

Key Stage 1 National Curriculum Assessments



Key Stage 1 National Curriculum Assessment Changes

- In 2014/15 a new national curriculum framework was introduced by the Government.
- Years 2 and 6 continue to be measured by statutory testing.
- KS1 (Year 2) and KS2 SATs (Year 6) continues to reflect the new curriculum this year.

Assessment

- At the end of Y2, each child will be assessed against ‘national standards’. These are a set of criteria which children have to meet to be awarded that standard.
- Children will be assessed as EXS = expected standard
 - WTS = working towards standard
 - PKS = not met standard
 - GDS = greater depth (exceeding the national standard)
- Assessment in Year 2 takes on two different forms
 - Each child is assessed against a set of statements at the end of the year which will determine whether they have achieved national standards. They have to meet **all** statements to be judged at achieving the standard.
 - Test SATs papers will be used to **inform** these judgements.
- Test scores will be reported as ‘scaled scores’ with 100 being the measured as ‘national average’.
- All children who are taught against the national curriculum, regardless of ability, will be tested against these standards

Scaled Scores

What is meant by 'scaled scores'?

It is planned that 100 will always represent the 'national standard'.

- Each pupil's raw test score will therefore be converted into a score on the scale, either at, above or below 100.
- The scale will have a lower end point somewhere below 100 (last year around 85) and an upper end point above 100 (last year was 114).
- A child who achieves the 'national standard' (a score of 100 or more) will be judged to have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the tests – this is used to inform assessments against the standards but not guaranteed. You can pass the tests but not achieve 'expected standard'.

- A child awarded a scaled score of 100 or more is judged to have met the 'national standard' in the area judged by the test. You can still be assessed as meeting the standard even if you get a scaled score of below 100.
- If a child is awarded a scaled score of around 110 you would look to see if there is evidence of achieving Greater Depth (or exceeding the national standard) as they have demonstrated a higher than expected knowledge for their age. This is not guaranteed.
- A child awarded a scaled score of less than 100 is judged to have not yet met the national standard and performed (in the test) below expectation for their age – but there may still be enough evidence to be awarded 'expected standard'.
- Marking guidance for KS1 tests will include conversion tables. Teachers will use these to translate pupil's raw scores into scaled scores to see whether each pupil has met the national standard. Teachers will use the scaled scores to inform their teacher assessment judgements.

The Tests

At the end of Year 2, children will take assessments in:

- **Reading.**
- **Maths.**
- **English grammar, punctuation and spelling** (this is now optional and we will not be sitting the paper but will be collecting evidence from written work)

Our tests are due to take place during May this year

- **Writing** is teacher assessed and moderated
- **Children are assessed as WTS/HNM/EXS/GDS in each of these areas**

Reading

The Reading Test consists of two separate papers:

- Paper 1 – Contains a selection of texts totalling between 400 and 700 words with questions about the text.
- Paper 2 – Contains a reading booklet of a selection of passages totalling 800 to 1100 words. Children will write their answers to questions about the passage in a separate booklet.

- Each paper is worth 50% of the marks and should take approximately 30 minutes to complete, although the children are not being assessed at working at speed so will not be strictly timed.
- The texts will cover a range of poetry, fiction and non-fiction.
- Questions are designed to assess the comprehension and understanding of a child's reading.
- Some questions are multiple choice or selected response, others require short answers and some require an extended response or explanation. The most difficult questions included skills such as inference and 'shades of meaning'.

Mathematics

Children will sit two tests: Paper 1 and Paper 2:

- Paper 1 is for arithmetic, lasting approximately 25 minutes and worth 25 marks. It covers calculation methods for all operations.
- Paper 2 covers problem solving, reasoning and mathematical fluency, lasts for approximately 35 minutes and is worth 35 marks.
- Pupils will still require calculation skills and questions will be varied including multiple choice, matching, true/false, completing a chart or table or drawing a shape. Some questions will also require children to show or explain their working out.

How will it look in our school

The Y2s have already started building up evidence of skills in all areas.

We have weekly year group specific SPAG sessions and Maths challenges.

The children write weekly and are learning to plan, evaluate and edit their work.

Targeted Y2 time for practice papers and evaluation and targeted questioning and 'how to answer the question' sessions.

During SATs week – Y1s will be taken to do year group specific activities allowing the Y2s to have the time and space to complete their papers.

Those children needing extra time or an adult to help with the reading of their paper will be given this support.

How to Help Your Child

- First and foremost, support and reassure your child that there is **nothing to worry about**. Talk about it openly and honestly with praise and encouragement.
- 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 morning!