

Year 6 SATs



Information for Parents
Thursday 12th March 2026



What are the SATS tests?

- The end of KS2 assessments are sometimes informally referred to as 'SATS'. This stands for 'Statutory Assessment Tests'.
- SATS week across the country begins on **11th May 2026**.
- Pupils will complete test papers in some of the core subject areas that have to be assessed.
- Other areas, like writing, are assessed using evidence collected by the teacher over a longer period of time.



What are the SATs for?

- **SATs are standardised assessment tests administered by primary schools in England to children in Year 6 in order to check their educational progress.**
- **SATs are predominantly used as a way for both parents and teachers to learn more about their child's academic strengths and areas for development. They also give teachers the chance to see how children are doing in comparison to their peers not only within the same school, but nationally.**
- **SATs are a useful tool to see how well a child has progressed from KS1 to KS2. They are an opportunity for children to demonstrate their knowledge and celebrate their progress throughout their primary school journey.**



What are the SATs for?

- Most secondary schools look at Year 6 SATs results as part of the decision process when grouping students into sets or streams.
- Alongside Year 7 CAT exams, SATs results will help your child's secondary school to put them in the right set to ensure that they get the support or the challenge that they need.
- During the summer term, Y6 teachers have transition meetings with secondary schools; this includes a discussion about children's academic progress to identify their strengths and areas for development.
- KS2 SATs tests provide children with 'test experience' and good strategies that will be useful to them throughout their secondary school career and beyond!

How do the tests take place?

- Key Stage 2 SATs take place nationally in the week commencing **13th May 2024**. The tests all take place in normal school time, under test conditions.
- The completed papers are sent away to be marked externally.
- Results are returned to school in July and will be included with your child's end of year report.
- The statutory tests will be administered in the following order:
 - **Monday 11th May:** English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1 (45 minutes), English grammar, punctuation and spelling, Paper 2 (approximately 15 minutes)
 - **Tuesday 12th May:** English - Reading comprehension (60 minutes)
 - **Wednesday 13th May:** Mathematics - Paper 1: Arithmetic (30 minutes)
Paper 2: Reasoning (40 minutes)
 - **Thursday 14th May:** Mathematics - Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes)

How are the tests graded?



- **The marked tests will provide the following information:**
 - **A raw score (i.e. number of marks)**
 - **A scaled score (see below)**
 - **An indication of whether the national standard has been met.**
- **In scaled scores, a score of 100 represents the national standard. The lowest is 80 and the highest is 120.**
- **After each test is marked, it will be converted into a scaled score and that will show whether a pupil is working at the national standard, or above or below it.**
- **A pupil will need to achieve a scaled score of 100 to show that they have met the national standard on the test.**
- **There are no longer separate tests for higher attaining pupils, but they might expect a scaled score of closer to 120 which would indicate the pupil is working above the expected standard.**



Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)

- There are two tests: a short spelling test and a longer paper testing grammar, punctuation and vocabulary.
- The spelling test lasts approximately 15 minutes and pupils will need to spell words in context by filling in the gaps in sentences.
- The grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test lasts for 45 minutes.
- Pupils need a good working knowledge of technical vocabulary used to describe grammatical terms and punctuation marks.
- Questions in the grammar test are focused around the following areas (called 'content domains'):
 - Grammatical terms/word classes
 - Functions of sentences
 - Combining words, phrases and clauses
 - Verb forms, tenses and consistency
 - Punctuation
 - Vocabulary
 - Standard English and formality
- There are a range of answer types in the grammar test, including multiple choice and short one-word answers, but there will not be any longer written answers required

SPaG Example Questions



2

Draw a line to match each word to the correct **suffix**.
Use each suffix only once.

Word

accomplish

forgive

joy

fool

Suffix

ful

ment

ish

ness

1 mark

SPaG Example Questions



- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1

8

Insert a **relative pronoun** to complete the sentence below.

Everyone loved the music _____ was played last night.

_____ **1 mark**

SPaG Example Questions



- **Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1**

9

In which sentence is lock a **verb**?

Tick **one**.

Aisha closed the box and fastened the lock.

Make sure you lock the gate before you leave.

I think I need to buy a new bike lock.

The lock can only be opened with this special key.

1 mark

SPaG Example Questions



- **Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1**

18

Circle two words in the passage below that are **synonyms** of each other.

Having queued for over an hour, Sanjit found that his tolerance was being severely tested. Most of the other children had lost patience and gone elsewhere.

1 mark

SPaG Example Questions



- **Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1**

34

Explain how the **comma** changes the meaning of the second sentence.

1. I asked if Jake Thomas and Lily were coming to the barbecue.
2. I asked if Jake, Thomas and Lily were coming to the barbecue.

