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SATs and Assessment for Year 2



An information
booklet for parents.

RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT COMPASSION

This booklet has been designed to give parents an overview of the end of Key Stage 1 SATs from 2016.

We have tried to explain some of the terminology you might hear and give a description of which subjects are assessed and the levels the children might achieve.

The end of Year 2 achievements are reported to you as parents during the second half of the summer term and they are also reported to your child's next school so they can plan to best meet your child's needs.



Terminology

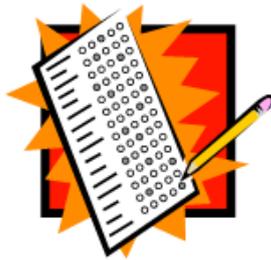
What does 'Key Stage' mean ?

There are three Key Stages in primary schools:

- Foundation Stage: this is our Reception Classes.
- Key Stage 1: this is Year 1 and Year 2 in the infants.
- Key Stage 2: this is Years 3 to 6 in the juniors.

What does 'SATs' stand for and what does it mean?

- S.A.T.s stands for Standard Assessment Tests.
- It means that at key points there are nationally set tests that are administered across the whole country to children of specific ages.
- In infant schools this happens in Key Stage 1 during Year 2 when the majority of children are 7.
- The results of these tests are published to individual families regarding their child and nationally as a whole year group in government tables.



Children starting Year 2 in September 2015 and beyond will need to be prepared for the new style KS1 SATs in 2016. Here's what you need to know about what the tests involve.

In the summer term 2016, **children at the end of Key Stage 1 will sit new SATs papers.** That means that if your child is in Year 2, they will be among the first pupils to take the new test. SATs have been overhauled in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 to reflect the changes to the national curriculum, which was introduced from September 2014.

At the end of Year 2, children will take SATs in:

- Reading
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling
- Maths

What are the grades awarded?

Attainment Levels are no longer given.

The new-style KS1 SATs are due to be administered in May 2016.

Although the tests are set externally, they will be marked by teachers within the school. Instead of the old national curriculum levels, children will be given a standardised score – although this may not be communicated to parents. Teacher assessments will also be used to build up a picture of your child's learning and achievements. In addition, your child will receive an overall result saying whether they have achieved the required standard in the tests. The Department for Education aims for 85 per cent of children to reach the required standard.

Other national curriculum subjects, including English writing, speaking and listening, science and computing, will be assessed by your child's teacher based on their work throughout the year.

KS1 SATs results show where your child's academic knowledge ranks against the national average. The grading system involves children's raw score - the actual number of marks they get - being translated into a scaled score. You will be told their raw score, scaled score and whether they have reached the national standard. The score needed to achieve the national standard hasn't yet been announced. Children will also be matched against 'performance descriptors' - such as working towards the expected level, working at the expected level and working above the expected level - when being assessed by their teachers at the end of Key Stage 1.

Which subjects are assessed?



English

The new reading test for Year 2 pupils will involve two separate papers:

- ♦ Paper 1 consists of a selection of texts totalling 400 to 700 words, with questions interspersed
- ♦ Paper 2 comprises a reading booklet of a selection of passages totalling 800 to 1100 words. Children will write their answers in a separate booklet

Each paper is worth 50 per cent of the marks, and should take around 30 minutes, but children will not be strictly timed, as the tests are not intended to assess children's ability to work at speed. **The texts in the reading papers will cover a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry**, and will get progressively more difficult towards the end of the test. Teachers will have the option to stop the test at any point that they feel is appropriate for a particular child.

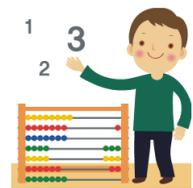
There will be a variety of question types:



- ♦ Multiple choice
- ♦ Ranking/ordering, e.g. 'Number the events below to show in which order they happened in the story'
- ♦ Matching, e.g. 'Match the character to the job that they do in the story'
- ♦ Labelling, e.g. 'Label the text to show the title'
- ♦ Find and copy, e.g. 'Find and copy one word that shows what the weather was like in the story'
- ♦ Short answer, e.g. 'What does the bear eat?'
- ♦ Open-ended answer, e.g. 'Why did Lucy write the letter to her grandmother? Give two reasons'

Children taking Key Stage 1 SATs will sit two separate papers in grammar, spelling and punctuation:

- ♦ Paper 1: a 20-word spelling test taking approximately 15 minutes and worth 10 marks.
- ♦ Paper 2: a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test, in two sections of around 10 minutes each (with a break between, if necessary), worth 20 marks. This will involve a mixture of selecting the right answers e.g. through multiple choice, and writing short answers.



Mathematics

The new Key Stage 1 maths test will comprise two papers:

- ♦ Paper 1: arithmetic, worth 25 marks and taking around 15 minutes.
- ♦ Paper 2: mathematical fluency, problem-solving & reasoning, worth 35 marks and taking 35 minutes, with a break if necessary. There will be 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).
- ♦ Children will not be able to use any tools such as calculators or number lines.

As soon as the word 'exam' pops up, it can set off the parental panic button! Think of Key Stage 1 SATs as evaluations rather than exams – they're not designed to be passed or failed, and they gauge what level your child has reached rather than whether or not they meet the standards set in the test. It's another way to highlight where your child is doing well, and where they might need extra help.

What Can We Do Together To Help?

Copies of targets for all levels in reading, writing and maths will be available at every Parents Evening when the teachers will be pleased to update you with how your child is progressing.

We hope your child is enjoying the maths homework, both learning the number bonds to 10 and now the times tables to earn special certificates and awards.

You can help your child by helping them to learn any spelling families they have been studying in school along with revising spelling patterns from the Letters and Sounds card we provided for your child. We also have our Buzz Word Sheets available for all children to help with learning to read and spell the most common words in our language.

Don't forget you will also receive a half termly Word Wizard booklet which is full of fun games and activities to help develop your child's speaking, listening, fine motor, reading and spelling skills. Please encourage them to try as many of these activities as possible, particularly the Visual memory games.

Our Curriculum Newsletters give you lots of information about what the children are learning in other subjects. You can help by asking questions, helping them research the topic and taking them on visits to special places of interest as the children do need to stay motivated and interested to learn, as well as having some 'down time' to relax too!



There are a number of ways in which you can work on literacy and numeracy concepts at home that will help your child in the classroom, which in turn will give them the knowledge to achieve the target level for their age group. This will be shared through our target leaflets, various parent booklets and during the SATs Meeting.

Please help yourself to extra copies of booklets if of help. There is also a new booklet on Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling available.

We hope you find this information useful. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see your child's teacher or Mrs Lewis the Headteacher.

