



School Admissions Arrangements – September 2026

Approved by:

Governing Body

Date Approved:

11/12/2024

NB within these criteria the term parent is used to refer to parents or legal guardians.

1. Students will be offered places without reference to aptitude or ability.
2. Following the application of the DfES 'Net Capacity Assessment' the school will publish an admissions number of 240 as its admission limit for students in year seven in September of each academic year
3. Before the application of oversubscription criteria children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names Maplesden Noakes will be admitted. As a result, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.
4. In the event of over subscription for these places, the following criteria are used in the order given here to decide which students should be offered a place.
 - a) Where the student is in local authority care or previously in Local Authority Care. 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) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangement orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- b) Sibling link: where a brother or sister attends the school when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.
- c) Children of staff permanently employed directly by The Maplesden Noakes School in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
 - The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- d) Nearness of children's home to Maplesden Noakes School – we use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point, with those living nearest being accorded the highest priority. The school uses measurements provided by the Local Authority to calculate this distance. 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. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.

If the last pupil to be offered a place within the Maplesden Noakes School's published admission number (PAN) is a multiple birth or same cohort sibling, any further sibling will be admitted, if the parents so wish, even though this may raise the intake number above the school's PAN. The PAN will remain unchanged so that no other pupil will be admitted until a place becomes available within the PAN. In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

5. In the event of over-subscription in any of the above criteria, students are admitted on the basis of proximity of the student's permanent residence to the Maplesden Noakes School, measured in a straight line using NLPG address point data, with those living nearest being accorded the highest priority.
6. A waiting list will be held and re-ranked in line with the published oversubscription criteria, every time a child is added.
7. Students who are offered and have accepted a place at the Maplesden Noakes School are invited, with their parents, to an induction evening later in the school year to establish a firm working relationship between the school and parents and to explain the process of home school partnership and the School Code of Conduct. There is an expectation that both parties agree to this partnership for the benefit of the student.
8. Students are able to join the Maplesden Noakes School in Year 12 for Sixth Form studies. Priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria. Admission to the Sixth Form will be as a result of applicants obtaining a minimum of 5 GCSE passes at grade 4 or above including Maths and English and also meeting the subject criteria for their chosen course of study. The admission number for external applicants will be dependent upon the number of internal candidates. The overall PAN for Year 12 will be 150 students. Following the admission of internal students transferring from Year 11, all remaining places will be allocated to learners who have met the entry requirements as detailed above. Where there are more learners seeking places than the number of places available, the oversubscription criteria outlined above will be applied to eligible students.

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- After the parent or learner has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time; or
- When a parent or learner has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from the parent or learner.

Offers will be made on the basis of predicted performance at GCSE, with the requirement that the above grades are achieved in the final examinations prior to entry to the Sixth Form and the student's chosen subjects being accommodated on the timetable, in feasible group sizes.

All offers made during Year 11 are conditional on students meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results. Conditional offers will be made before the end of May 2026. Offers will be confirmed once the school has been notified of GCSE results in August 2026.

Parents have a statutory right of appeal, should an application for a place be refused, by writing to the Clerk to the Governors, care of the school.

Late applications will be considered if places in appropriate subjects are still available after all other applicants have been considered.

A waiting list will be held, ranked according to the over-subscription criteria and will be maintained up to January 2026.

9. For other applications for admission to the School such as:

- a) Late applications for admission to Year 7
- b) Applications for admission to years other than years 7 and 12
- c) Application for admission to any year after the beginning of the school year

These are all organised by the school. Parents should apply to the school in the first instance.

10. The School will apply to the Schools Adjudicator for any in-year changes to its admissions arrangements. The School has established arrangements for independent appeals against non-admission.

11. Requests for admission outside of the normal age group should be made to the Co-Headteachers as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. This will allow the school and admissions authority sufficient time to make a decision before the closing date. Parents are not expected to provide evidence to support their request to defer their application, however where provided it must be specific to the child in question. This might include medical or Educational Psychologist reports. There is no legal requirement for this medical or educational evidence to be secured from an

appropriate professional, however, failure to provide this may impede a school's ability to agree to deferral. Parents are required to complete an application for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This application can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year 7 the following year. Deferred applications must be made via paper CAF to the LA, with written confirmation from each named school attached. Deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round, and offers will be made in accordance with the school's oversubscription criteria.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Application for admission will be in line with the agreed scheme put into place by the Secretary of State for Education and will be co-ordinated by Kent County Council Local Authority. This application procedure will follow the requirements as specified by the Secretary of State and will follow the timetable as set out by both Secretary of State and Kent County Council.

Application Procedure

Application is made by completing the Local Authority (LA) **Common Application Form (CAF)** which will be made available through your child's current primary school along with an Admission to Secondary School information booklet.

Parents applying for places will be informed on the national "offer date" as determined by the Local Authority. Parents will be asked to accept any offer of a place at The Maplesden Noakes School within 21 days.

Oversubscription

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available and if the criteria in paragraph 4 of the admissions criteria, above, have been met, then subject to availability, students are admitted on the basis of the proximity of permanent residence to the school. This is measured in a straight line using NLPG address point data, with those living nearest being accorded the highest priority.

Late applications

All applications, late or not, for Year 7 entry in 2026 will be dealt with by the LA up to the end of March. After this date you will need to contact Maplesden Noakes direct.