

EKC Group

Admissions Appeals Process for Junior Colleges

The purpose of this process is to ensure the independence of admission appeals panels and to ensure that all admission appeals are conducted in a fair and transparent way.

If your child is not offered a place at a Junior College, you have the right to appeal. You must write to the relevant Junior College you are applying for, stating that you wish to appeal. To do this, email junior.college.appeals@eastkent.ac.uk clearly stating if your appeal is for Broadstairs, Canterbury Spring Lane or Folkestone Junior College. You should receive an automatic response acknowledging your appeal and outlining next steps.

This should be no later than 10 calendar days following notification of the application decision. Appeals received after 10 calendar days will not be accepted.

1. The Junior Colleges will arrange for an Independent Appeal Panel to consider the reason(s) for refusal.
2. The panel will consist of three independent educationalists from the EKC Schools trust, but with no connection to the EKC Group or Junior Colleges. The panel will consider the case put forward, it must consider the admission arrangements for the Junior College and the reasons why you want to attend the Junior College. The panel must exercise its discretion by balancing the weight of arguments. The appeal must be heard within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged.
3. The Junior College will provide Parents / Carers with the right to attend the Appeal Panel, notification of the appeal date will be sent at least 5 days prior to the hearing.
4. The panel must communicate the decision of each appeal, including the reasons for that decision, in writing to the appellant and the Junior College. The clerk or chair must sign the decision letter and send it to the parties as soon as possible after the hearing but not later than five school days, unless there is good reason.
5. The panel must ensure that the decision is easily comprehensible so that the parties can understand the basis on which the decision was made. The decision letter must contain a summary of relevant factors that were raised by the parties and considered by the panel. It must also give clear reasons for the panel's decision, including how, and why, any issues of fact or law were decided by the panel during the hearing.
6. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is binding on the Junior College and parents/carers.

Repeat Appeals

The Junior Colleges will not consider repeat appeals by the same applicant in the same academic year unless the applicant is able to prove that there have been material changes in their circumstances since the previous admission appeal. The final decision as to whether the

material changes warrant a fresh appeal will be determined by a Panel made up of different members than in the original appeal.