

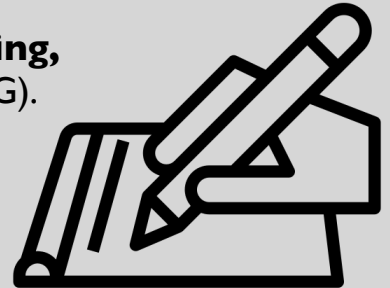
# KS2 National Curriculum Tests: A Guide for Parents and Carers

## What are the National Curriculum Tests?

At the end of Year 6, school children sit national tests in **Reading, Maths** and **Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar** (SPaG).

These tests are often referred to as SATs tests as this was the name given to them previously.

These tests are both set and marked externally. Your child's marks will be used in conjunction with teacher assessment to give a broader picture of their attainment.



## Reading

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:

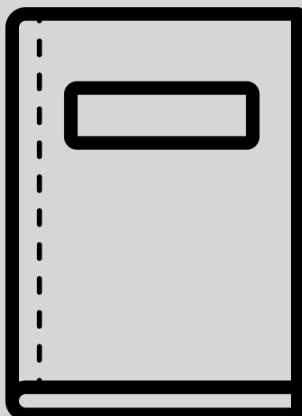
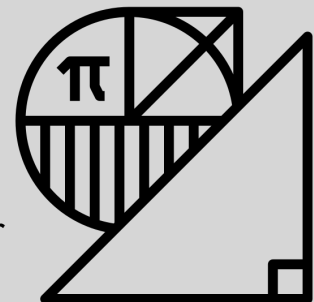
- Ranking/ ordering, for example, 'Number the events below to show the order in which they happen in the story'
- Find and copy, e.g. 'Find and copy a word that suggests what the weather is like in the story'
- Short constructed response, for example, 'What does the bear eat?'

## What about writing?

The children do not sit a test to assess their writing. Instead, we use teacher assessment across a range of the children's writing from throughout the year to give an accurate picture of their attainment.

## Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

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



## Maths

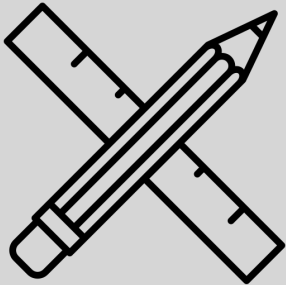
Children sit three papers in Maths: Paper 1 (Arithmetic, 30 minutes), Papers 2 and 3 (Reasoning, 40 minutes each). Paper 1 consists of fixed response questions where children have to give correct answers to calculations. Papers 2 and 3 involve more problem-solving style questions.

## Do all children have to take the National Curriculum tests?

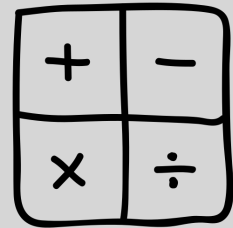
In England, the tests are compulsory for all Year 6 pupils and therefore their attendance this week is crucial.

## How we are preparing for the tests and what you can do to help

We will continue to prepare the children over the next term by giving them some opportunities to see questions similar to those that will be in the tests. We will also continue to teach the children the KS2 curriculum content which could feature in the tests. Your continued support with homework is appreciated.



During the test week, please ensure that your child has plenty of sleep, that they arrive to school punctually and that they have had a good breakfast before school. We will be providing them with a small 'second' breakfast once they arrive at school, before they take the tests.



## How are the tests marked?

The children are given scaled scores and details of whether they've reached the expected standard.

The scaled scores for the KS2 test range between 80 (the lowest possible scaled score) and 120 (the highest possible scaled score).

The expected standard for each test is a scaled score of 100 or more. Children who score 110+ have achieved the higher standard.

## KS2 National Curriculum Tests 2026 Timetable

The Year 6 KS2 tests will be administered in the week commencing 12 May 2025

### Monday 11 May 2025

English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling  
Paper 1: Questions and Paper 2: Spelling

### Tuesday 12 May 2025

English reading

### Wednesday 13 May 2025

Mathematics Paper 1: Arithmetic & Paper 2: Reasoning

### Thursday 14 May 2025

Mathematics Paper 3: Reasoning

