

Year 6 SATs Information

Parents and Guardians



What are the SATs?

- SATs are the Standardised Assessment Tests that are given to children at the end of Key Stage 2.
- Assessments are scheduled to take place over 4 days.
- **Key stage 2 tests**
The statutory [key stage 2 tests](#) are timetabled from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026:

Date	Activity
Monday 11 May 2026	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 12 May 2026	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 14 May 2026	Mathematics Paper 3

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



When and how are the SATs completed?

- The tests take place during normal school hours, under exam conditions.
- Children are not allowed to talk to each other from the moment the assessments are handed out until they are collected at the end of the test.
- After the tests are completed, the papers are sent away to be marked **externally**.
- The results are then sent to the school in July.
- Each test lasts no longer than 60 minutes:
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 1: Grammar/ Punctuation) – 45 minutes
 - Spelling, punctuation and grammar (paper 2: Spelling) – 15 minutes
 - Reading – 60 minutes
 - Maths (paper 1: Arithmetic) – 30 minutes
 - Maths (paper 2: Reasoning) – 40 minutes
 - Maths (paper 3: Reasoning) – 40 minutes



Specific arrangements for SATs

Children with additional needs (who have similar support as part of day-to-day learning in school) may be allotted specific arrangements, including:

- Additional (extra) time;
- Tests being opened early to be modified;
- An adult to scribe (write) for them;
- Using word processors independently;
- An adult to read for them (including a translator);
- The use of prompts or rest breaks;
- Arrangements for children who are ill or injured at the time of the tests.

Pupils with an EHCP are automatically allowed up to 25% additional time (except for the spelling paper, which is not strictly timed). Pupils who use the modified large print or braille versions of the tests are automatically allowed up to 100% additional time.



The results

Tests are marked externally. Once marked, the tests will be given the following scores:

- A raw score (total number of marks achieved for each paper);
- A scaled score
- A judgement on if the National Standard has been met.

Scaled scores range from 80 to 120.

A scaled score of 100 or more shows the pupil is meeting the National Standard.

A scaled score of 110 or more shows the pupil is working at Greater Depth.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Monday 11th May 2026

Grammar, punctuation and spelling consists of two papers.

- Paper 1 focuses on all three elements (grammar, punctuation and spelling or GPS). The paper lasts for **45 minutes**.
- Paper 2 consists of a spelling test only. It should take approximately **15 minutes**, although this is not a set amount of time (pupils should be given as much time as they need to complete the test).



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 1 (GPS)

The children will have been working hard with their class teacher on developing and securing their knowledge of the technical vocabulary needed in this test.

This test focuses on:

- Grammatical terms/ word classes;
- Functions of sentences;
- Combining words, phrases and clauses;
- Verb forms, tenses and consistency;
- Punctuation;
- Vocabulary;
- Standard English and formality.

This test requires a range of answer types but does not require longer formal answers.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 1 (GPS)

Example questions:

1

Which sentence is a **command**?

Tick **one**.

The relay race will be next.

I hope I don't drop the baton.

Run as fast as you can.

I know you can win this race.

39

Complete the sentence below with an appropriate **subordinating conjunction**.

e.g. **Although, while**

_____ football is his favourite sport, James also enjoys
watching tennis on TV.

1 mark

49

Rewrite the sentence below in the **passive**.
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The Romans invaded Britain over two thousand years ago.

e.g. Over two thousand years ago, Britain
was invaded by the Romans.

1 mark

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: Paper 2 (spelling)

Paper 2 is a shorter paper that focuses solely on spellings.

Example questions:

Spelling

1. There was a _____ in the field.
2. I kept in _____ with my old friends when we moved.
3. The questions were _____ from one to ten.

2023 Spelling script

Spelling 1: The word is **lamb**.

There was a **lamb** in the field.

The word is **lamb**.

Spelling 2: The word is **touch**.

I kept in **touch** with my old friends when we moved.

The word is **touch**.

Spelling 3: The word is **numbered**.

The questions were **numbered** from one to ten.

The word is **numbered**.

Reading: Tuesday 12th May 2026

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.



Reading

The reading SATs paper requires a range of answer styles.

Example questions:

Questions 1 – 12 are about *A Noise in the Night*
(pages 4–5)

1 Look at the first paragraph.

How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous?

Write **two** ways.

1. _____
2. _____

Priya and her friends are camping near a farm owned by Mr Jones. Earlier in the day, Mr Jones had told the group that sheep thieves had been seen in the area.

