

SATs Meeting 2026



24th March 2026 – 5pm



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What are SATs?

SATs are the Standardised Assessment Tests that are given to children at the end of Key Stage 2. They take place over four days, starting on Monday 11th May ending on Thursday 14th May.

Writing is assessed using evidence collected throughout Year 6. There is no Year 6 SATs writing test.

Science is teacher assessed – there is no test it is based on teacher judgement across the year.

| DATE | EXAM |
|--------------------------|--|
| Mon 11 th May | Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation (Paper 1) Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation (Paper 2) |
| Tue 12 th May | English Reading |
| Wed 13 th May | Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning) |
| Thu 14 th May | Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning) |



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Monday 11th May - English grammar, punctuation and spelling test

English grammar, punctuation and spelling test

The English grammar, punctuation and spelling test focuses on the relevant elements of the [English programmes of study](#)¹⁸.

Paper 1: questions is a combined question and answer booklet. Pupils will have 45 minutes to answer the questions, which are worth 50 marks in total.

Paper 2: spelling consists of a test transcript to be read by the test administrator and an answer booklet in which pupils write 20 spellings. The paper takes approximately 15 minutes but is not strictly timed. The spellings are worth 20 marks in total.



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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



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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**.



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Ways you can help prepare for the SPAG test -

- Recap terminology – particularly word class – What is a verb, adjective, conjunction, preposition etc.
- Recap synonyms and antonyms of words – similar and opposite words.
- Reminder of how to use punctuation – commas, brackets, dashes, colons, semi colons, inverted commas.

Word list – years 3 and 4

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| accident(ally) | early | knowledge | purpose |
| actual(ly) | earth | learn | quarter |
| address | eight/eighth | length | question |
| answer | enough | library | recent |
| appear | exercise | material | regular |
| arrive | experience | medicine | reign |
| believe | experiment | mention | remember |
| bicycle | extreme | minute | sentence |
| breath | famous | natural | separate |
| breathe | favourite | naughty | special |
| build | February | notice | straight |

Word list – years 5 and 6

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|
| accommodate | embarrass | persuade |
| accompany | environment | physical |
| according | equip (-ped, -ment) | prejudice |
| achieve | especially | privilege |
| aggressive | exaggerate | profession |
| amateur | excellent | programme |
| ancient | existence | pronunciation |
| apparent | explanation | queue |
| appreciate | familiar | recognise |
| attached | foreign | recommend |
| available | forty | relevant |
| average | frequently | restaurant |
| awkward | government | rhyme |



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Tuesday 12th May – Reading test

There is one reading test that lasts for **60 minutes**.

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.



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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: <i>They are not hedgehogs...</i> 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: ■ <i>encountered.</i> | 1m |
|----------|---|-----------|



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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

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

Paragraph

Content

The paragraph beginning:
Imagine treading through...

diet

The paragraph beginning: *Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...*

behaviour

The paragraph beginning:
Tenrecs forage...

appearance

1 mark

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**:

1. 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.

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:
Imagine treading through...

diet

The paragraph beginning: *Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...*

behaviour

The paragraph beginning:
Tenrecs forage...

appearance

1m



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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 |



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Ways you can help prepare for the reading test -

Example questions to ask at home when reading -

What does this word mean?

Which word in this paragraph is the closest in meaning to...?

What [character] doing when [event] happened?

True or false questions about a paragraph/ text.

Why do you [character] did [event]? Can you think of another reason?

Find evidence to suggest [character's] personality.

- Practice fluency – reading in a timely manner – 3 texts to read in a short period of time.
- Test technique – circle, underline key words.
- Read a variety of texts – fiction, non-fiction, poetry!



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Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May – Mathematics test

Mathematics test

The mathematics test focuses on the assessable elements of the [mathematics programmes of study](#)¹⁹ and comprises of 2 components, arithmetic and reasoning, presented to pupils as 3 test papers.

Paper 1 assesses arithmetic. Pupils will have 30 minutes to answer the questions, which are worth 40 marks in total.

Papers 2 and 3 assess reasoning. For each paper, pupils will have 40 minutes to answer the questions, which are worth 35 marks per paper.



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Maths paper 1 - Arithmetic

The maths arithmetic paper has a total of **40 marks** and lasts for **30 minutes**.

The test covers the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, including order of operations requiring BODMAS), percentages of amounts and calculating with decimals and fractions.

Example 1 mark questions:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 10 | $1,010 \times 10 =$ | |
| | | <input type="text"/> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mark |

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 23 | $8 - 5.123 =$ | |
| | | <input type="text"/> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mark |

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 11 | $560 \div 7 =$ | |
| | | <input type="text"/> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mark |

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 24 | $\frac{1}{8} \div 2 =$ | |
| | | <input type="text"/> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mark |



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Maths paper 1 - Arithmetic

Example 2 mark question:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---|--|
| 30 | 3 4 9 8 6 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> | <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> 2 marks |
| Show your method | | | |

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.

