

KEY STAGE 2 SATS 2026

SATs week

Monday 11th May 2026

Punctuation & Grammar – Paper 2

Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar – Paper 1 Spelling

Tuesday 12th May 2026

English Reading

Wednesday 13th May 2026

Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)

Thursday 14th May 2026

Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Friday 15th May 2026

No tests

ENGLISH

- ◉ Split across three papers- reading, grammar and punctuation and spelling.
- ◉ Reading Paper- Children will be assessed on their comprehension skills across three different texts of increasing challenge.
- ◉ Punctuation and Grammar- This paper will focus on the fundamental skills in English writing.
- ◉ Spelling Paper- This will focus on the key spelling patterns in the English language.

READING

- ◉ 1 hour to read three texts and answer roughly 36 questions- total mark /50.
- ◉ Question paper is broken down into a section for each text.
- ◉ Texts get gradually harder but not necessarily the questions.

Content domain reference	
2a	give / explain the meaning of words in context
2b	retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction
2c	summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph
2d	make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text
2e	predict what might happen from details stated and implied
2f	identify / explain how information / narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole
2g	identify / explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases
2h	make comparisons within the text

SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR

- ◉ Punctuation and Grammar- 45 minutes to complete 50 questions- marked out of /50.
- ◉ Consists of mainly multiple choice and one word answer questions.
- ◉ Separate spelling paper with 20 words to spell in context- marked out of /20.
- ◉ Scores from both papers are combined to give total score /70.

WRITING

- ◉ There is no writing test!
- ◉ Children build up portfolio of evidence to assess against the criteria to achieve the ‘standard’ level for writing.
- ◉ Children can be assessed at Greater Depth in writing against a further set of criteria.

Working at the expected standard

The pupil can:

- write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting language that shows good awareness of the reader (e.g. the use of the first person in a diary; direct address in instructions and persuasive writing)
- in narratives, describe settings, characters and atmosphere
- integrate dialogue in narratives to convey character and advance the action
- select vocabulary and grammatical structures that reflect what the writing requires, doing this mostly appropriately (e.g. using contracted forms in dialogues in narrative; using passive verbs to affect how information is presented; using modal verbs to suggest degrees of possibility)
- use a range of devices to build cohesion (e.g. conjunctions, adverbials of time and place, pronouns, synonyms) within and across paragraphs
- use verb tenses consistently and correctly throughout their writing
- use the range of punctuation taught at key stage 2 mostly correctly[^] (e.g. inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech)
- spell correctly most words from the year 5 / year 6 spelling list,^{*} and use a dictionary to check the spelling of uncommon or more ambitious vocabulary
- maintain legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed.²

Working at greater depth

The pupil can:

- write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting the appropriate form and drawing independently on what they have read as models for their own writing (e.g. literary language, characterisation, structure)
- distinguish between the language of speech and writing³ and choose the appropriate register
- exercise an assured and conscious control over levels of formality, particularly through manipulating grammar and vocabulary to achieve this
- use the range of punctuation taught at key stage 2 correctly (e.g. semi-colons, dashes, colons, hyphens) and, when necessary, use such punctuation precisely to enhance meaning and avoid ambiguity.[^]

[There are no additional statements for spelling or handwriting]

MATHEMATICS - OVERVIEW

- Children will sit three tests: Paper 1, Paper 2 and Paper 3.
- Paper 1 is for 'Arithmetic' lasting for 30 minutes, covering calculation methods for all operations, including use of fractions, percentages and decimals.
- Questions gradually increase in difficulty. Not all children will be expected to access some of the more difficult questions later in the paper.
- Papers 2 and 3 cover 'Problem Solving and Reasoning', each lasting for 40 minutes.
- Pupils will still require calculation skills but will need to answer questions in context and decide what is required to find a solution.

Mathematics

Children are tested in the following four areas of mathematics:

- Number
- Shape, Space and Measure
- Handling Data
- Using and Applying

Emphasis is on number

Mathematics

Test Scores

Paper 1 (Arithmetic) 40 marks

Paper 2 (Reasoning) 35 marks

Paper 3 (Reasoning) 35 marks

Total 110 marks

SCALED SCORES

- What is meant by ‘scaled scores’?
 - It is planned that 100 will always represent the ‘national standard’.
 - Each pupil’s raw test score will therefore be converted into a score on the scale, either at, above or below 100.
 - The scale will have a lower end point somewhere below 100 and an upper end point above 100.
 - A child who achieves the ‘national standard’ (a score of 100) will be judged to have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the tests.
 - A child who achieves a scaled score of between 110 and 120, will be seen to have reached the ‘higher standard’. This however, will not be noted on the reports.
 - Each pupil receives:
 - a raw score (number of raw marks awarded);
 - a scaled score in each tested subject;
 - confirmation of whether or not they attained the national standard.

HOW TO HELP

HOW WE HELP AT SCHOOL

- ◉ We have planned a structured revision programme which feeds into homework
- ◉ We give the children as much experience as possible of SATs related questions and provide the children with Learning By Questions access that they can use both at home and at school
- ◉ We have formed a variety of additional groups to support the children in their learning and focusing on specific elements of individual subjects in a small group situation
- ◉ In the week itself, we invite the children to come to a special Y6 breakfast club – look out for the invitation!

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- First and foremost, support and reassure your child that there is nothing to worry about and they should always just try their best. Praise and encourage!
- Make sure your child has a good sleep and healthy breakfast every morning!
- Support your child with any homework tasks
- Reading, spelling and arithmetic (e.g. times tables) are always good to practise
- Talk to your child about what they have learnt at school and what book(s) they are reading (the character, the plot, their opinion)
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the internet or an app on a phone or tablet
- Learn Times tables and their related division facts

ATTENDANCE

- ⦿ Your child's attendance in SATs week is important
- ⦿ If they don't take the test, they will not receive a score
- ⦿ Sickness
- ⦿ Punctuality

SOCIAL MEDIA

- ◉ Wellbeing
- ◉ Use of social media
- ◉ Nature and content of messages
- ◉ Discussion of SATs on social media - media blackout on questions

OTHER QUESTIONS

- Do you need to provide the stationery?
If the children want to use their own stationery that is fine, but we do provide the children with everything they need.
- Which days should they wear PE kit?
They will be doing PE sessions as normal during the week, and so should wear their PE kits on the usual days.
- If they have finished their reading revision book, what can they do next?
Rather than do any more comprehension books, we would suggest that they read as widely as possible. A variety of both high level fiction and non-fiction books would be ideal as this will expand their vocabulary, which will be very beneficial.
- How many questions are there in the maths papers?
There are around 36 questions in the arithmetic paper and around 24/25 questions in each of the reasoning papers.

ANY QUESTIONS?