1 mark

SPaG Example Questions



- **Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1**

40

Tick one box in each row to show if the underlined conjunction is a **subordinating conjunction** or a **co-ordinating conjunction**.

Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like ice-skating <u>and</u> roller-skating.		
Jamie likes roller-skating, <u>but</u> he has never tried ice-skating.		
Jamie will go ice-skating <u>if</u> I go with him.		

1 mark

Spelling



- There will be a list of 20 spellings that the children are tested on. The list comprises of words taken from the Year 5 and 6 Common Exception Word list, as well as spelling rules and patterns learnt throughout KS2.
- The words will be read aloud in the context of the sentence; children will then be expected to write the word in the gap.
 1. The dragon is an imaginary _____.
 2. There was _____ food for everyone.
 3. My little brother is in _____ class.
 4. Playing in the snow made my fingers _____.

Reading



The reading test assesses whether pupils' comprehension of age-appropriate texts meets the national standard. There will be numerous questions on inference, vocabulary and authorial choice.

- Pupils will have 60 minutes to complete the test, including reading the texts and writing the answers.
- The test will have three different texts to read, drawing on fiction, non-fiction or poetry.
- Questions are focused around the following areas (called '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
- There are a range of answer types, including multiple choice, short one-word answers and longer answers that require a written paragraph.

The Reading Test Example Questions

9

Look at Anousheh's blog entry for September 27th.

Explain how Anousheh felt about being in space that day.

2 marks

The Reading Test Example Questions



18 *Gentle, and small, and frail*

How do these words make the reader feel about the snail?

1 mark

The Reading Test Example Questions

11

Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
Anousheh Ansari kept an online diary.		
Brushing your teeth in space is a joy.		
Being weightless is endlessly entertaining.		
Tourists can stay on the International Space Station.		

1 mark

The Reading Test Example Questions

25 Circle the correct option to complete each sentence below.

(a) The story is told from the perspective of...

**Professor
Summerlee.**

Lord John.

Malone.

**Professor
Challenger.**

_____ **1 mark**

The Reading Test Example Questions

31

What does *rehabilitate the image* of the dodo mean?

Tick one.

restore a painting of the dodo

rebuild the reputation of the dodo

repair a model of the dodo

review accounts of the dodo

1 mark

Mathematics



- There are three tests: one arithmetic paper and two reasoning papers.
- Paper 1 (arithmetic) lasts 30 minutes and assesses pupils' confidence using methods of calculation as well as fractions, decimals and percentages. It covers curriculum content from all of KS2.
- Papers 2 & 3 (reasoning) last 40 minutes each and focus on problem solving, fluency and applying mathematical reasoning.
- Questions cover the following areas (called 'content domains'):
 - **Number and place value**
 - **Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations)**
 - **Geometry – properties of shapes**
 - **Geometry – position and direction**
 - **Statistics**
 - **Measurement**
 - **Algebra**
 - **Ratio and proportion**
 - **Fractions, decimals and percentages.**

Questions will increase in difficulty as the paper progresses, and not all children will complete the papers.

