

KS2 SATs Parent Information

18th January 2023

What are the SATs?

SATs are the Standardised Assessment Tests that are given to children at the end of Key Stage 2.

- The SATs take place over four days, starting on Tuesday 9th May ending on Friday 12th May.

When and how the SATs are completed?

- The tests take place during normal school hours, under exam conditions.
- Each test lasts no longer than 60 minutes:
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 1: Grammar/ Punctuation) – 45 minutes
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 2: Spelling) – 15 minutes
 - Reading – 60 minutes
 - Maths (paper 1: Arithmetic) – 30 minutes
 - Maths (paper 2: Reasoning) – 40 minutes
 - Maths (paper 3: Reasoning) – 40 minutes

Writing is teacher assessed.

Specific arrangements for SATs

Children with additional needs (who have similar support as part of day-to-day learning in school) may be allotted specific arrangements, including:

- Additional (extra) time;
- An adult to read for them (including a translator);
- The use of prompts or rest breaks;
- Arrangements for children who are ill or injured at the time of the tests.

Pupils with an EHCP are automatically allowed up to 25% additional time (except for the spelling paper, which is not strictly timed). Pupils who use the modified large print or braille versions of the tests are automatically allowed up to 100% additional time.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Tuesday 9th May

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar consists of two papers.

- Paper 1 focuses on all three elements (spelling, punctuation and grammar). The paper lasts for 45 minutes.
- Paper 2 consists of a spelling test only. It should take approximately 15 minutes, although this is not a set amount of time (pupils should be given as much time as they need to complete the test).

Reading: Wednesday 10th May

There is one reading test that lasts for 60 minutes.

The test is designed to measure if the children's comprehension of age-appropriate reading material meets the national standard. There are three different set texts for children to read. These could be any combination of non-fiction, fiction and/ or poetry.

The test covers the following areas (known as Content Domains):

- Give/ explain the meaning of words in context;
- Retrieve and record information/ identify key details from fiction and non-fiction;
- Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph;
- Make inferences from the text/ explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text;
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied;
- Identify/ explain how information/ narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole;
- Identify/ explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases;
- Make comparisons within the text.

Since the current testing formation for the SATs began in 2016, there has been a tendency for three types of questions to be the most popular.

In the 2019 Reading SATs paper,

- 12% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving giving and explaining the meaning of words in context;
- 42% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving retrieving and recording information or identifying key details from a text;
- 36% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving making inferences from a text and justifying inferences with text evidence.

When reading with your child at home try focusing on these types of questions.

Maths: Thursday 11th May and Friday 12th May

The maths assessments consist of three tests.

- Paper 1: Arithmetic (30 minutes) – Thursday 11th May
- Paper 2: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Thursday 11th May
- Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Friday 12th May

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

The maths arithmetic paper has a total of 40 marks.

The test covers the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, including order of operations requiring BIDMAS), percentages of amounts and calculating with decimals and fractions.

Maths Papers 2 and 3 (Reasoning)

These tests have a total of 35 marks each.

These papers require children to demonstrate their mathematical knowledge and skills, as well as their ability to solve problems and their mathematical reasoning. They cover a wide range of mathematical topics from key stage 2 including,

- Number and place value (including Roman numerals);
- The four operations;
- Geometry (properties of shape, position and direction);
- Statistics;
- Measurement (length, perimeter, mass, volume, time, money);
- Algebra;
- Ratio and proportion;
- Fractions, decimals and percentages.

The results

Tests are marked externally. Once marked, the tests will be given the following scores:

- A raw score (total number of marks achieved for each paper);
- A scaled score (see below);
- A judgement on if the National Standard has been met.

Even though the tests are made to the same standard each year, the questions must be different.

This means the difficulty of the tests may vary.

Scaled scores ensures an accurate comparison of performance over time.

Scaled scores range from 80 to 120.

A scaled score of 100 or more shows the pupil is meeting the National Standard.

These thresholds change each year according to the overall national performance, so what was classed as 'meeting the expected standard' this year might not be the same as last year.

English reading

Raw score	Scaled score
0 - 2	No scaled score
3	80
4	80
5	81
6	82
7	83
8	84
9	85
10	86
11	87
12	88
13	88
14	89
15	90
16	91
17	91
18	92
19	93
20	93
21	94
22	95
23	96
24	96
25	97

Raw score	Scaled score
26	98
27	98
28	99
29	100
30	100
31	101
32	102
33	103
34	104
35	104
36	105
37	106
38	107
39	108
40	109
41	110
42	111
43	113
44	114
45	115
46	117
47	118
48	120
49	120
50	120

Supporting your child in preparing for the SATs

Firstly, a positive attitude goes a long way. Give them as much encouragement and support as you can.

Tips:

- Support children's attendance at booster classes.
- Complete homework tasks set.
- Don't use past papers as they are used in school to prepare the children.
- Talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.
- Encourage your child to talk to their teacher or a trusted adult (including yourself) about their anxieties. Don't forget that a small amount of anxiety is normal and not harmful.
- Give your child a quiet, distraction free space to complete homework or study.
- Give your child time to go outside and reduce screen time.
- Ensure your child is eating and drinking well and getting a good amount of sleep.
- Plan something nice and fun for the weekends before and after SATs. This will help them to relax before the SATs and give them something to look forward to after.

Further tips:

- Keep revision light. Going over key skills (times tables, real world mental maths as you are shopping or cooking) is a good way to keep revision light.
- There are plenty of free or inexpensive SATs practice materials for parents available.
- If you're looking to support your child further with maths at home, there are lots of good websites with free Year 6 revision resources. Start with thirdspacelearning.com/blog/category/for-parents/ or register free for the Third Space Learning Maths Hub (mathshub.thirdspacelearning.com)

Things to remember about SATs

SATs don't tell the whole story.

SATs focus on what children know about Maths and English.

They will not reflect how talented they are at science, geography, art, PE..., and they certainly won't highlight all of their amazing personal characteristics.

SATs are only four days out of a whole Primary School career.

In reality, there's one or two papers each day that last 30 to 60 minutes.

