



SATs Assessments in Year 6

Information for parents

March 2026



What are the SATs?

SATs are the Standardised Assessments Tests that are given to children at the end of Key Stage 2.

The SATs take place over four days, starting on Monday 11th May ending on Thursday 14th May.

- Monday 11th May – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (paper 1: GPS)
- Monday 11th May – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (paper 2: Spelling)
- Tuesday 12th May – Reading
- Wednesday 13th May – Maths (paper 1: Arithmetic)
- Wednesday 13th May – Maths (paper 2: Reasoning)
- Thursday 14th May – Maths: Paper 3 (Reasoning 2)

Writing is assessed using evidence collected throughout Year 6.



When and how the SATs are completed

- The tests take place during normal school hours, under exam conditions.
- Children are not allowed to talk to each other from the moment the assessments are handed out until they are collected at the end of the test.
- After the tests are completed, the papers are sent away to be marked **externally**.
- The results are then sent to the school in July.
- Each test lasts no longer than 60 minutes:
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 1: Grammar/ Punctuation) – 45 minutes
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 2: Spelling) – 15 minutes
 - Reading – 60 minutes
 - Maths (paper 1: Arithmetic) – 30 minutes
 - Maths (paper 2: Reasoning) – 40 minutes
 - Maths (paper 3: Reasoning) – 40 minutes



Specific arrangements for SATs

Children with additional needs (who have similar support as part of day-to-day learning in school) may be allotted specific arrangements, including:

- Additional (extra) time;
- Tests being opened early to be modified;
- An adult to scribe (write) for them;
- An adult to read for them (not in the reading test);
- The use of prompts or rest breaks.



The results

Tests are marked externally. Once marked, the tests will be given the following scores:

- A raw score (total number of marks achieved for each paper);
- A scaled score (see below);
- A judgement on if the National Standard has been met.

After marking each test, the external marker will convert the raw score to a scaled score. Even though the tests are made to the same standard each year, the questions must be different. This means the difficulty of the tests may vary. Scaled scores ensures an accurate comparison of performance over time.

- Scaled scores range from 80 to 120.
- A scaled score of 100 or more shows the pupil is meeting the National Standard.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Monday 11th May

- Grammar, punctuation and spelling consists of two papers.
- Paper 1 focuses on all three elements (grammar, punctuation and spelling or GPS). The paper lasts for 45 minutes.
 - Short answer paper
 - Understanding of terminology
 - Ability to recognise
- Paper 2 consists of a spelling test only. It should take approximately 15 minutes, although this is not a set amount of time. Words from Statutory lists and covering spelling rules.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 1 (GPS)

- The children will have been working hard in class on developing and securing their knowledge of the technical vocabulary needed in this test.
- This test focuses on:
 - Grammatical terms/ word classes;
 - Functions of sentences;
 - Combining words, phrases and clauses;
 - Verb forms, tenses and consistency;
 - Punctuation;
 - Vocabulary;
 - Standard English and formality.

This test requires a range of answer types but does not require longer formal answers.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 1

1

Which sentence must end with a **question mark**?

Tick **one**.

Do you know how long it took for the trees to grow

We have planted rose bushes around the trees

How beautiful the flowers will be

I will ask my teacher if I can show you

1 mark

7

Circle the correct **verb form** in each underlined pair to complete the sentences below using **Standard English**.

We was / were going on a school trip to a concert.

The musicians did / done a sound check before the show.

1 mark

43

Rewrite the sentence below in the **active**.
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The local park is maintained by the council.

1 mark



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 2

Spelling

1. There was a brave _____ in the story.
2. The children walked home _____ the park.
3. We were _____ for our hard work.
4. I enjoy reading _____ stories.

2025 Spelling script

Spelling 1: The word is **knight**.

There was a brave **knight** in the story.

The word is **knight**.

Spelling 2: The word is **through**.

The children walked home **through** the park.

The word is **through**.

Spelling 3: The word is **rewarded**.

We were **rewarded** for our hard work.

The word is **rewarded**.

Spelling 4: The word is **adventure**.

I enjoy reading **adventure** stories.

The word is **adventure**.



Reading: Tuesday 12th May

- There is one reading test that lasts for 60 minutes.
- The test is designed to measure if the children's comprehension of age-appropriate reading material meets the national standard.
- There are three different set texts for children to read.
- These could be any combination of non-fiction, fiction and/ or poetry.

Reading: Tuesday 12th May

2 An intriguing game

Which word is closest in meaning to *intriguing*?

