A Guide to Key Stage 2 SATs

2026

Aims

- Understand what our children will be tested on and the format of the tests
- Know what we are doing to support your child in class
- Have an increased understanding about the results and teacher assessment
- Know how as parents you can help and support

What are the Key Stage 2 Tests?

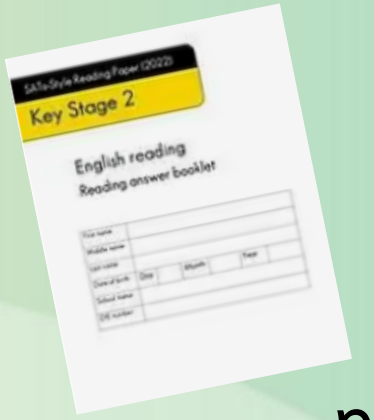
Children in Year 6, at the end of Key Stage 2 will take National Curriculum assessments in:

- English grammar, punctuation and spelling
- English reading
- Mathematics

There are no tests for English writing or science at the end of Key Stage 2, but performance in these subjects will be reported as a teacher assessment judgement.

For the academic year 2025-2026 the tests will be scheduled to take place from 11th-14th of May

Date	Tests
Monday 11 May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions
Monday 11 May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling
Tuesday 12 May	English reading
Wednesday 13 May	Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic
Wednesday 13 May	Mathematics Paper 2: reasoning
Thursday 14 May	Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning



Reading Paper

The reading test is a single paper based on three passages of text, which your child will have **one hour,** including reading time, to complete.

The texts will be a mixture of fiction, non-fiction and poetry with questions answered on a separate booklet.

At the beginning of the story Laura was

8. too tired | thrilled | anxious | afraid to help the turtle

1 mark

She felt it was her responsibility to help him back into the water.

She talked to him as if he were

9. human | stupid | lost | hungry

and explained what she was doing as if he could understand.

1 mark

Find and **copy** two phrases, one from the article and one from Pliny's Letter, to show that Pliny's uncle wanted to study the volcano.

(a) Evidence from the article:

.....

1 mark

(b) Evidence from the letter on page 7:

.....

1 mark

17. How do you think Laura felt **about Granny May**?

Explain as fully as you can.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3 marks

SPaG Test

Paper 1: A grammar and punctuation test lasting ***45 minutes***.

This paper will test children's knowledge of grammatical terms and sentence structure and their use of language in the right context.

Paper 2: Tests your child's spelling and will assess them on 20 words from the spelling rules taught across KS2.

Put a tick to show whether the apostrophe in each sentence is used for **omission** or **possession**.

	Apostrophe for omission	Apostrophe for possession
Alisha's the best in the class at maths.		
We'll finish this after lunch.		
Samir's picture is my favourite.		

Which of the sentences below uses **commas** correctly?

Tick **one**.

- We'll, need a board, counters, and a pair of dice. ☐
- We'll need a board, counters, and a pair, of dice. ☐
- We'll need a board, counters, and, a pair of dice. ☐
- We'll need a board, counters and a pair of dice. ☐

Put a tick in each row to show whether the **main** clause or the **subordinate** clause is in bold.

One has been done for you.

	Main clause	Subordinate clause
My sister, who is very annoying, **is older than me**.	✓	
Sports day was cancelled **because it was raining heavily**.		
The sofa, **which is old and worn**, is the cat's favourite place to sleep.		
When I arrived, **everyone else was already there**.		

Writing

Writing is assessed through teacher assessment.
The children will undertake a number of independent pieces of writing, which the teacher will assess against objectives to determine whether a child has met the age-related expectation.

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]

