

Key Stage 2

Standard Assessment Tests

(SATs)



Information for Parents/Carers

2026

WHAT ARE THE SATS (Standard Assessment Tests)?

Most Year 6 pupils, at the end of Key Stage 2, will take National Curriculum assessments in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling; Reading and Mathematics.

The tests help to measure the pupils' attainment in relation to the standards set out in the National Curriculum. The tests are also used to report publicly on schools' performance.

The Key Stage 2 tests are scheduled to take place from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026.

Date	Test Paper	Time
Monday 11 th May	Paper 1 - Grammar, punctuation, spelling	45 minutes
	Paper 2 - Spelling	Approx. 20 minutes
Tuesday 12 th May	Reading	1 hour
Wednesday 13 th May	Mathematics Paper 1 - Arithmetic	30 minutes
	Mathematics Paper 2 – Reasoning	40 minutes
Thursday 14 th May	Mathematics Paper 3 – Reasoning	40 minutes

SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR (SPaG)

Paper 1 (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) The test lasts 45 minutes and requires a variety of answers (short answers, multiple choice, writing sentences etc.). Answers should be spelt correctly and punctuated accurately. A total of 50 marks are available.

Paper 2 (Spelling) The spelling test contains 20 words, given in the context of a sentence. This test lasts approximately 20 minutes and has a total of 20 marks available. The words are read aloud in the sentence and then again on their own. At the end, all spellings will be read aloud again.

The marks for these two papers are added together and a total is then given out of 70.

EXAMPLES

Insert a **colon** in the correct place in the sentence below.

There are two places that I have always wanted to visit the Arctic and Antarctica.

1 mark

Insert a **subordinating conjunction** to show that we ate lunch and listened to music at the same time.

We listened to the music _____ we ate our lunch.

1 mark

What is the **word class** of each underlined word?

Josef has beautiful writing. _____

Josef writes beautifully. _____

1 mark

READING

The Reading test lasts 60 minutes and there are 50 marks available in total.

The test consists of a reading booklet and an answer booklet. The children read three unrelated texts which cover a range of text types and then answer questions about the texts to assess their understanding.

We encourage the children to read one text and then answer the related questions before moving on to the next text. The texts tend to increase in difficulty.

Some questions will be multiple choice, some may require a short answer in the form of a word or sentence and others may require more detailed responses of several sentences. Question requiring a longer response will often need them to include evidence from the text in their answer.

EXAMPLES

Questions 1–12 are about *A Noise in the Night*
(pages 4–5)

1 Look at the first paragraph.

How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous?

Write **two** ways.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

12

Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
At the beginning of the story, Priya knew what had woken her up.		
The binoculars belonged to Priya.		
Both Priya and Abby agreed that they had to do something.		
The rustlers stopped in Priya and Abby's campsite.		

2 marks

Questions 13–26 are about *Bats Under the Bridge*
(pages 6–7)

13 Look at the first two paragraphs.

In which American state is the Congress Avenue Bridge found?

1 mark

Questions 27–38 are about *A Howl at Dusk* (pages 8–9)

27 After Innis heard the wolf howl for the first time, he **pressed on**.

What does *pressed on* mean in the text?

1 mark

MATHEMATICS

For Mathematics, the children will sit three papers.

