

Deal Parochial C of E Primary School



Year 6 SATS

2016

9th-12th May

Information for Parents

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New Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 Tests

SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) are compulsory National Curriculum Tests that all Year 6 children across the country must take before leaving primary school. Children are tested in their knowledge and application of the two core subjects of the National Curriculum; English (Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Mathematics. This year, for the first time, the children are going to be assessed against the tougher standards of the new National Curriculum that was introduced to schools in 2014. You will receive test results in July that indicate your child's ability compared against the more challenging 'Age Related Expectations'. Results will no longer be in the form of National Curriculum Levels (e.g. 2b/4b etc) and will now take the form of a scaled score with '100' being the new expected standard. You will be told whether your child is working:

- **Below** the Expected Standard
- **At** the expected standard
- **Above** the Expected Standard

At present, schools do not know what scores would equate to the new expected standard. The government will set the thresholds once all tests have been completed.

Your children's test papers are sent away for independent marking and returned to the school.

On all test papers children are shown how many marks each question is worth: one, two or three marks. This should help them know how much effort to put into answering each one. For example a 'one mark' answer often only requires one word, while a 'three mark' answer may need two or three sentences.

Timetable

The 2016 SATs will take place in Year 6 during the week of 9th – 12th May

Date	Subject	Test paper
Monday 9 May	English: reading	1 paper (60 mins)
Tuesday 10 May	English: grammar, punctuation and spelling	Papers 1 & 2: spelling; punctuation and grammar (including vocabulary) Approx 1hour in total
Wednesday 11 May	Mathematics	Paper 1: arithmetic (30 mins) Paper 2: mathematical reasoning (40 mins)
Thursday 12 May	Mathematics	Paper 1: mathematical reasoning
Friday 13 May		No Test

English

- **Reading**

The children have 1 hour to read a booklet containing a story and/or a poem, and some information writing. Children work at their own pace through the booklet. Answers can be in phrases and don't often have to be in full sentences. Spelling and the use of punctuation are not marked.

The questions range from the literal (who does what, when) to the deductive (where, for example, they have to work out how someone is feeling from what is written). Your child will be encouraged to say which parts of the text contained the answer and will usually need to include examples.

- **SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)**

The SPaG test contains two sections:

The first tests children's knowledge and application of a range of complex grammar and punctuation skills.

The second part tests children's spelling accuracy in a 20 question test.

- **Writing Level**

Instead of sitting a formal writing test, your child's end of key stage writing level will be a moderated teacher assessment of their writing across the year. In our opinion, this is a fairer system of assessment and recognises the quality of the work completed in class over a set period of time.

Maths

There are three maths papers taken over two days. The papers are designed to test children's fluency in a range of arithmetic skills as well as to test how well they use and apply the range of maths that they have been taught in school.

- **The Arithmetic Paper**

The arithmetic paper tests how quickly and accurately children can answer a range of procedural calculation questions using the four operations of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication.

- **Reasoning Paper 1 & 2**

The second and third reasoning papers have a similar mix of problems. Children have to read, interpret and demonstrate how well they can use and apply their maths knowledge to solve a range of problems linked to all areas of the maths curriculum.

In all the papers, children are encouraged to show how they arrived at an answer. Marks can be awarded for showing working out, even if, the answer is wrong. Children will also be expected to show an understanding of how to use and apply their mathematical knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways or 'to think like a mathematician'.

Some children who need questions read to them will be assigned a reader, scribe or amanuensis (both reader and scribe) depending on their needs. This will be discussed with you.

If a child's writing is hard to read, work (or parts of it) will be transcribed.

Enlarged printed copies of the test papers are available for visually impaired children.

Tips on how you can help your child prepare

Revision – Homework

The biggest single influence on your child's SAT mark will be their reading ability. Good readers can read questions quickly, and understand what they need to do. Continue to encourage your child to read every day, looking at both stories and non-fiction.

To help your child prepare for SATs use the CGP maths books and websites listed below. Your child may also bring home a range of examples taken from similar test questions as part of their homework preparation for the SATs. Please support them in this.

Useful websites

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision/index.html>

https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/interactive_ks2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

<http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/maths/>

Accelerated maths

Bug Club

Handy Hints

- Look through a practice paper <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials> together and talk about how you would answer the questions.
- Agree on what the question is actually asking you to do
- The number of marks each question is worth is printed at the side:
 - 1 mark answer can be brief, one word or number
 - 2 mark answers will require at least two bits of information, like two different phrases, or an answer complete with method.
 - 3 mark answers need to be thorough. Encourage your child to look for this information, and not waste time agonising over the 1 mark answers.
- Some questions are multiple-choice. If they don't know the answer, your child can guess – and may still get a mark. Children are not used to doing this!
- If they get stuck on a question, tell them to move on rather than waste time on it.
- Practice spending five minutes checking a paper to make sure all the questions are answered as fully as necessary.

How else can you help?

SATs can be a worrying time for your child and can lead to nervousness as the tests approach. Good coping strategies include:

- Reassure them that they just have to try their best on the day. This is not a qualification!
- Encourage them to spend 10-20 minutes a day on revision practice.
- Remind them that in most parts of the SATs papers, children do not have to write in sentences: often phrases or even single words is enough.
- Teach them how to relax by breathing deeply and closing their eyes to picture a calm scene like a green field by a river.
- Keep an **early and regular bedtime** routine, in the days leading up to and including the test week – no later than 8:30pm!
- Limit computer games before your child goes to bed. Switch the games off and relax before bedtime.
- Ensure your child has **breakfast every day**, especially during the week of the tests. Research shows that children who miss breakfast perform worse in late morning.
- Check your child can tell the time accurately so they will know how long there is to go in the test.

The tests are carried out in familiar surroundings with as much sensitivity as it is possible, mainly in the classroom and library, although some children will work in other rooms and areas around the school. The lead invigilator will be the Head teacher.

Everything will be done to help your child feel at ease and to allow them to achieve as highly as possible.

If you have any questions regarding SATs week, please speak to Mrs Bowles, Ms Brown or Mrs Theaker or email us at:

bowlesm@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk

headteacher@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk

theakerd@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Examples

2016 sample question KS2 English reading paper (2marks):

14 How does the information on page 6 make it sound easy to be a star spotter?

Give **two** ways.


1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

2016 sample question KS2 mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic:

5 $1,034 + 586 =$



1 mark

2016 sample question KS2 mathematics Paper 2: reasoning:

2 A pack of paper has 150 sheets.

4 children each take 7 sheets.

How many sheets of paper are left in the packet?

Show your method



1 mark