A Noise in the Night

Priya woke with a start, her heart beating fast. Something had disturbed her but she wasn't sure what. Abby was still sleeping quietly beside her, and the night-light glowed, but now she could see things inside the tent, and she realised that the moon must have risen. She took a deep breath, trying to calm herself, but then she heard something rustling outside. *It's nothing, she told herself strictly. It's a hedgehog, or a mole. It's something nice and harmless.*



Qu.	Requirement	Mark
1	<p>Look at the first paragraph.</p> <p>How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous?</p> <p>Write two ways.</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 2 marks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Priya's heart beating fast, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Priya's heart started to race</i>• <i>her heart was beating really quickly.</i>2. Priya taking a deep breath / trying to calm herself down, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>she took a deep breath</i>• <i>Priya was trying to calm herself</i>• <i>she must be nervous because she needs to calm down.</i>3. Priya telling herself there is nothing to worry about, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>she tells herself it must be something harmless</i>• <i>she tries to reassure herself.</i>4. Priya waking with a start, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>she woke with a start.</i>	Up to 2m

Reading

Example questions: 3 mark question

38

Look at the paragraph beginning: *Innis sat up...* to the end of the text.

Innis meets the boy. What do you learn about the boy's personality?

Give **two** things, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

Personality	Evidence
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3 marks

Section 3: A Howl at Dusk

Qu.	Requirement	Mark														
38	<p>Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>Innis sat up...</i> to the end of the text.</p> <p>Innis meets the boy. What do you learn about the boy's personality?</p> <p>Give two things, using evidence from the text to support your answer.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 3 marks for two acceptable points, at least one with evidence.</p> <p>Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points, or one acceptable point with evidence.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for one acceptable point.</p>	Up to 3m														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Acceptable points (personality)</th> <th>Likely evidence</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. he is unfriendly / rude / surly</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> unfriendly eyes 'What's it to you?' strode off without another word didn't bother to look at Innis whilst replying he didn't look at him when he replied. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. he is independent / brave / calm</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> he was on his own not concerned he might be walking towards the wolf he didn't seem to be shocked that there was a wolf about. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. he is curious</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the only questions asked were about wolves 'How far?' 'Where exactly?' he stops when Innis mentions the wolf. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. he is mysterious / strange</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> he doesn't talk much he wiped the snow off, turned and strode off he appeared out of nowhere he didn't tell Innis much about himself. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. he is secretive / defensive</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> he didn't tell Innis anything about himself strode off without another word 'What's it to you?' </td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. he is determined / single-minded / self-centred</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> was only interested in the wolf strode off without another word he only paid attention to what he was interested in he only interacted when he realised that Innis had useful information. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Acceptable points (personality)	Likely evidence	1. he is unfriendly / rude / surly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unfriendly eyes 'What's it to you?' strode off without another word didn't bother to look at Innis whilst replying he didn't look at him when he replied. 	2. he is independent / brave / calm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> he was on his own not concerned he might be walking towards the wolf he didn't seem to be shocked that there was a wolf about. 	3. he is curious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the only questions asked were about wolves 'How far?' 'Where exactly?' he stops when Innis mentions the wolf. 	4. he is mysterious / strange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> he doesn't talk much he wiped the snow off, turned and strode off he appeared out of nowhere he didn't tell Innis much about himself. 	5. he is secretive / defensive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> he didn't tell Innis anything about himself strode off without another word 'What's it to you?' 	6. he is determined / single-minded / self-centred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> was only interested in the wolf strode off without another word he only paid attention to what he was interested in he only interacted when he realised that Innis had useful information. 	
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Reading

Since the current testing formation for the SATs began in 2016, there has been a tendency for three types of questions to be the most popular.

In the 2023 Reading SATs paper,

- 18% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving giving and explaining the meaning of words in context;
- 32% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving retrieving and recording information or identifying key details from a text;
- 46% of marks could be gained from answering questions involving making inferences from a text and justifying inferences with text evidence.

When reading with your child at home try focusing on these types of questions.



How to Help Your Child with Reading

- Listening to your child read can take many forms.
- First and foremost, focus developing an enjoyment and love of reading.
- Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child at KS1 and KS2 is equally as important as listening to your child read.
- Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the Internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
- All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes and TV guides.



Maths: Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May 2026

The maths assessments consist of three tests.

- Paper 1: Arithmetic (30 minutes) – Wednesday 13th May
- Paper 2: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Wednesday 13th May
- Paper 3: Reasoning (40 minutes) – Thursday 14th May



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 BIDMAS), percentages of amounts and calculating with decimals and fractions.

