



Year 6 SATs 2026
Presentation for Parents & Carers

What will be covered in this presentation?

- What are SATs?
- When do SATs take place?
- What will SATs look like for my child?
- What are the timings and marks available for each paper?
- Raw scores, scaled score, judgements and what these mean.
- What do the SATs papers look like in more detail?
- How are we supporting your child to prepare for SATs?
- How can I support my child to prepare for SATs?
- How will SATs results be used?

What are SATs ?

What does SATs stand for?

SATs stands for 'Standard Assessment Tests'.

What are SATs for Year 6?

Year 6 SATs are tests in Maths and English that take place in May, when children are nearing the end of Year 6 and the primary phase of their education.

SATs assessments are in reading; maths; grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Writing is also assessed, but this is based on the writing your child has produced all year and is not based on a test.

What is the purpose of SATs?

SATs measure children's academic ability against the expectations set out in the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum.

When do SATs take place?

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

What will SATs look like for my child in school?

- Each test will take place in a classroom in normal school hours.
- Pupils will be expected to work under test conditions (silence).
- Some pupils will need adaptations (extra time, movement/rest breaks etc.)
- Papers are marked **externally**
- Mocks have been completed under these conditions to prepare pupils for the real thing in May.

English

Paper	Questions	Time	Marks
Reading	38	60 minutes	50
Spelling Test	20 words	15 minutes	20
Grammar and Punctuation Paper	50	45 minutes	50

The marks for the spelling paper are combined with the grammar and punctuation paper to combine a score out of 70.

Mathematics

Paper	Questions	Time	Marks
Arithmetic	36	30 minutes	40
Reasoning 1	20	40 minutes	35
Reasoning 2	20	40 minutes	35

110 marks overall across all three papers.

Raw Scores, Scaled Scores and Judgements

Once the paper has been marked, the examiner will issue the following:

- Raw score (total number of marks)
- A scaled score (ranges from 80 to 120)
- A judgement on whether the National Standard has been met (Working Towards, Expected, Greater Depth).
- Results are received by the school in July and these will be sent to you as part of your child's school report.

Raw Scores and Scaled Scores

	2024				2025			
	EXS		GDS		EXS		GDS	
	Raw Score	%	Raw Score	%	Raw Score	%	Raw Score	%
Reading	27	54%	40	80%	28	56%	40	80%
GPS	36	51%	53	76%	35	50%	54	77%
Maths	54	49%	93	85%	58	53%	95	86%

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

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 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 overcharge 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.

e We were disturbed by the noise of the traffic.

1 mark

In questions such as these, incorrect punctuation and misspellings are not accepted.

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**.



Reading

The test is designed to measure if the children's comprehension of age-appropriate reading material meets the national standard. 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:

2 Read the paragraph beginning: *They are not hedgehogs...*

Find and **copy one** word that means the same as 'met'.

1 mark

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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Reading

Example questions:

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

9	<p>Look at the section: What issues are streaked tenrecs facing?</p> <p>What serious problems are streaked tenrecs facing?</p> <p>Give two problems.</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"> deforestation / the destruction of streaked tenrecs' habitat, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deforestation destroys their habitat tenrecs live in the rainforest and it's being destroyed the landscape is being destroyed. 	Up to 2m
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5 Draw **three** lines to match each paragraph to its main content.

Paragraph	Content
The paragraph beginning: <i>Imagine treading through...</i>	diet
The paragraph beginning: <i>Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...</i>	behaviour
The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i>	appearance

1 mark

5	<p>Draw three lines to match each paragraph to its main content.</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 all correctly matched:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Paragraph</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Content</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">The paragraph beginning: <i>Imagine treading through...</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">diet</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">The paragraph beginning: <i>Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">behaviour</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">appearance</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Paragraph	Content	The paragraph beginning: <i>Imagine treading through...</i>	diet	The paragraph beginning: <i>Both highland and lowland streaked tenrecs are...</i>	behaviour	The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i>	appearance	1m
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The paragraph beginning: <i>Tenrecs forage...</i>	appearance									

Reading

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



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	$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{4}{5} =$	<input type="text"/> 1 mark
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20	$\begin{array}{r} 6312 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline \end{array}$	<input type="text"/> 2 marks
Show your method		

Qu.	Requirement	Mark	Additional guidance
19	$1\frac{7}{15}$ OR $\frac{22}{15}$	1m	Accept equivalent mixed numbers, fractions or the exact decimal equivalent, i.e. 1.46 (accept any unambiguous indication of the recurring digits). Do not accept rounded or truncated decimals.
20	Award TWO marks for the correct answer of 88,368 If the answer is incorrect, award ONE mark for the formal method of long multiplication with no more than ONE arithmetic error, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $\begin{array}{r} 6312 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline 25248 \\ 63120 \\ \hline 88358 \text{ (error)} \end{array}$ OR • $\begin{array}{r} 6312 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline 24248 \text{ (error)} \\ 63120 \\ \hline 87368 \end{array}$ 	Up to 2m	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. $\begin{array}{r} 6312 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline 25248 \\ 6312 \text{ (place value error)} \\ \hline 31560 \end{array}$



Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Example 1 mark questions:

9 $7.68 + 13.493 =$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.680 \\ + 13.493 \\ \hline 21.173 \\ \text{111} \end{array}$$

1 mark

11 $640 \div 8 =$

Mental method: Using known fact of $64 \div 8 = 8$

1 mark

18 $\frac{5}{12} + \frac{1}{3} =$

$$\frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{12}$$
$$\frac{5}{12} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{9}{12}$$

1 mark

21 $2 + 3^3 =$

$$3^3 = 27 \quad 2 + 27 = 29$$

1 mark



Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)

Example 2 mark question:

30	$34 \overline{) 986}$	<input style="width: 30px; height: 30px;" type="text"/> 2 marks
Show your method	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	

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.

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

OR

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

- 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.



Maths Papers 2 and 3 (Reasoning)

Paper 2 will take place on Wednesday 14th May and paper 3 will take place on Thursday 15th 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:

5

Write the three missing digits to make this multiplication correct.

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{2} \ 5 \ \boxed{4} \\ \times \qquad \qquad 3 \\ \hline 7 \ \boxed{6} \ 2 \end{array}$$

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

3,500 to rounded to the nearest **thousand** is 4,000

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

1 mark

1 mark

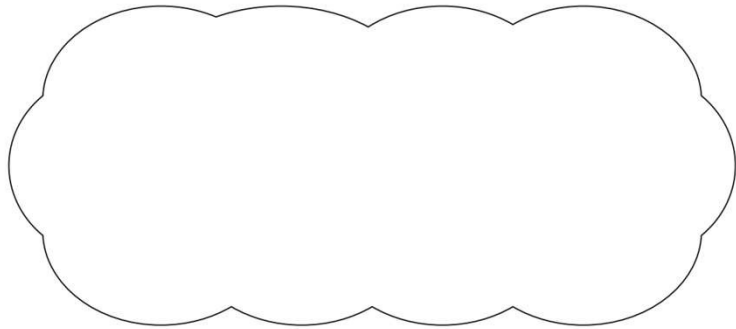


Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example questions:

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

24	Award ONE mark for an explanation that compares the calculations or relative size of the fractions to indicate relative size of the products, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{6} = \frac{5}{12}$ $\frac{5}{12} = \frac{10}{24}$ $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{7}{8} = \frac{7}{24}$ OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\frac{10}{24} > \frac{7}{24}$	1m Do not accept responses that restate the question. Do not accept vague, incomplete or incorrect explanations, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">the result is bigger because it's a halfshows the products without supporting calculations or further proof, e.g. $\frac{5}{12}$ is bigger than $\frac{7}{24}$ Do not accept explanations which include incorrect mathematics or incorrect information that is relevant to the explanation.
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Maths Papers 3 (Reasoning)

Example question:

21

A band holds a concert for charity.

The tickets cost £27 each.

They sell 635 tickets.

They pay £3,180 to use the hall.

They give one-third of the **remaining** amount to charity.

How much money does the band give to charity?

Show
your
method

£

3 marks

21

Award **THREE** marks for the correct answer of (£)4,655

Award **TWO** marks for:

- an incorrect answer with evidence of an appropriate complete method with no more than one arithmetic error, e.g.

$$635 \times £27 = £17,045 \text{ (error)}$$

$$£17,045 - £3,180 = £13,865$$

$$£13,865 \div 3 = £4,621.66$$

OR

- for sight of (£)13,965 (as evidence of two steps completed correctly)

Award **ONE** mark for:

- evidence of an appropriate method with more than one error

OR

- sight of (£)17,145 (as evidence of the multiplication step completed correctly).

Up to
3m

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.

Any appropriate rounding or truncating of the answer does not negate an appropriate method.

Any answer which does not result from correct rounding or truncating implies an additional step not shown.

TWO marks will be awarded for an appropriate method with the misread number followed through correctly.

ONE mark will be awarded for evidence of an appropriate method using the misread number followed through correctly with no more than one error.

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

How are we preparing your child for SATs?

- Mock SATs
- Identifying gaps in the curriculum
- Teaching strategies and skills to build confidence
- Discussions and social stories to reassure children and how we can help them.
- Support with reading and maths interventions

How can I help to prepare my child for SATs?

- School Website has links to interactive revision
- Avoid completing any past papers with your child (2023 onwards).
- Encourage the completion of, and effort in, homework.
- Silent reading to build stamina.
- Times-tables practise (TTRockstars)
- Secure procedural knowledge of the four operations in Maths.

How will SATs results be used?

Secondary schools are told their incoming pupils' scaled SATs scores. Many secondary schools use SATs scores to help with setting and streaming.

Your child's SATs scores are also used to predict their GCSE grades.

Secondary schools are mindful that SATs only measure ability in English and Maths and consequently most do their own tests in different subject areas.



Q&A