



**2016 - 2017 SATs test
&
How to support your child at home**



'To inspire and educate for life'



Changes to the 2016 SATs

In the summer term of 2016, children in Year 2 and Year 6 were the first to take the new SATs papers. These tests in English and maths reflect the new national curriculum, and are intended to be more rigorous. There is also a completely new marking scheme to replace the old national curriculum levels.

At the end of Year 6, children will sit tests in:

- Reading
- Maths
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar

These tests will be both set and marked externally, and the results will be 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 KS2 reading test

The reading test will be 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.'

How to support your child with Reading

- Read with your child: get your child to read aloud to you, and then ask them questions such as the examples given above.
- Read aloud to your child whilst your child follows the text: listening is an important part of reading; it will help your child learn the importance of punctuation and reading with expression.



The KS2 grammar, punctuation and spelling test

The grammar, punctuation and spelling test will consist 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.'

How to support your child with Grammar, spelling and punctuation

- Help your child learn the spellings that are sent home
- When reading to and/or with your child discuss their use of inverted commas to mark speech, the use of parenthesis (brackets) to add additional information, the use of capital letters etc.
- Revision books. Unfortunately, the grammar paper relies on a child knowing the terminology e.g. subordinate clause, main clause, adjective, article, passive, active – and many more. We use these in daily teaching practice however, for additional support at home, there is a wealth of revision guides that could help your child become familiar and fluent with the terms they will come across: we recommend Achieve 100 Grammar, punctuation and spelling revision by Rising Stars & Achieve 100 Grammar, punctuation and spelling practice questions by Rising Stars

Let's eat Grandpa!
Let's eat, Grandpa!

COMMAS
They save lives!

The KS2 maths test

Children will 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

How to support your child with maths

- Knowing their times tables – if you know your timetable children can use them accurately and quickly for multiplication, division. To help you child learn their timetables (up to X12) we recommend: Squeebles App & times tables quiz App
- Formal method for the four operations practice: it is important child can complete methods accurately. (Methods for year 6 child: column addition, column subtraction, short multiplication, long multiplication, short division, long division including expressing remainders as fractions, decimals and remainder form)
- Arithmetic speed practice



The KS2 science test

Not all children in Year 6 will take science SATs. However, a number of schools will be 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. 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

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'



When will KS2 SATs take place in 2017?

The Year 6 KS2 SATs will be administered in the week commencing 8 May 2017.

How will KS2 SATs be marked?

The previous national curriculum levels have been scrapped, and instead children will be given scaled scores. **You will be given your child's raw score (the actual number of marks they get), alongside their scaled score and whether they have reached the national average.** The score needed to reach the national average has yet to be announced.

Our Top Tips

Tip 1: Remember your child's education is a partnership. Meet with their teachers as they will know your child's strengths and weaknesses, and ask them how you can help (parents evening is a great opportunity for this).

Tip 2: Support your child with homework tasks and daily reading. Try drawing or acting out answers of difficult concepts.

Tip 3: Encourage your child to work to speed. Try timed recall of timetables in the car/journey to school. Set min challenges for example – 'can you find the word on the page that means 'dangerous' you have 1 minute - go!' 'What is 10% of 150? You have 10 seconds - go!'

Tip 4: Make sure your child is aware that getting stuck is not a problem. Move on and give them another challenge and come back to the hard ones at the end and/or go through it together.

Tip 5: Encourage your child to believe in themselves, 'you can do it!'

Tip 6: Remind your child that the tests are important, but that they are not the only way they are to be measured. We don't want child panicking or worried, we want them to be prepared.

Tip 7: Approach a subject from lots of different angles. Software, games, activities, books, flash cards and practical applications all help? Make the revision time at home as fun and interactive as possible.

Tip 8: It is easier said than done, BUT do not put your child under too much pressure. Have fun – they will find things easier to remember if they recall the good times they had learning.

Notes