Maths Test

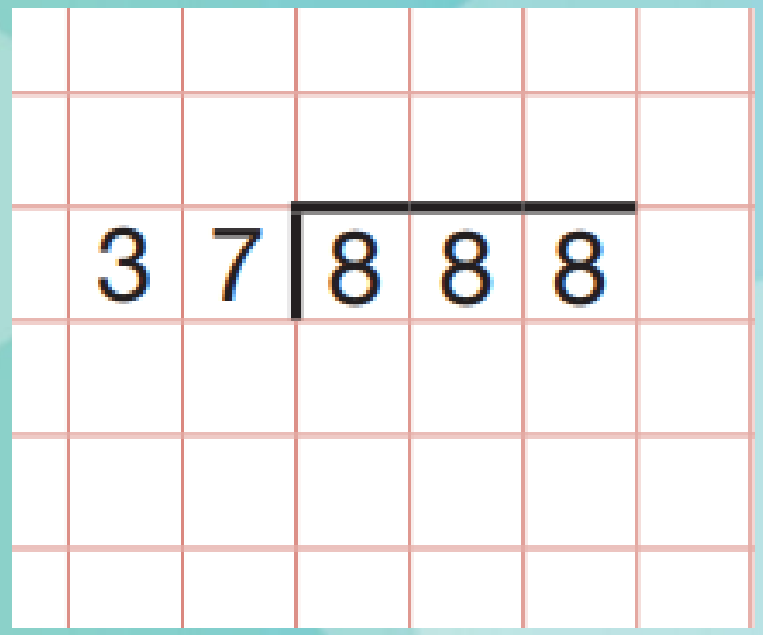
Paper 1: An arithmetic test, assessing your child's number and calculation skills. The test lasts for **30 minutes,** and they will have to answer **36** questions.

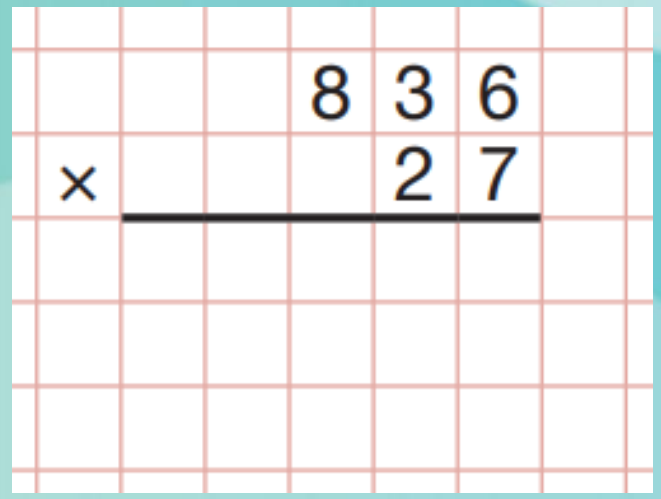
Paper 2 & 3: This test assesses your child's reasoning skills. It covers the wider areas of mathematics such as geometry and statistics, as well as using arithmetic and number knowledge to solve problems.

$$60 \div (30 - 24) =$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \div 3 =$$

$$\frac{5}{6} \times 540 =$$





Confidence – What is this asking me to do?

Write in the missing numbers.



$\square + 75 = 90$

$4 \times \square = 200$

1. The table shows how many 10p, 5p and 2p coins Tara has.

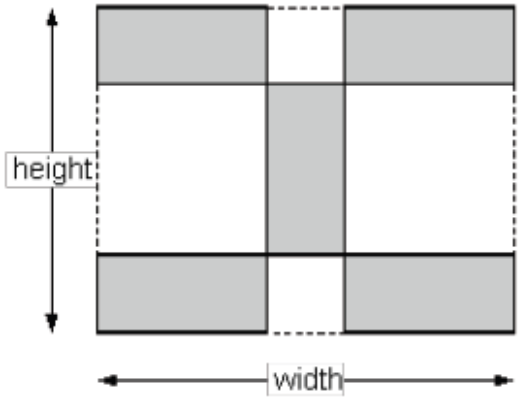
Coin	Number of coins
10p	8
5p	4
2p	5

How much money does she have altogether?

Work it out in the box.

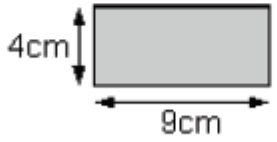
£

She makes a design with them.



Kim has some rectangular tiles.

Each one is **4 centimetres** by **9 centimetres**.



Calculate the **width** and **height** of her design.

width = ☐ cm

height = ☐ cm

2 marks

Multi step problems - annotate

Data can be presented in different ways for the children to collect in order to answer a question

This table shows the four most popular names for baby girls born each year from 2004 to 2008.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1st	Emily	Jessica	Olivia	Grace	Olivia
2nd	Ellie	Emily	Grace	Ruby	Ruby
3rd	Jessica	Sophie	Jessica	Olivia	Grace
4th	Sophie	Olivia	Ruby	Emily	Emily

n how many years was Olivia in the **top three** most popular names?

