



Handbook



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Our Schools

PSCN – *Profound, Severe & Complex Needs*



Aspen 2 @
Dover Christ Church
Academy



The Beacon,
Folkestone



Five Acre Wood,
Maidstone



Foreland Fields
School, Ramsgate



Ifield School,
Gravesend



Meadowfield School,
Sittingbourne



Milestone Academy,
New Ash Green



Nexus Foundation
Special School,
Tonbridge



Oakley School,
Tunbridge Wells



St Nicholas School,
Canterbury



Whitfield Aspen
Primary School,
Dover



The Wyvern School,
Ashford

SEMH – *Social, Emotional & Mental Health*



Bower Grove
School, Maidstone



The Elms School, Dover



Goldwyn School,
Ashford



The Orchard School,
Canterbury



Portal House
School

Portal House School,
Dover



Rowhill School,
Longfield



St Anthony's
SCHOOL ● ● ●

St Anthony's School,
Margate

PD – *Physical Disability*



Valence School,
Westerham

C&I - Communication & Interaction Schools



Aspire School,
Sittingbourne



Broomhill Bank School,
Tunbridge Wells



Grange Park School,
Wrotham



Laleham Gap
School, Broadstairs



Snowfields Academy,
Maidstone



Stone Bay School,
Broadstairs



Member Schools	Partner Schools
The Beacon, Folkestone	Aspen 2 @ Dover Christ Church Academy
Bower Grove School, Maidstone	Milestone Academy, New Ash Green
Broomhill Bank School, Tunbridge Wells	Oakley School, Tunbridge Wells
Elms School, Dover	Portal House School, Dover
Five Acre Wood School, Maidstone	St Nicholas School, Canterbury
Foreland Fields School, Ramsgate	Snowfields Academy, Maidstone
Grange Park School, Wrotham	The Wyvern School, Ashford
Goldwyn School, Ashford	Whitfield Aspen School (Aspen 1)
Ifield School, Gravesend	
Laleham Gap School, Broadstairs	
Meadowfield School, Sittingbourne	
Nexus Foundation Special School, Tonbridge	
The Orchard School, Canterbury	
Rowhill School, Longfield	
St Anthony's School, Margate	
Stone Bay School, Broadstairs	
Valence School, Westerham	

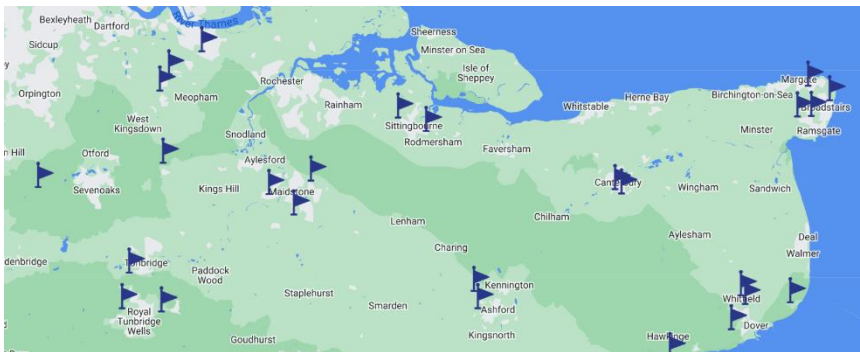
Our schools are categorised by dimension, or need-type. The dimensions include:

- ❖ **C&I – Communication & Interaction Schools.** These are primarily for children and young people with ASD.
- ❖ **PSCN – Profound, Severe & Complex Need Schools.** These are for children and young people with need types ranging from profound to moderate.
- ❖ **PD – Physical Disability Schools.** These are for children and young people with physical difficulties and complex needs.
- ❖ **SEMH – Social, Emotional & Mental Health Schools.** These are for children and young people with learning disabilities as a result of long-term emotional and social difficulties

What is KsENT?

KsENT stands for Kent Special Education Needs Trust. It is a Cooperative Foundation Trust of 26 schools across Kent with the aim of improving opportunities for children and young people with SEND. As of June 2023, all of our schools have been graded either "Good" or "Outstanding" following their most recent Ofsted inspection.

A map of our schools across the county.



History of KsENT

KsENT originally consisted of KASS (Kent Association of Special Schools) and CLASS (Collaborative Learning Alliance of Special Schools). These merged in September 2017 to become the Kent Special Education Needs Trust; a legal entity with a formal commitment to work together to:

- ❖ Benefit children and young people with SEND across our schools
- ❖ Retain our autonomy as maintained schools in opposition to the Academisation agenda
- ❖ Serve as a central driver of SEND provision across Kent

Who's Who in KsENT?

