



SATs Information Meeting

Feb 2026



SATs 2026

- Dates for End of Key Stage 2 SATs
- The 2026 tests
- Preparation in School
- Support at Home
- Test Week Arrangements
- Questions



What are SATs?

- In England and Wales all pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) are tested in English and Mathematics.
- The 2026 SATs are tests to assess the 2014 National Curriculum. 2016 was the first year of the new tests.
- The government expectation is for all Year 6 pupils to attain the standard of 100 for English and Maths. All children will take the tests.



2026 KS2 SATs Week

- Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May 2026.
- No leave of absence requests during this week please.
- Please ring school ASAP on the day if your child is going to be absent.



When and how are the SATs 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



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



Timetable

Monday 11 May 2026	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 12 May 2026	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 14 May 2026	Mathematics Paper 3



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.
- Paper 2 consists of a spelling test only. It should take approximately 15 minutes, although this is not a set amount of time (pupils should be given as much time as they need to complete the test).



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 1 (GPS)

The children will have been working hard with their class teacher 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 (GPS)

Example questions

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

33

Add a **prefix** to the word charge in the sentence below to show that the waiter did not charge too much.

The waiter was careful not to _____charge the customer.

1 mark

47

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

The noise of the traffic disturbed us.

1 mark



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 2 (spelling)

Paper 2 is a shorter paper that focuses solely on spellings.

Example questions:

Spelling

1. Our dogs are _____ and full of energy.
2. The swans nested on an _____ in the lake.
3. We met a _____ writer.

2024 Spelling script

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

Our dogs are **young** and full of energy.

The word is **young**.

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

The swans nested on an **island** in the lake.

The word is **island**.

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

We met a **famous** writer.

The word is **famous**.



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.

The test covers the following areas (known as Content Domains):

- Give/ explain the meaning of words in context;
- Retrieve and record information/ identify key details from fiction and non-fiction;
- Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph;
- Make inferences from the text/ explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text;
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied;
- Identify/ explain how information/ narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole;
- Identify/ explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases;
- Make comparisons within the text.



Reading

The reading SATs paper requires a range of answer styles.

Example questions:

2

Read the paragraph beginning: *They are not hedgehogs...*

Find and copy one word that means the same as 'met'.

Madagascar is an island country in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of East Africa. It is well known for its range of weird and wonderful wildlife.

Imagine treading through the rainforest in Madagascar and noticing hurried movements in the plants below you. You creep forward to investigate. Suddenly, you see a group of animals unlike anything that you have seen before. Ten of them are sniffing along the ground with long, pointy snouts that look almost like bird beaks. The creatures are quite small – maybe the size of a pet hamster. Their bodies are round and covered with spines like a hedgehog. They are brightly coloured like a bumblebee with yellow streaks running down their backs and legs. On their heads, each of the animals has a crown of bright yellow spikes.

They are not hedgehogs, birds or bumblebees, even if they look like a confused hodgepodge of these animals. You have encountered a family of lowland streaked tenrecs. They are one of many species of tenrecs living in Madagascar.

2

Read the paragraph beginning: *They are not hedgehogs...*

Find and copy one word that means the same as 'met'.

Content domain: 2a – give or explain the meaning of words in context

Award 1 mark for:

■ *encountered.*

1m



Reading

Example questions:

9 Look at the section: ***What issues are streaked tenrecs facing?***

What serious problems are streaked tenrecs facing?

Give **two** problems.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

9 Look at the section: ***What issues are streaked tenrecs facing?***

What serious problems are streaked tenrecs facing?

Give **two** problems.

Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following, up to a maximum of **2 marks**:

- deforestation / the destruction of streaked tenrecs' habitat, e.g.
 - deforestation destroys their habitat*
 - tenrecs live in the rainforest and it's being destroyed*
 - the landscape is being destroyed.*

Up to 2m

5 Draw **three** lines to match each paragraph to its main content.

Paragraph	Content
The paragraph beginning: <i>Imagine treading through...</i>	diet
The paragraph beginning: <i>Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...</i>	behaviour
The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i>	appearance

1 mark

5 Draw **three** lines to match each paragraph to its main content.

Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

Award 1 mark for all correctly matched:

Paragraph	Content
The paragraph beginning: <i>Imagine treading through...</i>	diet
The paragraph beginning: <i>Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...</i>	behaviour
The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i>	appearance

1m



Reading

Example questions:

3 mark question

26

Look at the whole text.