Maths Example Questions: Arithmetic

21

$$7,505 \div 5 =$$

1 mark

24

$$15.4 - 8.88 =$$

1 mark

Maths Example Questions: Reasoning

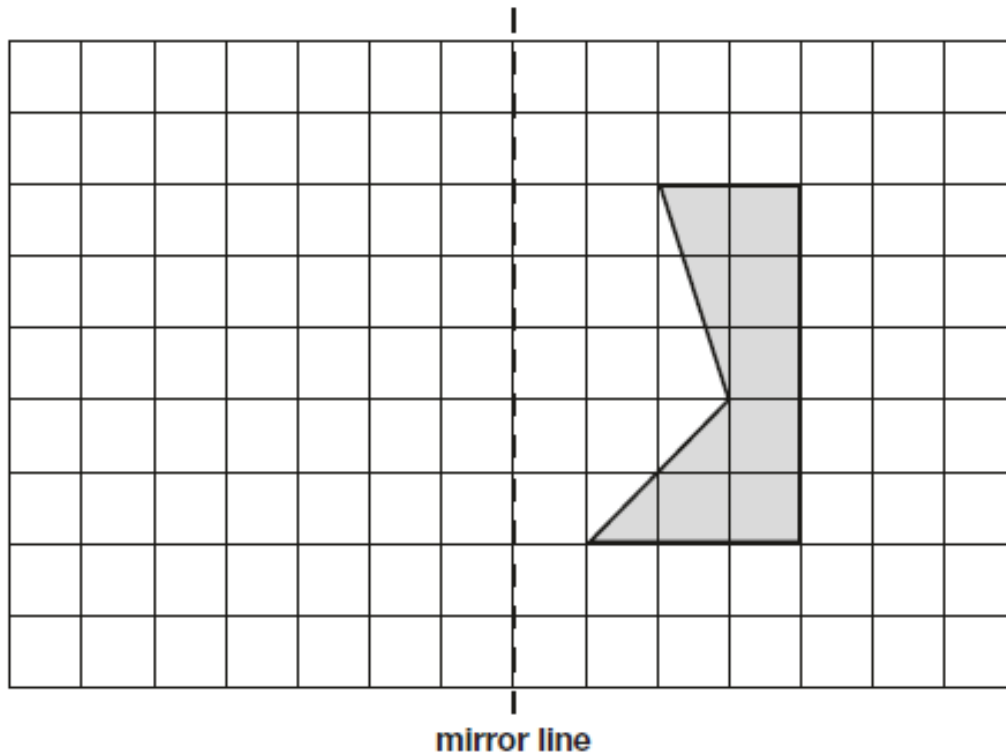


4

Here is a shaded shape on a square grid.

Reflect the shape in the mirror line.

Use a ruler.



1 mark

Maths Example Questions: Reasoning



19

The area of a rugby pitch is 6,108 square metres.

A football pitch measures 112 metres long and 82 metres wide.

How much larger is the area of the football pitch than the area of the rugby pitch?

Maths Example Questions: Reasoning



9

Jack chose a number.

He multiplied the number by 7

Then he added 85

His answer was 953

What number did Jack choose?

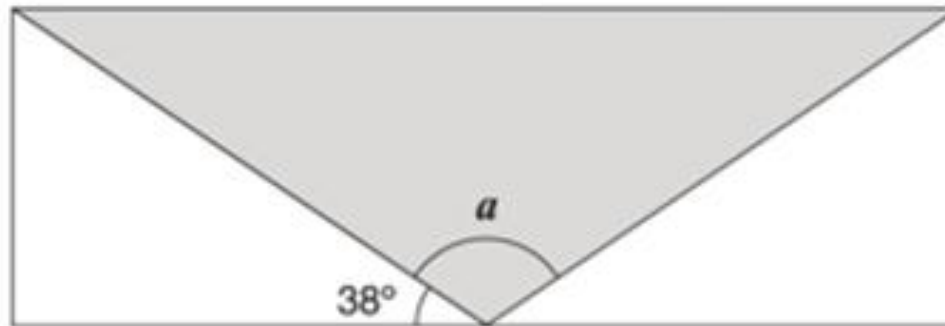
Show
your
method

2 marks

Maths Example Questions: Reasoning

15

A shaded **isosceles** triangle is drawn inside a rectangle.



Not
to
scale

Calculate the size of angle a .

Maths Example Questions: Reasoning

16

Large pizzas cost £8.50 each.

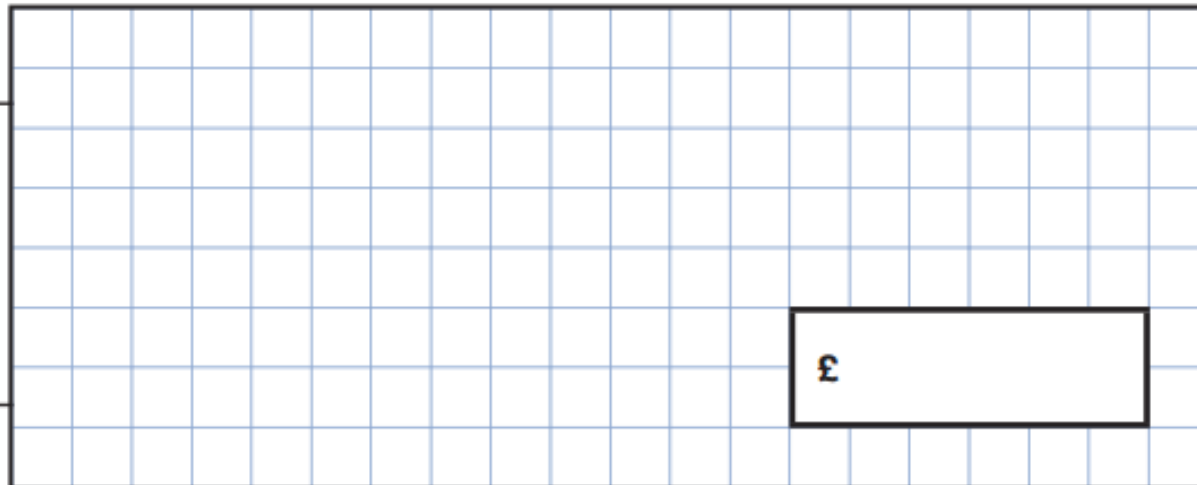
Small pizzas cost £6.75 each.

Five children together buy one large pizza and three small pizzas.

They share the cost equally.

How much does each child pay?

Show
your
method



£

2 marks



What about writing?

