



“At the federation of Beckwithshaw, Kettlesing Felliscliffe and Ripley Endowed CE Primary schools we aim to provide an environment of mutual respect and love where all children flourish and who grow together, guided by love.”

KS1 SATs – Parent Guide 2023

What are SATs?

SATs are a series of maths and English assessments, carried out in two stages during your child’s primary education.

Haven’t Year 2 SATs been cancelled?

In September 2017 it was decided that KS1 SATs would become non-statutory (so schools will be able to choose whether to administer them or not) from 2023. However, this advice has since been updated and KS1 SATs will now go ahead in May 2023. They will become optional from September 2023. A new baseline assessment for Reception pupils has been introduced and KS2 SATs (in Year 6) will not be affected.

KS1 Reading

The reading test for Y2 is made up of two separate papers:

Paper 1 is a selection of texts totalling 400 to 700 words, questions interspersed.

Paper 2 is a reading booklet with a selection of passages totalling 800 to 1100 words.

Children write their answers in a separate booklet. Each paper should take around 30 minutes, but children are not strictly timed, as the tests are not intended to assess children’s ability to work at speed. The texts in the reading papers cover fiction, non-fiction and poetry, and get progressively more difficult towards the end of the test. Teachers have the option to stop the test at any point that they feel is appropriate for a particular child.

KS1 grammar, spelling and punctuation

Children taking KS1 SATs may also sit two separate papers in grammar, spelling and punctuation:

Paper 1: a 20-word spelling test taking approximately 15 minutes and worth 20 marks.

Paper 2: a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test, in two sections of around 10 minutes each (with a break between, if necessary), worth 20 marks. This will involve a mixture of selecting the right answers (for example through multiple choice), and writing short answers. The KS1 SPAG test is optional; schools can choose whether to do it.



KS1 Maths

The Y2 maths test is made up of two papers: Paper 1 (arithmetic, worth 25 marks and taking around 15 minutes) and Paper 2 (problem-solving and reasoning, worth 35 marks and taking 35 minutes, with a break if necessary). Question types include multiple choice.

Science and other primary subjects

Other national curriculum subjects (including English writing, science, computing), will be assessed by your child's teacher based on their work throughout the year.

Do all children have to take SATs?

In England, the tests are compulsory for all seven year olds (KS1 SATs in Year 2) and 11 year olds (KS2 SATs in Year 6).

How are SATs marked?

Although Y2 SATs are set externally, they are marked by teachers within your child's school.

Pupils are given a scaled score. A score of 100 means a child is working at the expected standard. A score below 100 indicates that a child needs more support. The maximum score possible is 115; the minimum is 85.

Assessments from teachers are also used to build up a picture of your child's learning and achievements.

Your child's KS1 SATs results probably won't be given to you unless you ask for them.