



Information for parents: National curriculum tests at the end of key stage 1

WITH ...

SEANIN HANN (Y2 LEAD AT SR)

SAM LEDGER (ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER)

Agenda

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What are SATs tests?

- ▶ All Year 2 children in England take end of Key Stage 1 SATs tests in May

Our children will take SATs in:

- ▶ Reading: 2 different papers over 2 days
- ▶ Maths: 2 different papers (Arithmetic and Reasoning & Problem Solving) over 2 days





Why do we do SATs?

- ▶ Because...we have to!
- ▶ It is not up to a school to decide. In England, the tests are compulsory for all seven year olds
- ▶ Teachers are responsible for judging the standards that the children in our class are working at in English, maths and science, by the end of key stage 1 (year 2)
- ▶ To help inform our judgements, children sit national curriculum tests in English and maths, commonly called SATs

- ▶ The tests are a tool for teachers to help them measure the children's performance and to identify their needs as they move into key stage 2 (years 3– 6)
- ▶ They also allow teachers to see how our children are performing against national expected standards



When do we do them?

- ▶ Unlike Year 6 SATs, the tests can be taken any time during May, and they are not strictly timed
- ▶ Schools are free to manage the timetable and will aim to administer the tests in the classroom in a low-stress, low-key way

Dates:

- ▶ **Reading** week (2 papers) will start on the week beginning 9th May
- ▶ **Maths** week (2 papers) will start on the week beginning 16th May





Our approach

- ▶ Teaching and learning isn't jeopardized – we carefully plan the tests into our timetables
- ▶ We still follow the national curriculum and teach all of the other subjects!
- ▶ Our main priority is – as always – the children's well-being
- ▶ They'll be ready!

- ▶ We don't talk about SATs to the children
- ▶ We prepare the children and make sure they are ready to access the tests
- ▶ We practice, support and develop techniques
- ▶ Most children won't even be aware they've taken them as we incorporate them into everyday classroom activities



On the day

- ▶ There will be as little pressure as possible
- ▶ Small groups for actual tests - no more than 15 in a room at once
- ▶ Breaks if needed
- ▶ The children will have everything they need
- ▶ Once the test is over, they will be back in class learning with the rest of the children





How we use the tests...

- ▶ SATs test results aren't **everything**
- ▶ Teachers will use the results from the tests, along with the work your child has done throughout the year, to help them reach their own judgements about how your child is progressing at the end of key stage 1
- ▶ They are used to build up a picture of your child's learning and achievements

- ▶ SATs papers can be used as evidence of independent understanding
- ▶ These teacher assessment judgements will be reported to you by the end of the summer term





About the assessments

Reading

Each paper is worth 50% of the marks, and should take around 30 minutes, but children are not to be strictly timed, as the tests are not intended to assess children's ability to work at speed

The texts in the reading papers cover a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, and get progressively more difficult towards the end of the test

Teachers have the option to stop the test at any point that they feel is appropriate for a particular child

- ▶ Paper 1: Combined reading, prompt and answer booklet

Paper 1 consists of a selection of texts totalling 400 to 700 words, with questions interspersed

- ▶ Paper 2: Reading booklet and answer booklet

Paper 2 comprises a reading booklet of a selection of passages totalling 800 to 1100 words. Children write their answers in a separate booklet

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-tests-2019-english-reading-test-materials>





About the assessments

Maths

The maths test is made up of two papers.

Children are not allowed to use any tools such as calculators or number lines.

- ▶ Paper 1: Arithmetic

Worth 25 mark

- ▶ Paper 2: Mathematical fluency, problem-solving and reasoning

Worth 35 marks

There are a variety of question types: multiple choice, matching, true/false, constrained (e.g. completing a chart or table; drawing a shape) and less constrained (e.g. where children have to show or explain their method).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-tests-2019-mathematics-test-materials>





Marking and 'Scores'

- ▶ Pupils are given a scaled score
- ▶ A score of 100 means a child is working at the expected standard
- ▶ A score below 100 indicates that a child needs more support
- ▶ The maximum score possible is 115
- ▶ The minimum is 85





Marking and 'Scores'

What is a scaled score?

- ▶ A pupil's scaled score is based on their raw score.
- ▶ The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil scores in a test, based on the number of questions they answered correctly.
- ▶ Tests are developed each year to the same specification, but because the questions must be different, the difficulty of tests may vary slightly each year.





Supporting the Children

Keep doing what you're doing!

A good night's sleep and a good breakfast are always good things.

