

All about Key Stage 2 SATs

Children move from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 when they move from Infants to Juniors.

KEY STAGE 1 is for children aged 5 - 7

KEY STAGE 2 is for ages 7 - 11

At the end of each stage teachers are required to undertake both formal and informal assessments of the progress made by pupils. The informal testing is known as **TEACHER ASSESSMENT**, and is an important part of the process because it uses judgements made from ongoing assessments, taken over the whole academic year. Teachers, in fact, are making several informal assessments every time they teach a class, and they will use these judgements to plan what the children need to learn next. The formal tests are known as Standard Assessment Tests, (SATs) which are produced nationally and are taken by most children in the country - some children will not sit the tests if they are below a certain level. Pupils are given a level of attainment in English, Maths and Science at the end of key stage 1 and 2.

English is separated into different aspects as follows:

- Speaking and listening - (teacher assessment only)
- Reading
- Writing
- Spelling
- Handwriting

An overall level is awarded, although children may achieve different levels for each paper.

Maths is tested by 3 papers:

- Paper A - tests number, shape, space and measure and data handling
- Paper B - tests the ability to use and apply mathematics in different contexts, and children may use a calculator
- Mental maths test: this is a timed paper which tests mental calculation and the ability to apply knowledge at speed.

Science is tested in 2 papers which cover the key elements:

- Considering evidence and evaluating
- Life processes and living things
- Materials and their properties
- Physical processes

Test Dates

The timetable for the tests changes from year to year but the tests must be administered according to the national plans.

Marking

All of the KS2 test papers are marked externally. They are sent off to a named marker and we receive the marked papers and master list before the end of term. We do not have the date for this, and appreciate that this is an anxious time for both parents and children. We endeavour to process the information as quickly as possible and get it out to you in written form as part of the annual report. If we spot a discrepancy in the marking we can resubmit it for remarking by another examiner, but this delays the process.

Special arrangements

We are able to make special arrangements for some pupils sitting the tests but there are very strict rules governing this.

Equipment

All of the SATs take place in the children's classroom, which is set up to allow enough space for the children to work independently. The school provides all the equipment necessary for the children to take the tests. Children who use inhalers should take them into the tests with them.

Reporting to parents

Once the results have been received from all examiners, the school has to complete a number of forms before the results are given to parents.

You will receive the following results:

- An individual copy of your child's result
- A copy of the results for the school
- A copy of the national results for comparison - note however that

these are the previous year's results.

What do the national curriculum levels mean?

Children in year 6 are expected to achieve a **level 4** in all areas. If a child is awarded a **level 3** it means they have not reached the level of the average 11 year old. If they achieve a **level 5** or higher it means they are working at above average for their age group.

There is a slightly fuller article on the website - Information for Parents