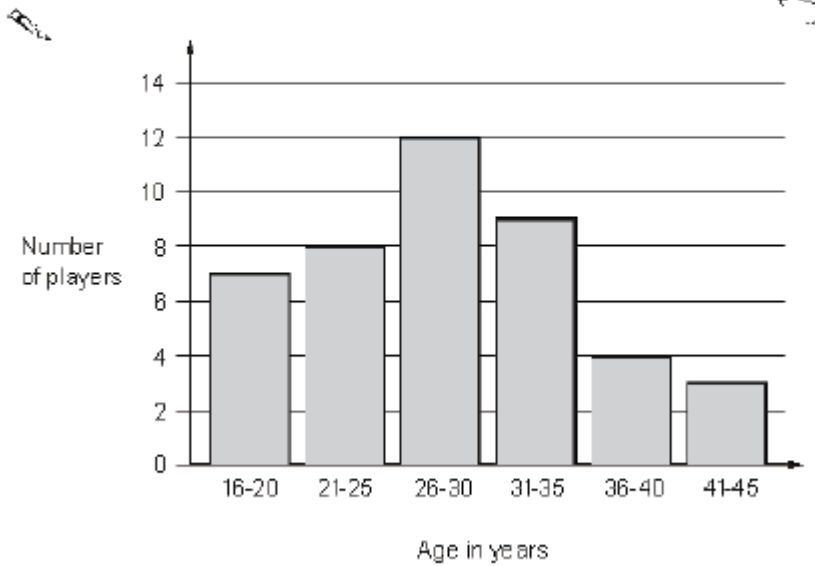
1 mark

Vrite **all** the years when Emily was a more popular name than Jessica.

.....

1 mark

Q2. This graph shows the age of players at a football club.



How many players are aged 30 or younger?

1 mark

A player aged 36 and a player aged 39 join the club.

Add this information to the graph above.

1 mark

Results

In KS2, the papers are marked externally, and results are sent to the school in July and will be reported to parents in the end of year report.

Each child receives a raw score, a scaled score and confirmation of whether they have achieved the national standard.

The range of scaled scores available for each KS2 test ranges from 80, the lowest possible scaled score to 120, the highest possible scaled score.

A scaled score of 100 or more means that the child has met the expected standard.

Working below the expected standard
Working towards the expected standard
Working at the expected standard
Working at greater depth

How will we be preparing pupils for the SATs



Preparing for SATs in school

- English & Maths revision lessons
- Regular Home Learning
- TTRS
- Mock SATs
- Practice Papers
- Intervention/booster groups

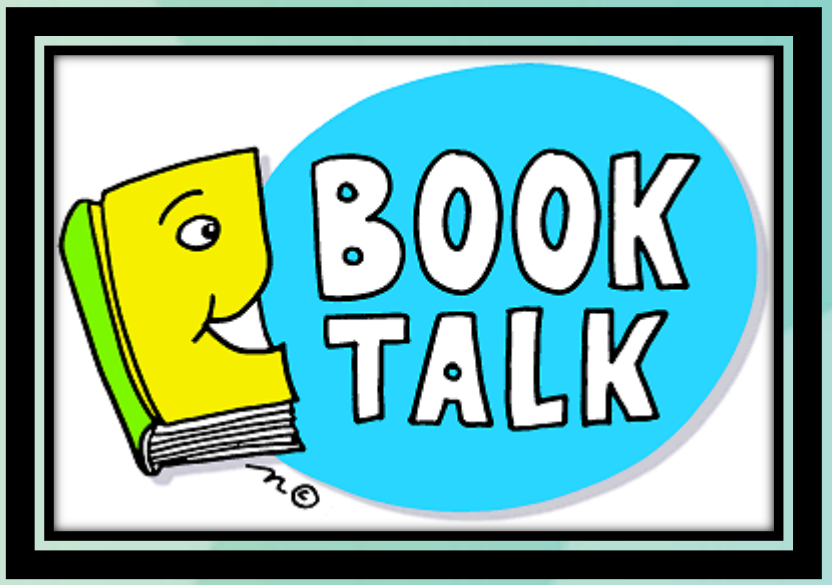
In order for them to feel more familiar with the format and confident during the tests, we will continue to:

- Give pupils opportunities to practice and discuss different types of questions
- Use texts/tasks that will revise and extend their knowledge
- Provide in class support and challenge
- Provide opportunities for writing for extended periods

How can you help?









Breakfast



Questions