Example questions:

19	29.5 – 16.125 =	<input type="text"/>	1 mark

20	$\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline \end{array}$	<input type="text"/>	2 marks
	Show your method		

19	13.375	1m
20	Award TWO marks for the correct answer of 37,592	Up to 2m
	<p>If the answer is incorrect, award ONE mark for the formal method of long multiplication with no more than ONE arithmetic error, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline 2032 \\ 35560 \\ 37582 \text{ (error)} \end{array}$ <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline 2032 \\ 35060 \text{ (error)} \\ 37092 \end{array}$ 	
	Working must be carried through to reach a final answer for the award of ONE mark.	
	Do not award any marks if the error is in the place value, e.g. the omission of the zero when multiplying by tens.	
	$\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline 2032 \\ 3556 \text{ (place value error)} \\ 5588 \end{array}$	



Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Example 1 mark questions:

7 $7.8 + 6.953 =$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.800 \\ + 6.958 \\ \hline 14.758 \\ 1 \end{array}$$

1 mark

12 $801 - \boxed{6} = 795$

Mental method:
Count on from 795 to 801

1 mark

16 $\frac{3}{16} + \frac{5}{8} =$

$$\frac{5}{8} = \frac{10}{16}$$
$$\frac{10}{16} + \frac{3}{16} = \frac{13}{16}$$

1 mark

23 $70 + 48 \div 6 =$

$$48 \div 6 = 8$$
$$70 + 8 = 78$$

1 mark



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,

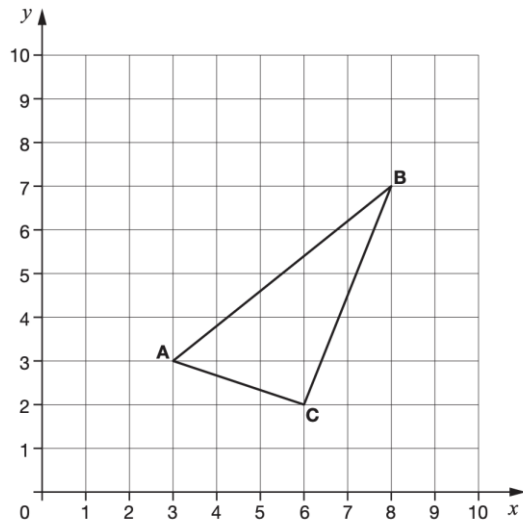
- Number and place value (including Roman numerals);
- The four operations;
- Geometry (properties of shape, position and direction);
- Statistics;
- Measurement (length, perimeter, mass, volume, time, money);
- Algebra;
- Ratio and proportion;
- Fractions, decimals and percentages.



Maths Papers 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

3



ABC is a triangle.

What are the coordinates of point C?

(6 , 2)

1 mark

8

In 2012, there were **24,372** schools in the United Kingdom.

Round the number of schools to the **nearest hundred**.

24,400

1 mark

Maths Papers 2 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

17

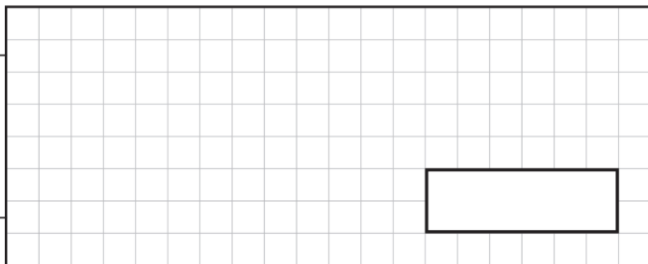
The manager of a flower shop orders 4 boxes of red roses.

There are 50 roses in each box.

The manager makes bunches with 6 roses in each bunch.

What is the **greatest** number of bunches that can be made?

Show
your
method



2 marks

17 Award **TWO** marks for the correct answer of 33

If the answer is incorrect, award **ONE** mark for evidence of an appropriate method, e.g.

- $4 \times 50 = 200$
 $200 \div 6 = 30$ (error)

OR

- $50 \div 6 = 8 \text{ r}2$
 $(8 \text{ r}2) \times 4 = 32 \text{ r}8$

OR

Award **ONE** mark for sight of:

- $33\frac{1}{3}$ OR $33.\dot{3}$ OR 33.33r OR 33.3

OR $33\text{r}2$

(as evidence of completing $200 \div 6$ correctly without interpreting the remainder in context)

Up to
2m

Answer need not be obtained for the award of **ONE** mark.

If the pupil reaches an answer with a remainder and subsequently rounds to the nearest integer value either side, then the method remains appropriate for the award of **ONE** mark, e.g.

- $200 \div 6 = 31 \text{ r}8$

Acceptable rounded answers would be 31 OR 32

For the 'sight of' mark, accept equivalent fractions.

Award **ONE** mark for an answer of 34.

Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

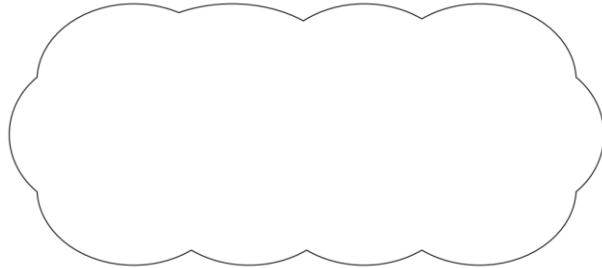
9

Jack says,

I multiplied a whole number by 3
My answer was 32



Explain why Jack is **not** correct.



1 mark

9

Award **ONE** mark for an explanation that recognises that 32 is not a multiple of 3, e.g.

- 32 is not in the $3\times$ table
- $32 \div 3 = 10 \text{ r}2$ or 10.66 (which are not whole numbers)
- if you count in multiples of 3 from 0, you won't get 32
- $3 + 2 = 5$, 5 is not a multiple of 3 so he is wrong.

OR

For a description that includes one or both of the multiples of 3 either side of 32, e.g.

- if you do $10 \times 3 = 30$ and $11 \times 3 = 33$ there is no 32
- $10 \times 3 = 30$ and 32 is 2 away.

1m

Do not accept responses that restate the question, e.g. Jack is not correct because if you multiply 3 by any whole number you will not get 32.

Do not accept vague or incomplete explanations, e.g.

- If you multiply by 3 you will get 30, not 32
- 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33
- 32 is not a factor of 3

Do not accept explanations which include incorrect mathematics or incorrect information relevant to the explanation.

Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example question:

21

There are 25 classes in a school.

Each class has 34 pupils.

62% of all the pupils play a sport after school.

What number of pupils do not play a sport?

Show
your
method

3 marks

Qu.	Requirement	Mark	Additional guidance
21	<p>Award THREE marks for the correct answer of 323</p> <p>Award TWO marks for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An incorrect answer with evidence of an appropriate complete method with no more than one arithmetic error, e.g. $\begin{array}{r} 25 \\ \times 34 \\ \hline 100 \\ 750 \\ \hline 950 \text{ (error)} \end{array}$ $62\% \text{ of } 950 = 589$ $950 - 589 = 361$ <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $34 \times 25 = 950$ (error) $95 \times 3 = 285$ $9.5 \times 8 = 76$ $285 + 76 = 361$ <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sight of 527 (as evidence of calculating 62% of 850) <p>Award ONE mark for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evidence of an appropriate method with more than one error. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sight of 850 (as evidence of the multiplication step completed correctly) 	<p>Up to 3m</p>	<p>A misread of a number may affect the award of marks. No marks are awarded if there is more than one misread or if the mathematics is simplified.</p> <p>TWO marks will be awarded if an appropriate method with the misread number is followed through correctly.</p> <p>ONE mark will be awarded for evidence of an appropriate method with the misread number followed through correctly with no more than one error.</p> <p>Within an appropriate method, if the pupil has rounded appropriately with no more than one arithmetic error, the pupil may be awarded TWO marks.</p> <p>Answer need not be obtained for the award of ONE mark.</p>

How can you help your child with maths?

Maths isn't just a lesson that is taught in school...

- Play times tables games.
- Encourage opportunities for telling the time.
- Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money; finding amounts or calculating change when shopping.
- Read longer numbers, e.g. house prices!
- Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home.
- Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts, e.g. when cooking.
- Days in a week/month/year



Other Assessments

- There is no writing SATS test.
- Writing assessments will be formed from judgements made by the teacher, looking at evidence from writing collected over the course of the year.
- The teacher will moderate their assessments with other professionals to make sure there is a consistent standard across the country.
- Final judgements will be reported to parents at the same time as the other assessment results.



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

Tips:

- 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.
- SATS revision booklets
- Encourage them to always try their best!



What to do if you are worried about your child

SATs often induce a certain degree of worry or anxiety but there is, of course, a tipping point.

SATs anxiety should not:

- Affect a child's appetite
- Affect a child's sleep
- Affect a child's personality
- Induce panic, tears or disengagement from lessons or hobbies
- Be a reason not to attend school.



What are we doing in class?

- Morning Boosters- These sessions start at 8:35, and they are an excellent opportunity for the children to receive group or individual intervention.
- After School Boosters- These sessions are held every Thursday between 3:25pm and 4:30pm. Children are placed into three groups with either Mrs Nicol, Mr Ascroft or Mrs Brooks



Added Bonus!

Breakfast served all week during SATs week

Any questions?

