

A guide to KS1 SATs at Collierley Primary School



Key stage 1 tests – year 2 pupils

Your child's teacher is responsible for judging the standards your child is working at in English reading, English writing, mathematics and science, by the end of key stage 1. To help inform those judgements, pupils sit national curriculum tests in English and mathematics, commonly called SATs. They may also sit an optional test in English grammar, punctuation and spelling.

The tests are a tool for teachers to help them measure your child's performance and identify their needs as they move into key stage 2. They also allow teachers to see how your child is performing against national expected standards.

The tests can be taken any time during May and they are not strictly timed. Pupils may not even know they are taking them as many teachers will incorporate them into everyday classroom activities.

Subject	Test paper
English reading	Short text and questions Long text with separate questions
Mathematics	Arithmetic Mathematical reasoning
English grammar, punctuation and spelling (optional test)	Spelling Punctuation and grammar (including vocabulary)

Teachers will use the results from these tests, along with the work your child has done throughout the year, to help them reach their own judgements about how your child is progressing at the end of key stage 1.

These teacher assessment judgements will be reported to you by the end of the summer term.



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SATs in Year 2

At the end of Year 2, children take SATs in:

- Reading
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling, or GPS (optional paper, schools can decide whether to use it)
- Maths

KS1 SATs were overhauled to reflect changes to the national curriculum in 2016.

In September 2017 it was confirmed that the **KS1 SATs will be made non-statutory (so schools will be able to choose whether to administer them or not) from 2023**. Until then children will continue to be assessed in May during Year 2, although in 2020 and 2021 KS1 SATs did not take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

When will the KS1 SATs take place?

The KS1 SATs are due to be administered in May 2022.

Unlike KS2 SATs, KS1 SATs don't have to be administered according to a nationally-set timetable in a specific week. Schools are free to manage the timetable and will aim to administer the tests in the classroom in a low-stress, low-key way; some children won't even be aware they've taken them!

How will the tests be marked?

Although the tests are set externally, they are marked by teachers within the school.

Children are given a **scaled score**. Their raw score – the actual number of marks they get – is translated into a scaled score, where a score of 100 means the child is working at the expected standard.

A score below 100 indicates that the child needs more support, whereas a score of above 100 suggests the child is working at a higher level than expected for their age. The maximum score possible is 115, and the minimum is 85.

Teacher assessments are also used to build up a picture of your child's learning and achievements. In addition, your child will receive an overall result saying whether they have achieved the required standard in the tests (your child's actual results won't be communicated to you unless you ask for them).

Key Stage 1 reading

The reading test for Year 2 pupils is made up of two separate papers:

- Paper 1 consists of a selection of texts totalling 400 to 700 words, with questions interspersed
- Paper 2 comprises a reading booklet of a selection of passages totalling 800 to 1100 words. Children will write their answers in a separate booklet

Each paper is worth 50 per cent of the marks, and should take around 30 minutes, but children are not be strictly timed, as the tests are not intended to assess children's ability to work at speed. **The texts in the reading papers cover a range of 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.

Key stage 1 grammar, spelling and punctuation

Children taking Key Stage 1 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 e.g. through multiple choice, and writing short answers.

In May 2016, following the KS1 SATs spelling paper accidentally being made available on the Department for Education website before the test, Schools Minister Nick Gibb decided the test would be optional in 2016. In 2017 the KS1 GPS test remained optional, so schools could choose whether to administer it to their pupils. This was also the case in 2018 and 2019.

There are a variety of question types:

- Multiple choice
- Ranking / ordering, e.g. 'Number the events below to show in which order they happened in the story'
- Matching, e.g. 'Match the character to the job that they do in the story'
- Labelling, e.g. 'Label the text to show the title'
- Find and copy, e.g. 'Find and copy one word that shows what the weather was like in the story'
- Short answer, e.g. 'What does the bear eat?'
- Open-ended answer, e.g. 'Why did Lucy write the letter to her grandmother? Give two reasons'

The Key Stage 1 maths test is made up of two papers:

- Paper 1: arithmetic, worth 25 marks and taking around 15 minutes.
- Paper 2: mathematical fluency, problem-solving and reasoning, worth 35 marks and taking 35 minutes, with a break if necessary. There are a variety of question types: multiple choice, matching, true / false, constrained (e.g. completing a chart or table; drawing a shape) and less constrained (e.g. where children have to show or explain their method).

Children are not allowed to use any tools such as calculators or number lines.

How to Help Your Child

- First and foremost, support and reassure your child that there is nothing to worry about and that they should always just try their best. Praise and encourage!
- Ensure your child has the best possible attendance at school.
- Support your child with any homework tasks.
- Reading, spelling and arithmetic (e.g. times tables) are always good to practise.
- Talk to your child about what they have learnt at school and what book(s) they are reading (the character, the plot, their opinion).
- Make sure your child has a good sleep and healthy breakfast every day!