



Information Resilience and Transparency

Please ask for: Kelly Leeson
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Date: 22 October 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, relating to the Kent Test. Please see the response provided below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I am writing to request the following information with regard to the Kent 11 plus exam sat in September 2019:

A copy of the test papers

The font type and size of text used in the English section

A copy of my child's paper

A remark of my child's English paper

If you do not hold the above data or cannot remark, I should be grateful if you could advise who does or can.

The test materials, both question papers and answer sheets, are not subject to disclosure under Freedom of Information legislation because the copyright belongs to the test designers, GL Assessment, with whom the Council has a confidentiality agreement. The designers require the Council to maintain confidentiality because materials used by Kent are drawn from a bank of materials which may be used by other schools or Authorities for selection purposes.

Therefore, KCC is withholding the test papers from disclosure by relying upon section 41 (1) exemption of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) as the information was provided in confidence.

In addition, the Kent Test papers cannot be released as GL Assessment keeps the actual papers and associated materials as confidential as possible. This is to keep the contents of the tests confidential from its competitors in the marketplace. Releasing copies of the papers would prejudice the commercial interest of GL Assessment should sensitive commercial information was disclosed and could seriously affect GL Assessment's business and its ability to provide tests in the future.

Therefore, KCC is withholding the test papers from disclosure by relying upon section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) which states that "information is exempt if its disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person". The public interest in maintaining the exemption is greater than the public interest in disclosure in the case of releasing Kent Test papers.

Font size in a normal test paper is 12 point, in an enlarged paper it is 14 point. The designer of Kent's 11+ test, GL Assessment, is responsible for the font used, but they publish example materials for familiarisation on their website, which can be viewed here:

<https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/11plus-series-11-plus-practice-papers/11plus-familiarisation-materials/>

If you are concerned that your child's English Test Score is uncharacteristic, you can ask for the answer sheet to be marked by hand, to check that the result shown on the machine-marking record is correct. To do this, please email kent.admissixxx@xxxx.xx.xx confirming your child's name, date of birth and primary school, and quoting the ID number given on the message / letter which gave you the result. There may be a short wait for a response, as the period after results have gone out is an unusually busy time for the admissions team.

If you are unhappy with this response, and believe KCC has not complied with legislation, you have 40 working days from the date of this response to ask for a review. You can do this by following our complaints process; details can be found at this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/complaints-and-compliments#tab-9> on our website. Please quote reference 9530449.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner, who oversees compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Details of what you need to do, should you wish to pursue this course of action, are available from the Information Commissioner's website <http://ico.org.uk/concerns>

Yours sincerely

Kelly Leeson
Information Access Officer