this is determined by the distance between the girl’s permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child’s home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. The school uses measurements provided by the LA, and further information on how distances are calculated (including for flats) is available in the Admissions to Secondary School Booklet provided by the LA.  
  
 If, in the event, more than one applicant has the same distance from home to school (as measured by the local authority), then the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place. In the event that the final place offered from the ranked list falls to a pupil of a multiple birth, the school will offer a place to each of these children who have met the over-subscription criteria.
  
7. **Governors’ Places (14)** - these to be offered to those girls living in the area/ parishes as defined in criterion 5 who would not otherwise be offered a place, who scored highest in the 11+ PESE Kent test, places determined by combined rank order. In the case of equal scores for Governors’ places, criterion 6 would be applied.

**How many pupils are currently in each year group at the school and how many joined each year group in Year 7?**

YEAR GROUP	CURRENT NUMBER AS AT 25.06.21	NUMBER AT SEPT Yr 7 ENTRY (AFTER APPEAL)
YEAR 7	148	149
YEAR 8	143	148
YEAR 9	150	148
YEAR 10	142	148
YEAR 11	139	145
YEAR L6	141	145
YEAR U6	157	145

TOTAL 1021

### How many pupils are in each class?

Pupils are placed in Form Groups of 28-30 and there are 5 classes in each year group.

### What is the Net Capacity of the school?

The current net capacity of the school is (1008 as of January 2020)

Entry at September	Pass mark	Distance initial allocation	Distance after re-allocation	Governor score initial allocation	Governor score after re-allocation	No of appeals heard/up held	Number of successful appeals	No. of places taken up in Sept
2021	332 with no score below 108	1.89 miles	2.1 miles	377	375	42	5	150
2020	330 with no score below 110	4.95 miles	10.24 miles	366	359	36	4	149
2019	323 with no score below 107	18.11 miles	21 miles	364	364	31	8	148
2018	320 with no score below 106	2.1 miles	3.8 miles	359	357	30	5	148
2017	320 with no score below 106	1.8 miles	3.1 miles	365	362	27	3	148
2016	320 with no score below 106	2.15 miles	10.89 miles	352	347	25	6	145
2015	320 with no score below 106	1.63 miles	2.04 miles	358	353	27	7	145
2014	360 with no score below 118	2.32 miles	3 miles	394	394	26	7	145
2013	360 with no score below 119	1.8 miles	1.83 miles	411	407	22	8	147
2012	360 with no score below 119	1.75 miles	1.86 miles	418	417	25	9	148

Further information can be obtained from the School Website <https://www.twggs.kent.sch.uk>

There is also lots of additional information on the school website under the Admissions section for you to consider: a Q &A with the Transition Team; a school tour with the Head Girl Team; and talks from the Headteacher, Head of Admissions, Head Girl and a Year 7 pupil.

If you have any further questions which are not covered here, or that are more specific to your circumstances, please email [admissions@twggs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@twggs.kent.sch.uk) (including a telephone contact number) and we will happily discuss or email you personally.

Admissions Contacts: Louise Stewart-Smith Head of Admissions, Andie Haycock Admissions Officer