❖ Chair – Alan Norley



"I have been involved in national and international educational leadership and governance for over 45 years. My passion for inclusive and collaborative education has led me to chair KsENT and the CARE Foundation Trust and to act as the Coop Schools Network ambassador for the South East Region".

❖ Coordinator – Camilla Etheridge



"I have a passion for education and improving student outcomes so I have worked in a few schools in different support roles as well as for a university and a reading charity. My role in KsENT focuses on overseeing the day to day running of the Trust and facilitating its strategic direction".

❖ Administrator – Rebecca Cluett



"I joined the KsENT team in September '22 and administer the Trust in general as well as its Initial Teacher Training programme which takes up a fair chunk of my time! Another key part of my role involves liaising with all of the moderation and networking groups to facilitate their meetings".

The Co-operative Movement

The Co-operative Movement began in Britain and France in the 19th century to address inequalities caused by the Industrial Revolution which threatened worker's livelihoods. Fast forward to today and the Movement has developed into a formalised Co-operative Model of seven principles that has benefited the lives of millions of people globally.

The seven principles of the Cooperative Model are:

1. A co-op is **owned and controlled by its members**
2. A co-op is **democratic** - every member has an equal say in how it's run
3. **Every member contributes financially** in some way
4. A co-op is an **independent** organisation, owned and controlled by its members
5. It offers **education and training** to everyone involved, so they can develop the co-op and promote the benefits of co-operation
6. It **co-operates**, works with and support other co-ops
7. A co-op supports the **communities** it works with

Source: <https://www.uk.coop/understanding-co-ops/what-co-op/co-op-values-and-principles>



Co-operative Foundation Trusts

KsENT is a Co-operative Foundation Trust. There are two aspects to this; the 'foundation' aspect and the 'co-operative' aspect.

A Foundation Trust is defined by the following traits:

- ❖ It is made up of foundation (i.e. local authority maintained) schools
- ❖ This means that although the school is funded by the local authority, its governing body employs staff and is responsible for setting the school's admissions policy
- ❖ The foundation schools are supported by a charitable foundation (Trust) which consists of a number of partners
- ❖ The Trust holds the land and buildings for the school on behalf of its governing body

A Co-operative Foundation Trust is a type of Foundation Trust which includes the Schools Co-operative Society as a member as well as its other partners. It also includes a stakeholder forum which involves parents, pupils, staff and other stakeholders so they can be involved in the Trust and have a say in how it is run.



The Schools Co-operative Society is a national body which represents state-run schools in England that share

a Co-operative ethos. Its Members set up the Co-operative Schools Network (CSNET) to deliver a regional, representative approach to support schools through a national network.

Member & Partner Schools

We are made up of 26 Special Schools across all of the districts in Kent. Schools join us as Members or Partners.

Member Schools:

- ❖ Are foundation schools which are funded by the Local Authority but run by their own governing body. The Trust legally holds the land and buildings on behalf of the governing body
- ❖ Pay £25 per pupil (based on Jan roll figures) annual subscription

Partner Schools:

- ❖ Can be different types of school; fundamentally they are affiliated with KsENT but legally belong to another Trust
- ❖ Pay £15 per pupil (based on Jan roll figures) annual subscription
- ❖ Sign a Partner School Agreement annually

KsENT Offer:

- ❖ **A strong voice** – we are the largest group of Special Schools in Kent which gives us a strong platform to work collaboratively with the local authority and other key partners to deliver the best provision for our children and young people with SEND in Kent
- ❖ **Support network & sharing best practice** – we have a range of Forums and groups which provide support and CPD opportunities for our stakeholders
- ❖ **School Improvement assistance** – we offer bespoke Peer to Peer and Safeguarding Reviews for all KsENT schools who opt in
- ❖ **Pooling resources** – we offer opportunities for schools who opt in to pool resources and enjoy discounts on services which can benefit their provision

Our Partners

Along with the Co-op Schools Network, we are also partnered with Canterbury Christ Church University and the Thames Gateway Teaching School Hub as our teacher training providers.

Canterbury Christ Church University:

We have been partnered with CCCU since 2016 as our Schools Direct accredited provider for our Initial Teacher Training programme. So far we have trained over 90 teachers in our schools through both salaried and unsalaried routes with a 93% completion rate compared to the national average of 85%.



Thames Gateway Teaching School Hub:



Thames Gateway have partnered with us to provide our Early Careers Framework for trainees in the first two years

after they have qualified as a teacher. This gives them the essential specialist support they need to improve their practice and build confidence following their teacher training.



