

# KS2 SATS: A PARENTS' GUIDE



## HOW ARE SATS MARKED?

Instead of national curriculum levels, 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.

SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) are national exams that assess what children have learned in school. The current SATs for English and Maths follow the updated national curriculum and are more challenging than before.

## What are SATs?

At the end of Year 6, children in England take national tests in Reading, Maths, and Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar (SPAG). These tests are set and marked by an external body, not the school. The results help measure how well the school is performing, and they are used for reporting to Ofsted and are included in published league tables. Your child's scores from the SATs will be combined with their teacher's assessments to provide a fuller, more complete picture of their progress and achievement over the year.

In July, you will receive a letter sent home with your child. This letter will include their scaled scores from the tests, which help to show how your child performed in relation to the national standard. These scaled scores give a clearer understanding of your child's strengths and areas of growth.

**KS2 Reading Test:** The KS2 reading test is one paper that lasts for one hour, which includes time for reading. The test has three pieces of text, and your child will have to answer different types of questions. These include:

- **Ranking or Ordering:** For example, your child may be asked to put events from the story in the right order.
- **Find and Copy:** Your child may need to find a word in the text that tells you something, like what the weather is like in the story.
- **Short Answer:** Your child might be asked to answer a question, like, "What does the bear eat?"

**KS2 Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation (SPAG) Test:** The SPAG test has two parts:

1. **Grammar and Punctuation Paper:** This part lasts 45 minutes and has short-answer questions. The questions might include:
  - **Choosing the correct answer:** For example, your child might need to find adjectives in a sentence.
  - **Correcting or completing sentences:** Your child might need to fix a sentence or explain why a word needs an apostrophe.
2. **Spelling Test:** This part is a spoken test where your child will hear 20 words and write them down. It lasts about 15 minutes.

**KS2 Maths Test:** The KS2 maths test has three papers:

1. **Paper 1** is an arithmetic test, which lasts 30 minutes. Your child will answer fixed-response questions, which means they need to write the correct answer to math problems.
2. **Paper 2** and **Paper 3** are longer and have word problems. Your child will need to solve problems that use real-life situations.

## Breakfast Club

We invite you to join us at school at 8:00 AM for a free breakfast before your SATs test! It's a great way to start the day with some energy and get ready for your exams. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Dates

**KS2 SATs will start on the 11th May 2026.**

**Monday:** SPaG

**Tuesday:** English Reading

**Wednesday:** Maths Paper 1  
(Arithmetic)

Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)

**Thursday:** Maths Paper 3  
(Reasoning)