- For writing, children will receive a teacher assessment judgement based on the KS2 Assessment Framework.
- Teachers will take into account the pupil's progress and performance throughout Year 6 and base their judgement on a broad range of evidence from across the curriculum.
- Teacher judgements will be moderated externally by the Local Authority.
- The teacher assessed judgements will include whether your child is working towards the expected standard for Year 6, working at the expected standard, or working at greater depth within the expected standard.
- This teacher assessed judgement will also be shared in your child's end of year report.

SATs and pupil wellbeing

- It is widely understood that positive health and wellbeing – including mental health – contribute to a child’s ability to flourish, thrive and achieve (Public Health England, 2014), and equipping children with the skills to enhance their resilience against adversity will enable them to navigate challenges without compromising performance.
- The phrase “Key Stage 2 SATs” can be a trigger for stress in teachers, parents and children all over the country. Opinion is divided over these National Assessments, but it is still vital that Year 6 pupils are able to navigate SATs season without experiencing undue stress or anxiety.

Language to use with your child

- The language we use to communicate with children about SATs can have a powerful impact on how they approach the tests.
- The concept of 'pass' or 'fail' for Year 6s is quite hard to digest and communicates that there are only two possible outcomes. No child likes to fail, and having a fear of failure may actually discourage them from engaging, rather than inspiring them to work hard to do well.
- Emphasise that everyone will get different results, as it's an individual experience.
- Frame SATs as assessments to see how much has been learnt at primary school.
- Talk them through techniques to enhance their senses (e.g. Mindfulness, positive affirmations).



Ways to help your child

- **Model positivity about SATs – if the children can see how much you may be dreading SATs, they’re going to follow suit.**
- **Reassure children that the outcome of SATs is not an indicator of what they may go on to do later in life but they should try and do the very best they can.**
- **Discuss coping strategies – what’s a good thing to do if they feel anxious or worried? Why can anxiety be a good thing and how can we learn from it?**
- **Reinforce how proud you are of their efforts, and that effort is more important than outcome.**

What do we do in school to reduce stress at this time?



- Opportunities for children to discuss progress, areas for development, help needed and any worries.
- 'Easter Boosters' and revision sessions have a focus on 'test technique'.
- Revision lessons are balanced with enjoyable and creative curriculum activities.
- Children will be familiar with the test set up & format through 'mock SATs' practice.
- Children receive precision teaching and intervention to increase their confidence in targeted areas.

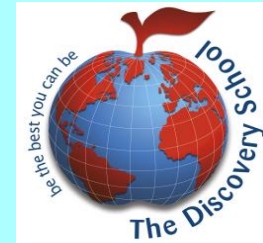
Tests are completed:

- in familiar surroundings,
- with familiar adults,
- as part of the normal school day and routines,
- in some tests, questions can be read to the children.



Practicalities!

- **Routine is ESSENTIAL! Please ensure that children get plenty of rest and sleep the weekend before the SATs tests.**
- **Tests must be carried out within the agreed timetable. However, in case of illness, emergency or special circumstances, the School will have to apply for a timetable variation.**
- **Please contact the school as soon as possible to inform us of the above.**



SATs Week Breakfasts!

- All Year Six pupils are invited to join us for a light, healthy and nutritious breakfast each morning during SATs week (Mon-Thu) from 8.20am.
- The breakfast is free and optional, but the earlier start will provide an opportunity for children to have time together relaxing, chatting or running our 'Daily Mile' before their assessments.
- This will help to reduce any anxiety and will ensure that children are best prepared for their assessments.
- If you think your child would benefit from these breakfast sessions, please look out for a letter issued nearer the time.

Where can I find further information



Further information for parents can be found by accessing the links below:

[2026 key stage 2 national curriculum tests: information for parents - GOV.UK](#)

[Parent guide to KS2 SATs: what to expect, how to help | LbQ | LbQ Primary](#)

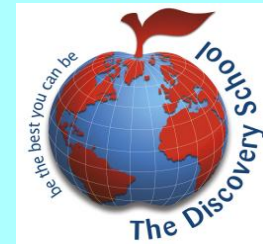
If you have any further questions, please contact the Year 6 Leads or your child's class teacher.

Year 6 Leads: fpatel@discovery.kent.sch.uk
jwilce@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Winston Class: mdunne@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Galileo Class: cprice@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Turing Class: ekingston@discovery.kent.sch.uk



And finally...

Although SATs are an important way to measure a child's academic progress, we truly believe that children are more than just a score.

We regularly share this message with our children and would like to end this session by showing you the following video clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwQgY3Kk3Zw&t=4s>

Thank you for your attendance and continued support 😊



Don't get stressed...



Just do your best!

Remember you've been blessed...

With skills that SATs

**DON'T
TEST!**

