



Year 6 Statutory Assessment Tests 2017-18

Information
for
Parents

What are the Statutory Assessments and when are they carried out?

1. End of Key Stage 2 new national curriculum tests– these are a measure of pupils’ attainment and progress and will be administered in the week commencing **14th May 2018**. These are tested in the following subjects:

- Spelling (approximately 15 minutes)
- Punctuation, Vocabulary and Grammar (45 minutes)
- Reading (60 minutes)
- Mathematics
 - - Paper 1: Arithmetic (30 minutes)
 - - Paper 2: Reasoning (40 minutes)
 - - Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes)

All the above-mentioned tests are externally marked. There will be no level 6 tests - higher level content will be incorporated into the main test papers.

2. Teacher assessment at KS2 for writing, using the framework for teacher assessment as set out by the Department for Education.

- There is no formal test for writing composition – this is done through teacher assessment of independent writing tasks throughout the school year. The school moderates its judgements with other local authority schools and there is the possibility of a Local Authority moderation, to ensure that our judgements are accurate. This usually takes place in June.

3. Science sample tests: some schools will be required to take part in Science testing, consisting of three tests in Biology, Physics and Chemistry. Not all schools will take part in this sampling, which takes place around June. Schools selected by the local authority will be notified in May.

Formative classroom assessment

This is ongoing classroom assessment which takes place during the daily lessons; examples include cold and hot tasks at the beginning and end of new topics in maths and writing; higher order questioning and book marking.

What has changed?

- **Levels are out** – each pupil’s raw score will be converted and reported as a ‘scaled score’ based around a midpoint of **100**.
- A child who achieves the ‘**expected standard**’ (a score of 100) will be judged to have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the tests.
- A scaled score of **110** or more will be judged as achieving **greater depth within the expected standard**.
- A scaled score of less than 100 will be judged as **working below the expected standard**.
- New content in maths tests – label parts of a circle, fractions (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), algebra, reflex angles.
- No mental maths test – replaced by an arithmetic test (using formal written methods, e.g. long multiplication and division).
- Greater emphasis on terminology in the Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test.

What will be reported to parents?

In July 2018, as part of the end of year report, each pupil will receive:

- A raw score (number of raw marks awarded) in each of the external subjects tested.
- A scaled score in each subject tested.
- Confirmation of whether or not the pupil has attained the national standard.

- A teacher assessment in all core areas (reported as Working Towards, Working At or Working at Greater Depth of the expected standard).

When will the SATs take place?

1. Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test
 - A separate test is given on Punctuation, Vocabulary and Grammar.
 - This test lasts for 45 minutes and requires short answer questions, including some multiple choice.
 - A Spelling test is administered containing 20 words, lasting approximately 15 minutes.
 - Marks for these two tests are added together to give a total for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (70 marks).
2. Reading and comprehension skills. There is greater emphasis on FICTION.
Skills covered:
 - Give/explain the meaning of words
 - Retrieve and record information
 - Summarise main ideas
 - Make inferences from the text
 - Explain and justify inferences with evidence
 - Predict what might happen
 - Specify how extracts contribute to overall meaning
 - Explain the importance of word/ phrase choices
 - Make comparisons within and across texts

The test

- A single test paper with three unrelated reading texts. Assesses the comprehension and understanding of reading.
- 60 minutes, includes reading the texts and answering the questions.
- 50 marks are available.
- From 2018, the Department for Education has announced that the reading content of the KS2 SATs will be more closely linked to the curriculum to ensure children are drawing on their knowledge when answering reading comprehension questions.
- Question types include multiple choice, ranking/ordering, matching, labelling, find and copy, short answer and extended response or explanation.

3. Mathematics

The Mathematics tests have undergone the biggest change.

- Children will sit three tests: Paper 1, Paper 2 and Paper 3.
- No calculator or tracing paper allowed as in previous tests.

Arithmetic (Paper 1)

- lasts 30 minutes
- Questions assess pupils' confidence with a range of mathematical operations: multiplication, division, addition, subtraction, fractions and percentages.
- Focusses on specific formal written methods, such as long multiplication and division. Questions gradually increase in difficulty.

Reasoning (Papers 2 and 3)

- Papers 2 and 3 cover 'Problem Solving and Reasoning', each lasting for 40 minutes.
- Questions assess pupils' mathematical understanding, requiring them to solve real life problems and provide explanations for mathematical reasoning.

Support during the tests

Some individual children may be entitled to additional support, during the tests, through the use of:

- Additional time allowances
- Scribes
- Readers and Promoters
- Rest breaks
- Modified/enlarged tests

Parents will be notified if a pupil has entitlement to any of this support.

How can you support your child at home?

- First and foremost, support and reassure your child that there is nothing to worry about and they should always just try their best. Praise and encourage!
- Ensure your child has the best possible attendance at school.
- Support your child with any homework tasks.
- Reading, spelling and arithmetic (e.g. times tables) are always good to practise.
- Talk to your child about what they have learnt at school and what book(s) they are reading (the character, the plot, their opinion).
- Make sure your child has a good sleep and healthy breakfast every morning!
- Focus developing an enjoyment and love of reading.
- Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child at KS1 and KS2 is equally as important as listening to your child read.
- Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
- Visit the local library - it's free!
- Practise and learn weekly spelling lists – make it fun!
- All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
- Encourage opportunities for writing, such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories or poems.
- Encourage use of a dictionary to check spelling and a thesaurus to find synonyms and expand vocabulary.
- Allow your child to use a computer for word processing, which will allow for editing and correcting of errors without lots of crossing out.
- Show your appreciation: praise and encourage, even for small successes!
- Play times tables games.
- Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards
- Encourage opportunities for telling the time
- Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money; finding amounts or calculating change when shopping
- Look for numbers on street signs, car registrations and anywhere else!

- Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home
- Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes
- Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, darts, draughts or chess

Most good bookshops sell practice SATs books/ material at a reasonable price.

If you would like to find out more about how your child is doing, please feel free to make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