Tick one.

exciting

popular

challenging

interesting

2	<p>An intriguing game</p> <p>Which word is closest in meaning to <i>intriguing</i>?</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give or explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>exciting <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>popular <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>challenging <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>interesting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	1m
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An intriguing game

One day in 2005, Phiona followed her brother Brian to see where he was going. Watching silently, out of view, Phiona saw that Brian had gone to a club where children had gathered to play a game with some small black and white pieces on a board. She was fascinated by what they were doing.

The game they were playing was chess. It was so unusual in Uganda at that time, there was no word for it in Phiona's language. Despite this, she was determined to play. She walked six kilometres every day to find out how. Within a year, it was clear that she had a special gift.



Reading: Tuesday 12th May



25 Look at the whole text.

Tick **one** box in each row to show what the text tells you about the lights.

	Yes	No
where they are placed		
what colour they are		
how many did not work		
what they are used for		

Qu.	Requirement	Mark															
25	<p>Look at the whole text.</p> <p>Tick one box in each row to show what the text tells you about the lights.</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information or identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for all four correct:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Yes</th> <th>No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>where they are placed</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>what colour they are</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>how many did not work</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>what they are used for</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes	No	where they are placed	✓		what colour they are	✓		how many did not work		✓	what they are used for		✓	1m
	Yes	No															
where they are placed	✓																
what colour they are	✓																
how many did not work		✓															
what they are used for		✓															

14 'It's just a rock. They're all rocks, you can...'

What made Tom realise that what he was looking at wasn't actually a rock?

Write **two** things.

1. _____

2. _____ 2 marks

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
14	<p>'It's just a rock. They're all rocks, you can...'</p> <p>What made Tom realise that what he was looking at wasn't actually a rock?</p> <p>Write two things.</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information or identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following, up to a maximum of 2 marks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> its colour, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it was a different colour to other rocks it was red. its shape, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it had a different shape to other rocks it had a shape of a boat curious regular shape it was a weird shape. its texture, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it was smooth. the writing on it, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it had writing on it. <p>Also accept reference to its size, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it was large. 	Up to 2m



Reading

Since the current testing formation for the SATs began in 2016, there has been a tendency for three types of questions to be the most popular.

In the 2025 Reading SATs paper,

- 12% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving giving and explaining the meaning of words in context;
- 30% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving retrieving and recording information or identifying key details from a text;
- 48% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving making inferences from a text and justifying inferences with text evidence.

When reading with your child at home try focusing on these types of questions.



Maths: Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May

The math assessments consist of three tests.

- Paper 1: Arithmetic (30 minutes) – Wednesday 13th May
- Paper 2: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Wednesday 13th May
- Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Thursday 14th May



Maths Paper 1 Arithmetic

7	<input type="text"/> = 4,500 + 600	<input type="text"/>
[Grid for question 7]		12
		$\frac{62}{100} - \frac{38}{100} =$
		[Grid for question 12]
		<input type="text"/>
		1 mark

- A total of 40 marks and lasts for 30 minutes.
- The test covers the four operations, BODMAS and calculating with fractions, decimals and percentages.

19	29.5 - 16.125 =	<input type="text"/>
[Grid for question 19]		1 mark

20	$\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline \end{array}$	<input type="text"/>
Show your method	[Grid for question 20]	2 marks



Maths Paper 2 and 3: Reasoning

Paper 2 will take place on Wednesday 13th May and paper 3 will take place on Thursday 14th May. These tests have a total of 35 marks each and lasts for 40 minutes each.

These papers require children to demonstrate their mathematical knowledge and skills, as well as their ability to solve problems and their mathematical reasoning. They cover a wide range of mathematical topics from key stage 2 including:

- Number and place value (including Roman numerals);
- The four operations;
- Geometry (properties of shape, position and direction);
- Statistics;
- Measurement (length, perimeter, mass, volume, time, money);
- Algebra;
- Ratio and proportion;
- Fractions, decimals and percentages.

Maths Paper 2 and 3 Reasoning

17 Chen buys these four items.

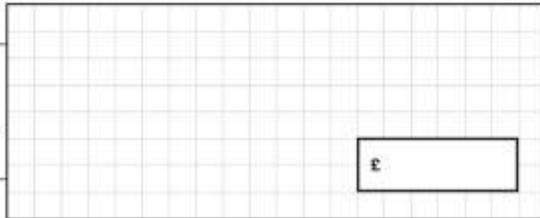


Chen pays for the four items with a £10 note. The price of the butter is not shown.