Structure

As a Cooperative Foundation Trust, we operate on a democratic basis so all of our decisions are voted on by our Trustees; there is no one person "in charge"! Our Trustees are made up of the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of our schools as well as representatives from our Partners. We also have an Executive which steers the direction of the Trust but ultimately answers to the Trust Board. This is made up of 10 members including Headteachers, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Trust and a representative from the Leadership Forum.

Group	Members	Meetings Per Year
Trust Board	Trustees; Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of our schools and representatives from our Partner organisations	3
Executive	Select Headteachers, Chair & Vice-Chair of Trust, Leadership Forum lead	6
Governor's Forum	Governors	3
Strategic Forum	Headteachers	6
Dimension Groups	Headteachers from the same dimension or need-type	3 - 6
Leadership Forum	Senior Leadership i.e. Deputy and Assistant Headteachers	6
Working Party Groups	Deputy and Assistant Headteachers (from the Leadership Forum)	3 - 6
Networking Groups	Subject lead teachers	3 - 6
School Business Manager's Group	School Business Managers and HR staff. Includes HR Sub-Group.	3
Stakeholder Forum	Parents, pupils and other stakeholders in the Trust.	3

Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025

Our Executive Group has identified 5 key strategic priorities that the Trust will be focusing on over the next 3 years:

- ❖ **Inclusivity:** To deliver a needs-driven curriculum for all children and young people with SEND in Kent within our schools. **Lead – Les Milton**
- ❖ **Sustainability:** To facilitate effective mechanisms to ensure the continued development of the Trust and its strategic objectives. **Lead – Jill Palmer (also Treasurer)**
- ❖ **Cooperative Values:** To embody cooperative values and principles throughout the operations and activities of the Trust. **Lead – Alan Norley**
- ❖ **Risk Management:** To establish an adaptable culture which manages seen and unforeseen threats and opportunities. **Lead – Annabel Lilley**
- ❖ **Engagement:** To participate in a collaborative ethos to improve opportunities for all children and young people with SEND in Kent. **Lead – Roberta Kane**

We will use these priorities to direct our activity to benefit our 3 main stakeholder groups of Pupils, Schools and Communities. Each of our Forums listed on the previous page has a Development Plan detailing the specific targets and actions they will be taking to work towards these priorities.

KsENT Support: Working Party Groups

Our Leadership Forum has several 'Working Party Groups' or sub-groups made up of Senior Leaders across our schools which function to support career development amongst our teachers and support staff and promote best practice in SEND education.

Group	Focus
Careers & Destinations	Developing a comprehensive Careers & Destinations offer for children and young people in our schools with post-16 provision
Continuing Professional Development	Offering tier 2 and other training opportunities for teachers at all levels to further enhance their knowledge and skills
Early Careers Framework	Supporting mentors, tutors and ECT teachers involved in the ECT programme
Initial Teacher Training	Running an Initial Teacher Training programme accredited by Canterbury Christ Church University to train teachers in-house in a number of our schools
Leadership Development	Nurturing outstanding leadership across our schools
Pupil Progress & Engagement	Developing assessment systems to be used across our schools and identifying and monitoring progress achieved (in all its forms) by our children and young people
Research, Development & Innovation Network	Engaging in research projects and pursuing innovation-based developments to make KsENT schools at the cutting edge of SEND provision nationally
School Effectiveness	Offering bespoke Peer-to-Peer and Safeguarding Reviews for KsENT schools to opt in to for school improvement and compliance purposes

KsENT Support: Networking Groups

Our Networking & Moderation groups cover the full range of subjects and allow our subject specialists and leads to come together to work collaboratively and build on the excellent quality of teaching which our pupils receive. Below is a full list of groups and their leads.

- ❖ English – Joe Sumner, Bower Grove School
(jsumner@bower-grove.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Maths – Andy Croft, Snowfields Academy
(andrew.croft@snowfieldsacademy.org.uk)
- ❖ Science – Jacob Saywell, The Beacon Folkestone
(jacob.saywell@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ PE – Ian Harman, Meadowfield School
(ian.harman@meadowfield.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ PSHE – Jessica Street, Milestone Academy
(jessica.street@milestoneacademy.org.uk)
- ❖ EYFS – Eve Neilly, Whitfield Aspen School
(eve.neilly@whitfield.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ PMLD – Donna Wickens, The Beacon Folkestone
(donna.wickens@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Computing – Kirsty McIntosh, Valence School
(kmcintosh@valence.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Humanities – Rebecca Plevak, Snowfields Academy
(rebecca.plevak@snowfieldsacademy.org.uk)
- ❖ 14-19 – Mary Newell, Oakley School
(mnewell@oakley.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Performing Arts – Hannah Stevens, Ifield School
(hstevens@ifield.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Art, Design & Technology – Pete Rowe, Bower Grove School
(prowe@bower-grove.kent.sch.uk)
- ❖ Behaviour – Lead TBC, please contact
admin@ksent.org