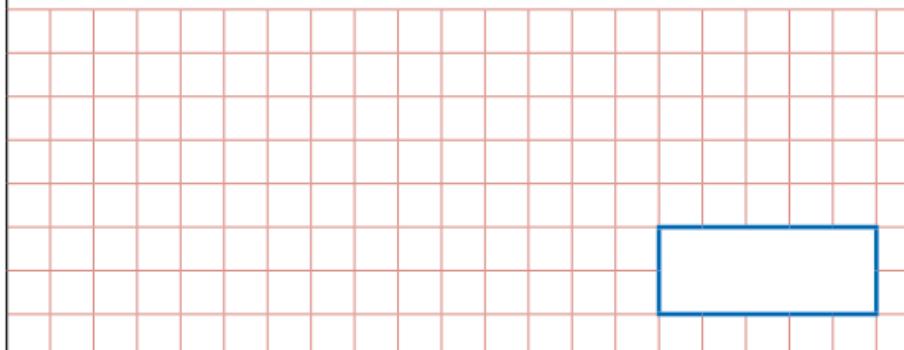
Paper 1 (Arithmetic - 30 minutes) – this paper will cover calculation methods for all operations, as well as fractions, percentages and decimals. The questions gradually increase in difficulty. A total of 40 marks are available.

Paper 2 and 3 (Reasoning - 40 minutes each) – these papers require pupils to use their calculation skills to answer word problems in context and decide on an appropriate method to find a solution. A total of 35 marks are available on each of these papers.

The marks for these three papers are added together and a total is then given out of 110.

ARITHMETIC EXAMPLES

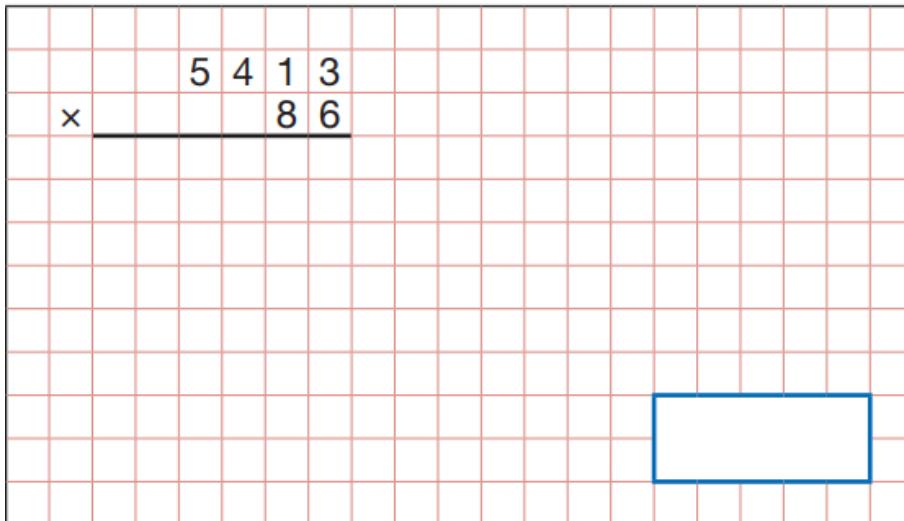
$$56.38 + 24.7 =$$



A large grid for working out the addition problem. It consists of 10 columns and 6 rows of squares, with a red border.

1 mark

$$\begin{array}{r} 5413 \\ \times 86 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



A large grid for working out the multiplication problem. It consists of 10 columns and 6 rows of squares, with a red border.

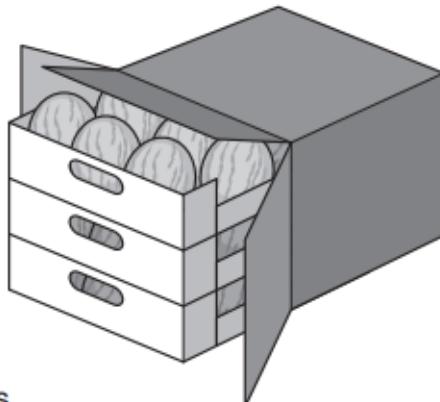
2 marks

REASONING EXAMPLES

A box contains trays of melons.