Write **three** pieces of evidence that show Ned was nervous about Louie's tightrope walking.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3 marks

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
26	<p>Look at the whole text.</p> <p>Write three pieces of evidence that show Ned was nervous about Louie's tightrope walking.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following up to a maximum of 3 marks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the quotation, <i>You ain't getting up on that?</i>2. the quotation, <i>It isn't safe, Louie / You can't just get up on the rope and...</i>, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>he told her that it wasn't safe for her</i>• <i>he wasn't sure that it was safe for her to be on it.</i>3. the quotation, <i>It's a proper skill / It takes years of practice</i>, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>he pointed out it takes years to master</i>• <i>he thought she needed more practice.</i>4. the quotation, <i>Shouldn't I stay here? / Just in case you fall?</i>, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>he thought she would fall</i>• <i>he wanted to stay beneath the rope incase she falls</i>• <i>he offered to help if she fell</i>• <i>he was asking if he should stay there</i>• <i>he hesitated to move – thinking she would fall.</i>5. the quotation, <i>Ned breathed in sharp.</i> <p>Do not accept reference to the quotation, <i>You better come down.</i></p> <p>Do not accept reference to the quotation, <i>He thought it was all one big prank.</i></p>	Up to 3m



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 2024 Reading SATs paper,

- 10% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving giving and explaining the meaning of words in context;
- 38% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving retrieving and recording information or identifying key details from a text;
- 44% 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 maths 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)

Example 1 mark questions:

9 $7.68 + 13.493 =$

7.680	
+ 13.493	
<u>21.173</u>	
1 1 1	

1 mark

11 $640 \div 8 =$

Mental method:
Using known fact of $64 \div 8 = 8$

1 mark

18 $\frac{5}{12} + \frac{1}{3} =$

$\frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{12}$

$\frac{5}{12} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{9}{12}$

1 mark

21 $2 + 3^3 =$

$3^3 = 27$
 $2 + 27 = 29$

1 mark



Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Example 2 mark questions:

30	$\begin{array}{r} 34 \overline{) 986} \end{array}$	<input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> 2 marks
Show your method	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	

30 Award **TWO** marks for a correct answer of 29

If the answer is incorrect, award **ONE** mark for the formal methods of division with no more than **ONE** arithmetic error, e.g.

- long division algorithm, e.g.

$$\begin{array}{r} 29 \text{ r}6 \\ 34 \overline{) 986} \\ - 680 \\ \hline 306 \\ - 300 \text{ (error)} \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$$

OR

$$\begin{array}{r} 28 \text{ (error)} \\ 34 \overline{) 986} \\ - 680 \quad 20 \times 34 \\ \hline 306 \\ - 306 \quad 9 \times 34 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

- short division algorithm, e.g.

$$\begin{array}{r} 28 \text{ (error)} \\ 34 \overline{) 986} \end{array}$$

Up to 2m

Working must be carried through to reach a final answer for the award of **ONE** mark.

Short division methods **must** be supported by evidence of appropriate carrying figures to indicate the use of a division algorithm and be a complete method.

The carrying figure must be less than the divisor.



Maths Papers 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 Papers 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

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

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{2} \boxed{5} \boxed{4} \\ \times \quad \quad \quad 3 \\ \hline 7 \boxed{6} 2 \end{array}$$

1 mark

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

3,500 to 4,499 rounded to the nearest **thousand** is 4,000

815,000 to 824,999 rounded to the nearest **ten thousand** is 820,000

1 mark

Maths Papers 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

17 Chen buys these four items.



Apples
670 grams
£1.50



Bread
400 grams
£0.70



Butter
500 grams



WHEAT O'TEES
750 grams
£1.45

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

17	<p>Award TWO marks for the correct answer of (£)2.50</p> <p>If the answer is incorrect, award ONE mark for evidence of an appropriate complete method which contains no more than ONE arithmetic error, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $£1.50 + £0.70 + £1.45 = £3.65$ $£10.00 - £3.65 = £6.15$ (error) $£6.15 - £3.85 = £2.30$ <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $£1.50 + £0.70 + £1.45 + £3.85 = £7.50$ $£10.00 - £7.50 = £3.50$ (error) <p>If no final answer is given, all calculations within an appropriate method must be evaluated correctly for the award of ONE mark, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $£1.50 + £0.70 + £1.45 = £3.65$ $£10.00 - £3.65 = £6.35$ $£6.35 - £3.85$ 	<p>Up to 2m</p>
	<p>Accept for ONE mark an answer of £250, £250p, £2,50 or £2.5 as evidence of an appropriate method.</p> <p>Refer to section 6.1 on pages 14 and 15 for additional guidance on marking answers involving money.</p> <p>Misreads of £3.85 as £3.65 OR miscopies of £3.65 as £3.85 are not allowed.</p>	

