

Year 2 SATS Testing

What Parents Need to Know

Children in year 2 are preparing for the new style SATS in May 2016. They will be amongst the first pupils sitting the new style test. Tests have changed in year 2 and year 6 to reflect changes to the National Curriculum. Children will sit reading, maths and spelling, punctuation and grammar tests.

The Reading Paper

Year 2 children will sit two separate reading papers.

Paper 1 consists of a selection of texts totalling 400 to 700 words, with questions below the text

Paper 2 comprises a reading booklet, 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. 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. If your child struggles to access test 1 then the class teacher will decide whether your child should sit paper 2. 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'

The Maths Test

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 and reasoning, worth 35 marks and taking approx. 35 minutes, with a break if necessary. There will be a variety of question types: multiple choice, matching, true/false and answers requiring the child to complete a chart/table or being able to explain a method.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Children will sit 3 different papers in grammar, spelling and punctuation:

- Paper 1: a grammar and punctuation written task, taking approximately 20 mins, and worth 15 marks. Children will be provided with a prompt and stimulus for a short piece of writing. Handwriting will be worth 4% of the overall mark.
- Paper 2: a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test, in two sections. There will be a total of 20 marks and should take approximately 20 minutes. Children will be expected to select some multiple choice answers and write some short answers to questions.
- Paper 3: a 20 word spelling test taking approximately 15 minutes and worth 10 marks.

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. Teacher assessments will also be used to build up a picture of a child's learning and achievements throughout the year.

The new-style KS1 SATs are due to be administered in May 2016. It is important that your child attends school during this time. No child will be authorised any time off during the week of tests.