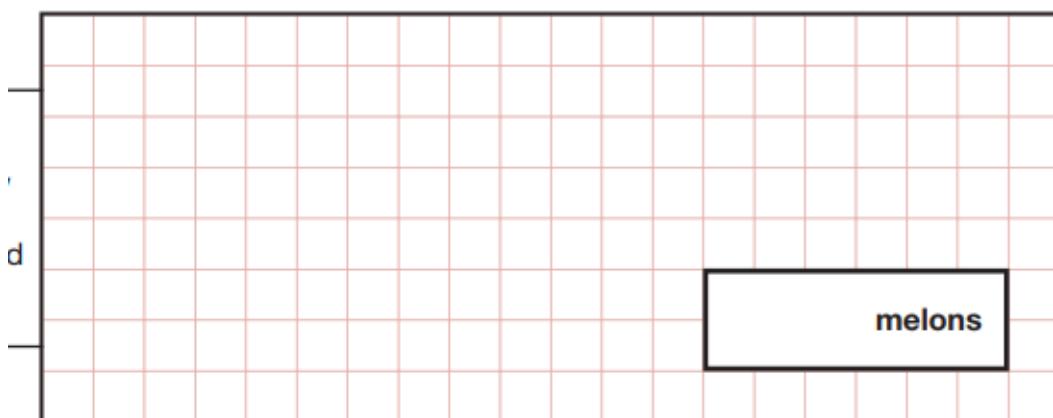
There are 15 melons in a tray.

There are 3 trays in a box.



A supermarket sells **40** boxes of melons.

How many melons does the supermarket sell?



$\frac{6}{5}$ $\frac{3}{5}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Write these fractions in order, starting with the **smallest**.

smallest

1 mark

RESULTS

After the tests are taken, the papers are sent off to be externally marked. The school will receive the results on Tuesday 8th July 2025. They are usually shared with parents/carers along with the child's annual school report.

Test scores are reported as 'scaled scores'. A score of 100 or above represents the 'national standard' and means the child has demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the test to be working at age related expectations. A scaled score of 110 or above is thought of as an indication that a child is 'working at greater depth'.

For each test, pupils will receive:

- a raw score (number of raw marks awarded);
- a scaled score;
- confirmation of whether or not they have attained the national standard.

The secondary school your child is moving to will also be able to access their results.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Pupils with specific needs may require additional arrangements so they can take part in the KS2 tests. Access arrangements are adjustments that can be put in place to support those pupils.

Headteachers and teachers will decide whether any children need access arrangements before they administer the tests and will make an application to the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) to request permission in advance. If this impacts your child, their class teacher will discuss any individual arrangements needed with you at parent consultations in March.

Access arrangements may be appropriate for pupils:

- with an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- for whom provision is being made in school using the SEN Support system
- whose learning difficulty or disability significantly affects their ability to access the tests
- who have behavioural, emotional or social difficulties

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD

Reassure your child that there is nothing to worry about and that they should just try their best, they have already completed 2 sets of SATs papers, so they are already familiar with the level of the assessments and how they work.

Ensure that they have the best possible attendance at school.

Support with homework and use the weekly arithmetic and key skills sheets as a guide for how they are getting on – going through them where necessary.

Revision guides (CGP – 2016 onwards), **please avoid using any past SATs papers.**

Revision packs will be sent out during the Easter holidays but will be optional, and for you to decide how much time you would like to spend on them with your child.

- Grammar/Punctuation/Spelling and Writing – discuss spelling rules with them and encourage opportunities for writing at home even short amounts would be useful. Play some of the interactive games for Year 5 and 6 on Spelling Frame (<https://spellingframe.co.uk/spelling-rule/5/Year-5-and-6>).
- Reading – regular reading of a range of texts (fiction, non-fiction and poetry), discuss and ask questions with them.
- Mathematics - practise times tables and related division facts, use real life opportunities (e.g. telling the time, money problems, measuring), look at weekly Key Skill and arithmetic/times tables sheets.

ABSENCE

If your child is absent on a scheduled test day, please inform the school as soon as possible. They can take any missed tests up to 5 school days afterwards. The school will apply for a timetable variation and receive approval from STA to allow for this.

Thank you for your support!