KsENT Meeting Dates 2023 – 2024

Term 1

Weds 13th Sep	Executive Group
Weds 20th Sep	C&I Heads
Thurs 21st Sep	SEMH Heads
Mon 25th Sep	Governors Forum
Weds 27th Sep	SBM Group
Thurs 28th Sep	Trust Board AGM
Fri 29th Sep	Strategic Forum
Tues 3rd Oct	PSCN Heads
Tues 3rd Oct	HR Group
Fri 6th Oct	PSHE Moderation
Fri 6th Oct	STLS Leads Meeting
Tues 10th Oct	PE Moderation
Weds 11th Oct	Behaviour Group
Thurs 12th Oct	Maths Moderation
Fri 13th Oct	Leadership Forum

Term 2

Tues 7th Nov	Science Moderation
Tues 7th Nov	C&I Heads
Weds 8th Nov	Executive Group
Thurs 9th Nov	14-19 Moderation
Thurs 9th Nov	SEMH Heads
Fri 17th Nov	Strategic Forum
Fri 17th Nov	English Moderation
Tues 21st Nov	PSCN Heads
Weds 29th Nov	ECT Group
Fri 1st Dec	Leadership Forum
Tues 5th Dec	HR Group
Fri 8th Dec	STLS Leads Meeting

Term 3

Tues 9th Jan	PMLD Moderation
Weds 10th Jan	Executive Group
Thurs 11th Jan	SEMH Heads
Weds 17th Jan	C&I Heads
Weds 17th Jan	Computing Moderation
Fri 19th Jan	Strategic Forum
Thurs 25th Jan	Humanities Moderation
Tues 30th Jan	PSCN Heads
Tues 30th Jan	Science Moderation
Fri 2nd Feb	Leadership Forum
Fri 2nd Feb	STLS Leads Meeting
Tues 6th Feb	HR Group
Weds 7th Feb	EYFS Moderation

Term 4

Weds 21st Feb	Executive Group
Weds 28th Feb	C&I Heads
Weds 28th Feb	SBM Group
Thurs 29 th Feb	SEMH Heads
Weds 6th Mar	Behaviour Group
Thurs 7th Mar	Trust Board
Fri 8th Mar	Strategic Forum
Tues 12th Mar	PSCN Heads
Thurs 14th Mar	Art & D&T Moderation
Weds 13th Mar	ECT Group
Fri 15th Mar	Maths Moderation
Mon 18th Mar	Governors Forum
Tues 19th Mar	HR Group
Tues 19th Mar	PSHE Moderation
Fri 22nd Mar	Leadership Forum
Fri 22nd Mar	English Moderation
Fri 22nd Mar	STLS Leads Meeting

Term 5

Weds 17th Apr	Executive Group
Tues 23rd Apr	14-19 Moderation
Weds 24th Apr	C&I Heads
Thurs 25 th Apr	SEMH Heads
Fri 3rd May	Strategic Forum
Tues 7th May	PSCN Heads
Tues 7th May	Science Moderation
Thurs 9th May	EYFS Moderation
Fri 10th May	STLS Leads Meeting
Tues 14th May	HR Group
Fri 17th May	Leadership Forum

Term 6

Weds 5th Jun	Executive Group
Fri 7th Jun	PMLD Moderation
Tues 11th Jun	Humanities Moderation
Weds 12th Jun	C&I Heads
Thurs 13th Jun	Computing Moderation
Mon 17th Jun	Governors Forum
Fri 21st Jun	Strategic Forum
Tues 25th Jun	PSCN Heads
Weds 26th Jun	SBM Group
Thurs 27th Jun	Trust Board
Thurs 27th Jun	Art & D&T Moderation
Fri 28th Jun	STLS Leads Meeting
Tues 2nd Jul	HR Group
Weds 3rd Jul	ECT Group
Fri 5th Jul	Leadership Forum
Thurs 11th Jul	SEMH Heads

Please note that these dates are subject to change; for the most up-to-date information please check our website (www.ksent.org) or email admin@ksent.org