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

OR

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

- short division algorithm, e.g.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 28 \text{ (error)} \\
 34 \overline{) 98}^{30} 6
 \end{array}$$

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.



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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.



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Maths Papers 2 and 3 - Reasoning

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

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

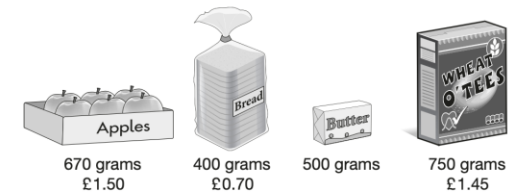
rounded to the nearest **thousand** is 4,000

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

1 mark

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

1 mark

2 marks



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Ways you can help prepare for the Maths test -

Practice fluency of times tables.

Practice basics of arithmetic – multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000. Formal methods – bus stop division and formal multiplication.

Practice spotting mistakes in questions – forgetting the carried numbers, reading the symbol incorrectly.

Recap – prime/composite, cube and squared numbers – what are these what do they look like.

- Ensure for the reasoning that children read the question carefully – underline key information.
- Advise to always show working out particularly for 2 mark questions!



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Access arrangements – extra time and support

Applying for additional time - Schools will need to respond to each of the following 7 questions about the pupil. These questions draw on the teacher's assessment of the pupil's abilities or needs and do not relate to a specific diagnosis or condition. Schools should think carefully about the questions and how they relate to the pupil and must have evidence to justify their responses to the application questions in case they receive a monitoring visit.

1. Can the pupil understand and respond appropriately to a simple request or instruction given in English, without being prompted or aided by an interpreter or translator?
2. Does the pupil have a hearing impairment that prevents them from being able to respond appropriately to a simple question or instruction given in English, without being prompted or aided by a communicator, sign language interpreter or having to lip-read?
3. Does the pupil need braille and/or enlarged print in order to read and understand text?
4. Can the pupil focus on a task, which requires them to work independently and without interruption, for at least 15 minutes without being prompted to stay on task?
5. Is the pupil prevented from being able to write independently at a speed of more than 10 words per minute by a physical, motor skill or learning disability?
6. Can the pupil read age-appropriate texts aloud and fluently without making errors, or with very few errors?
7. Does the pupil have difficulty processing information, which prevents them from being able to answer questions on practice key stage 2 tests, even when they are allowed to refer back to the questions?

Based on the responses to the questions in the application, STA may decide the pupil qualifies for a maximum of up to 25% additional time. Children with an EHCP automatically receive 25% extra time.

Extra support

- Scribes (where children cannot write or are known to experience fatigue)
- Transcribes (where it will be difficult for the marker to read a child's writing). Children complete the test and work with the transcriber after the test is ended to transcribe answers. Transcriber must use child's original spelling.
- Readers (except in the reading test)
- Prompters
- Rest breaks



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Illness or injury at the time of the test

Schools should not administer a test to a pupil who is ill. If a pupil is not fit to take the test, the school should consider applying for a [timetable variation](#) for permission to administer the test on another day.

If a pupil becomes ill during a test, the school should stop the test and make a note of the time. The pupil can be given a supervised rest break in school and can continue the test with the remaining amount of time when they are feeling better. If the pupil is not able to continue, or is sent home, the partially completed test script must be sent for marking. If the pupil leaves the school premises, they will have left test conditions and must not be allowed to continue or restart the test when they return to school.

If the pupil sustains an injury that impacts their ability to write, they may use a scribe. If the injury occurred within one week of the tests, the school may also allow up to 25% additional time because the pupil is unfamiliar working with a scribe. In these situations, an application for additional time is not required. If the pupil is already familiar with working with a scribe, additional time must not be given.



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Marking and results

SATs tests are externally marked, schools will be able to view Key Stage 2 SATs results online from **Tuesday 7th July**.

Parents will receive the results shortly after, this is due to us in school reviewing the papers and submitting marking review applications if we believe the marking scheme has not been applied correctly.

Parents will receive a report that includes their child's raw score, scaled score, and whether they met the national standard.

The scaled score allows for comparison with other children across the country who took the same test.

To meet government expectations, pupils must achieve 100 in their scaled scores.

A score above 100 (including 120) means that a child has exceeded the expected standard in the test.



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Supporting your child in preparing for the SATs

Firstly, a positive attitude goes a long way. Give them as much encouragement and support as you can (but we don't need to tell you that)!

Tips:

- Don't use past papers as they are used in school to prepare the children.
- Talk to your child's class teacher 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.



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Resources and Easter homework

- Times table rockstars
- Arithmetic and grammar practice via homework
- CPG books.
- Past papers are available online with mark schemes (but I don't recommend taking test after test)



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Questions



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