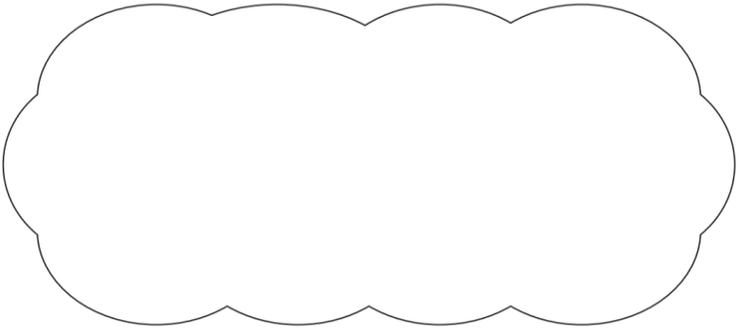


Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

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

24	Award ONE mark for an explanation that compares the calculations or relative size of the fractions to indicate relative size of the products, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{6} = \frac{5}{12}$ $\frac{5}{12} = \frac{10}{24}$ $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{7}{8} = \frac{7}{24}$ OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\frac{10}{24} > \frac{7}{24}$	1m	Do not accept responses that restate the question. Do not accept vague, incomplete or incorrect explanations, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">the result is bigger because it's a halfshows the products without supporting calculations or further proof, e.g. $\frac{5}{12}$ is bigger than $\frac{7}{24}$ Do not accept explanations which include incorrect mathematics or incorrect information that is relevant to the explanation.
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Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

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

21	Award THREE marks for the correct answer of (£)4,655 Award TWO marks for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">an incorrect answer with evidence of an appropriate complete method with no more than one arithmetic error, e.g. $635 \times £27 = £17,045$ (error) $£17,045 - £3,180 = £13,865$ $£13,865 \div 3 = £4,621.66$ OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">for sight of (£)13,965 (as evidence of two steps completed correctly) Award ONE mark for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">evidence of an appropriate method with more than one error OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">sight of (£)17,145 (as evidence of the multiplication step completed correctly).	Up to 3m A misread of a number may affect the award of marks. No marks are awarded if there is more than one misread or if the mathematics is simplified. Any appropriate rounding or truncating of the answer does not negate an appropriate method. Any answer which does not result from correct rounding or truncating implies an additional step not shown. TWO marks will be awarded for an appropriate method with the misread number followed through correctly. ONE mark will be awarded for evidence of an appropriate method using the misread number followed through correctly with no more than one error. Answer need not be obtained for the award of ONE mark.
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Preparation in school

- Small booster and intervention groups.
- Practice SATs in the main hall.
- Using test analysis to identify specific areas in reading, EGPS and maths to focus on.
- Test techniques.
- Homework will also be based upon what has been taught in class and anything that needs revising.



How you can help your child at home

- Keep up with homework
- Using TTRockstars, Spelling Shed and Reading Plus.
- Lots of practice with basic skills:
- -reading widely and talking about reading
- -learning spelling rules and word lists for Year 6
- -times tables and division facts up to 12x12.



Test week arrangements

- Breakfast Club each morning which will be held within the year 6 classroom.
- Arrangements will be made for children who attend BAS.
- Children to arrive at school by 8.30am.
- A restful weekend and plenty of sleep!
- All tests will be taken in the main hall in the morning.
- All writing equipment and maths tools will be provided.



Things to remember about SATs

SATs focus on what children know about Maths and English.

- They will not reflect how talented they are at science, geography, art, PE..., and they certainly won't highlight all their amazing personal characteristics.

SATs don't tell the whole story.

- Their results will say if they did or did not meet a certain standard but not necessarily by what margin. These thresholds change each year according to the overall national performance, so what was classed as 'meeting the expected standard' this year might not be the same as last year. Your school may be able to provide you with more detailed feedback.

SATs are only four days out of a whole Primary School career.

- In reality, there's one or two papers each day that last 30 to 60 minutes.



Thank you!

Any questions?

