



LALEHAM GAP SCHOOL

Ozengell Place, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6FH

Tel: (01843) 570598

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Laleham Gap School and its Collaborations March 2026



Laleham Gap School became a Foundation school with KsENT as its trust in 2016. The ethos of KsENT is based on the Cooperative Schools Network values and principles of:

- Self-help
- Self-responsibility
- Equality
- Equity
- Democracy
- Solidarity

KsENT is a cooperative education partnership helping 25 schools to deliver a world class education for all learners with special needs within Kent. Our key organisational aims are through strong leadership and governance, recruitment and retention of staff, the quality of teaching and learning across our schools will be outstanding. Through a culture of trust, collaboration and sharing of best practice coupled with leadership by consensus our Cooperative Trust will continue to develop and grow to become an organisation that drives special education forward in the ever changing and challenging climate within Kent and nationally.

KsENT is a charitable, not for profit company and meets the legal and other requirements as set out by the Department for Education (DfE). The Trust carries out its duties in relation to each member school as set out by the DfE, specifically by appointing a minority (two) governors to the Governing Body of any supported school and by holding the land and assets mutually in trust for its school communities. The Trust was incorporated as a private company limited by guarantee with Companies House on 11th December 2014 and is recognised as an 'exempt charity' with the Secretary of State as the Principal Regulator.

The Trust acts as the legal foundation for us as a member school, but not for any of its partner learning providers. As a member school, we consulted to change our school category from Community to Foundation. The trust model enables us to be engaged in its long-term strategic direction through membership of the Trust. Our Governing Body now employs its staff, although existing pay and condition arrangements remain unchanged as the schools remain in the maintained sector and are still subject to national and local pay and condition agreements. Our Governing Body is also responsible for student admissions working jointly with the Local





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Authority's Special Education Team to administer the provision of student places within the requirements of the National Schools Admissions Code and other relevant SEN guidance and policy. Whilst the Trust holds the land and capital assets in trust for us, our Governing Body retains day to day responsibility for managing these assets. Les Milton became a member of KsENT's Executive committee in 2021. We use KsENT for networking in a wide range of activities including School Business Management support, school to school improvement and reviews, subject moderation and access to training including Initial Teacher Training.

KsENT Strategic Plan 2025–2027

1. Opportunities for KsENT Pupils

- Planned programme of enrichment activities that all KsENT schools are participating in
- Broaden the opportunities available beyond our schools
- Celebrate pupils' achievements through showcase events e.g. sports, art, performing arts involving press and social media
- Widening KsENT purpose and offer within communities, locally and wider
- A planned programme of Pupil Voice activities, including a KsENT Pupil Forum

2. Support and Professional Development

- Strengthen leadership networks and capability
- Sustainability of leadership through strong cohesive offer of KsENT support
- Develop staff expertise and professional support
- Leadership coaching and mentoring programme for new leaders

3. Collaboration – Driving Inclusive Practice Locally

- Build capacity across sectors through reciprocal support
- Sharing best practice
- Create a cohesive KsENT offer across areas

4. Collaboration – National Focus

- To explore other possibilities for school improvement
- To be affiliated with national SEND organisations
- Partnership working with Trusts and other organisations wider than Kent
- Position KsENT nationally as a hub of SEND excellence
- Improve multi-agency working and system leadership





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'Thanet Endeavour Learning Trust' consists of 4 member schools of Garlinge Primary in Margate, Bromstone Primary School in Broadstairs, Parkside and St Mildred's Infant School in Broadstairs.

The co-operative has partners who support the work of the schools in ensuring that the children of Thanet have access to the best educational and extra-curricular opportunities available.

Our partners are:

- Laleham Gap Special School
- Canterbury Christchurch University
- Holy Trinity and St Johns School

As a Co-operative School we uphold the co-operative values of:

- Self-help
- Self-responsibility
- Democracy
- Equality
- Equity
- Solidarity

Co-operative Schools are about developing a balanced set of values that will help young people become the good citizens our society needs.

The Values and Principles we have adopted are internationally agreed and used by Co-operatives across the world.

Our schools have collaborated for many years, together we share the cooperative values, and work hard with our partners to provide the best education and life chances for our pupils.