She receives £3.85 change.

What is the price of the butter?

Show your method

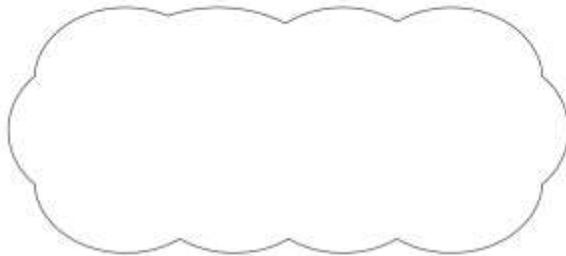


£

2 marks

24 $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{6}$ is greater than the value of $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{7}{8}$

Explain how you know.



1 mark

5 Write the three missing digits to make this multiplication correct.

$$\begin{array}{r} \square 5 \square \\ \times \quad \quad 3 \\ \hline 7 \square 2 \end{array}$$

1 mark

21 A band holds a concert for charity.

The tickets cost £27 each.

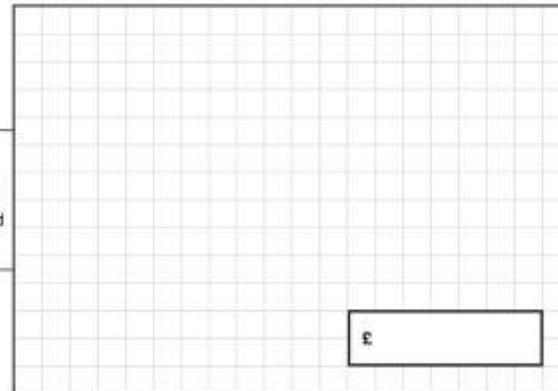
They sell 635 tickets.

They pay £3,180 to use the hall.

They give one-third of the **remaining** amount to charity.

How much money does the band give to charity?

Show your method



£

3 marks

8 Write a whole number in each box to make the statements correct.

One has been done for you.

rounded to the nearest **ten** is 20

rounded to the nearest **thousand** is 4,000

rounded to the nearest **ten thousand** is 820,000

1 mark



Writing

- No test
- Teacher assessment
- Class work evidence
- Independent work
- Across a range of genre
- Final assessment made in June 2026
- Internally and externally moderated



What does it mean for learning in class?

- Familiarisation
- Exam technique
- Increasing work pace – timing
- Number sense – making choices about efficient methods
- Greater independence – especially in writing
- Knowing GPS terminology
- Reading comprehension
- Additional opportunities to revisit and revise

How can you help at home?

- Home Learning
 - Revision
 - Fact recall
 - Reading
- Comprehension practice
- Practice
 - CGP books
 - Homework tasks
 - SATs revision pack – sent home at Easter





Advice for Year 6 children

Firstly, a positive attitude goes a long way. Give them as much encouragement and support as you can.

Tips:

- Don't use past papers as they are used in school to prepare the children.
- Attend meetings at school (or read any literature sent home).
- Talk to us if you have any concerns rather than worry your child.
- Encourage your child to talk to their teacher or a trusted adult (including yourself) about their anxieties. Don't forget that a small amount of anxiety is normal and not harmful.
- Give your child a quiet, distraction free space to complete homework or study.
- Give your child time to go outside and reduce screen time.
- Ensure your child is eating and drinking well and getting a good amount of sleep.
- Plan something nice and fun for the weekends before and after SATs. This will help them to relax before the SATs and give them something to look forward to after.
- Keep revision light. Going over key skills (times tables, real world mental maths as you are shopping or cooking) is a good way to keep revision light.



SATs Week

- Breakfast club – come in early
- Revision sessions
- Mindfulness
- Other curriculum activities



If you are worried

Talk to us

- Sometimes concerns present at home and not at school. If you notice a change in your child, talk to the school so that everyone concerned can offer the support needed.

Talk to your child

- Talk to your child about what aspect of SATs concerns them the most. If you can help them pinpoint what is bothering them the most, you can take specific steps to help reassure them.
- Encourage your child to talk to adults in school.



Advice for Year 6 children

- Listen to the adults.
- The adults you work with all want you to do your best.
- Get plenty of sleep and eat well, this will help your brain.
- Read all the questions carefully. This can help you to avoid small mistakes.
- Don't panic. There may be questions you think you can't answer. Take a deep breath. Read it again. You can always move on and go back to it later. It's often better to write something rather than nothing.
- Remember that the SATs last for 4 days out of your whole life!

Questions

