

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS RE Y6 SATs 2019

KS2 SATs were overhauled to be in line with the new national curriculum in May 2016. If your child will be sitting Y6 SATs in 2019, read on for the most up-to-date information for parents.

In the summer term of 2016, children in Year 2 and Year 6 were the first to take the new [SATs](#) papers. The new-style SATs for English and maths reflect the new national curriculum, and are more rigorous than previous years' tests. There is also a completely [new SATs marking scheme and grading system](#) which has replaced national curriculum levels. At the end of Year 6, children sit tests in:

- Reading
- Maths
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar

These tests are both set and marked externally, and the results are used to measure the school's performance (for example, through reporting to Ofsted and published league tables). Your child's marks will be used in conjunction with teacher assessment to give a broader picture of their attainment.

The reading test is a single paper with questions based on three passages of text. **Your child will have one hour, including reading time, to complete the test.**

There will be a selection of question types, including:

- **Ranking/ordering**, e.g. 'Number the events below to show the order in which they happen in the story'
- **Labelling**, e.g. 'Label the text to show the title of the story'
- **Find and copy**, e.g. 'Find and copy one word that suggests what the weather is like in the story'
- **Short constructed response**, e.g. 'What does the bear eat?'
- **Open-ended response**, e.g. 'Look at the sentence that begins *Once upon a time*. How does the writer increase the tension throughout this paragraph? Explain fully, referring to the text in your answer.'

In 2018 the Department for Education announced that the reading content of the KS2 SATs will be more closely linked to the curriculum in future to ensure children are drawing on their knowledge when answering reading comprehension questions.

The grammar, punctuation and spelling test consists of two parts: a **grammar and punctuation paper** requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and an **aural spelling test of 20 words**, lasting around 15 minutes.

The grammar and punctuation test will include two sub-types of questions:

- **Selected response**, e.g. 'Identify the adjectives in the sentence below'
- **Constructed response**, e.g. 'Correct/complete/rewrite the sentence below,' or, 'The sentence below has an apostrophe missing. Explain why it needs an apostrophe.'

Children sit three papers in maths:

- Paper 1: **arithmetic**, 30 minutes
- Papers 2 and 3: **reasoning**, 40 minutes per paper

Paper 1 will consist of fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct answer to calculations, including long multiplication and division. Papers 2 and 3 will involve a number of question types, including:

- Multiple choice
- True or false
- Constrained questions, e.g. giving the answer to a calculation, drawing a shape or completing a table or chart
- Less constrained questions, where children will have to explain their approach for solving a problem

• **Not all children in Year 6 will take science SATs.** In selected years (including 2018) a number of schools (approximately 1900) are required to take part in science sampling: a test administered to a selected sample of children thought to be representative of the population as a whole. Science sampling testing will not take place in 2019. For those who are selected, there will be three papers:

- **Biology:** 25 minutes, 22 marks
- **Chemistry:** 25 minutes, 22 marks
- **Physics:** 25 minutes, 22 marks

Each paper will take a maximum of 25 minutes to complete.

It sounds very intimidating, but these are 'questions in a physics/chemistry/biology context', for example:

Biology: 'Describe the differences in the life cycle of an amphibian and a mammal'

Chemistry: 'Group a list of materials according to whether they are solid, liquid or gas'

Physics: 'Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, based on where the poles are facing'

The [Year 6 KS2 SATs](#) will be administered in the week commencing 13 May 2019. The timetable is likely to follow previous years' timetables:

Monday 13 May 2019

English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions

English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling

Tuesday 14 May 2019

English reading

Wednesday 15 May 2019

Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic

Mathematics Paper 2: reasoning

Thursday 16 May 2019

Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

The previous [national curriculum levels](#) have been scrapped, and instead children are given [scaled scores](#)

You will be given your child's scaled score and whether they have reached the expected standard set by the Department for Education ('NS' means that the expected standard was not achieved and 'AS' means the expected standard was achieved).

The range of scaled scores available for each KS2 test is:

- 80 (the lowest scaled score that can be awarded)
- 120 (the highest scaled score)

The expected standard for each test is a scaled score of 100 or more. If a child is awarded a scaled score of 99 or less they won't have achieved the expected standard in the test.

The Department for Education expects at least 65 per cent of children to reach the expected standard (the figure was initially 85 per cent but has been revised).

The 2016, 2017 and 2018 KS2 SATs papers are now available and can be downloaded for free from TheSchoolRun:

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/KS2-SATs-in-2019>

You can also access their current [free Year 6 SATs papers there](#); these relate to the old SATs, so the content and format of the new papers will be different, but they are still useful to help your child familiarise themselves with exam technique.

TheSchoolRun has also commissioned **five complete KS2 SATs practice papers for maths and five for English. Available exclusively to subscribers**, they are written in the style of the new-curriculum papers and feature similar question types.