

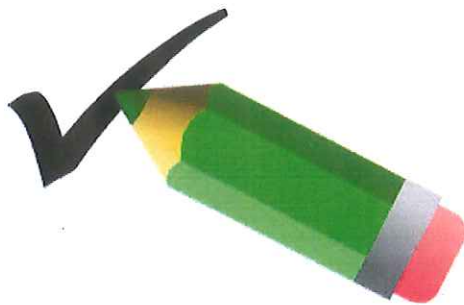


A Parents' Quick Guide to...

Revised Assessment Arrangements

& Age Related Expectations

2016



Revised Assessment Arrangements & Age Related Expectations

Changes to the National Curriculum

- Revised curriculum from September 2014.
- Less prescriptive for foundation subjects eg: history, geography, art etc.
- **Higher levels of attainment** required across English (including grammar) and mathematics – **harder concepts taught earlier.**
- Inclusion of formal grammar and punctuation tests at Year 2.
- Tougher school accountability measures.

Assessment in the Past

- Previously: levels 1 to 5 (6) – with sub levels C,B,A.
- National expectations were: 2B at Year 2 and a 4B at Year 6.
- Progression through the levels was aligned to year groups, indicating national expectations.
- Levels gave a sequential scale and numerical measure which was used to track progress in all schools.

Revised Assessment Arrangements

- Removal of levels.
- No continuous scale.
- National tests/assessment at Y6 and Y2 will now report **age related expectations – whether or not the relevant curriculum has been covered, understood and evidenced by children at the appropriate chronological age.**
- **Interim assessment frameworks** – produced by the DfE, these define the key elements which children must be working at in order to be assessed at the appropriate age related standard for 2016.

What is reported at Year 2?

Children in Year 2 will take two mathematics tests – Paper 1 Arithmetic, Paper 2 Reasoning (problem solving); two reading tests – Paper 1 (lower demand), Paper 2 (higher demand); a spelling test and a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test. These tests contribute to the teacher's evidence base to make a final 'teacher assessment' for the end of Year 2.

Year 2 – reading, writing, mathematics

Foundations for the expected standard - children with very little progress towards the expected standard.

- Working **towards** the expected standard
- Working **at** the expected standard
- Working **at greater depth within** the standard

Year 2 – science

- Working **at** the expected standard

What is reported at Year 6?

Children in Year 6 will take three mathematics tests – Paper 1 Arithmetic, Papers 2 and 3 Reasoning (problem solving); one reading test and a grammar, punctuation and spelling test. These tests are unseen, timed and externally marked. Children receive a test outcome and/or a teacher assessment judgement.

Reading and Mathematics (test & teacher assessment)

Foundations for...; Early development of...; Growing development of the expected standard – defining levels below the expected standard.

- Working **at** the expected standard

Writing (teacher assessment only)

Foundations for...; Early development of...; Growing development of the expected standard – defining levels below the expected standard.

- Working **towards** the expected standard
- Working **at** the expected standard
- Working **at greater depth within** the standard

Science (teacher assessment only)

- Working at the expected standard

Assessment in Other Year Groups

Reception

- Introduction of a new 'Baseline' assessment
- Children are assessed against Early Learning Goals (below, expected or exceeding) at the end of the Reception class year.
- A 'Good Level of Development' is awarded to children assessed at expected or exceeding in all of: reading, writing, maths, communication & language, physical development and PSE (personal, social, emotional development).
- GLD is the nationally expected attainment at the end of the Early Years.

Year 1

Phonics Screening Check – this is re-taken in Year 2 if not achieved in Year 1.

The Bigger Picture

- Ongoing school based assessment measures are not prescribed by the DfE.
- Schools are to use their **own methods to track progress** from Reception towards the national milestones measured at Y2 and Y6.
- Schools must track to assess whether or not the relevant curriculum has been **covered, understood and evidenced by children at the appropriate chronological age.**

A Change in Approaches to Teaching and in the Language of Assessment

- Working at greater depth **within** the standards for each year group.
- **Mastery for all!** Principle of all children achieving expected – at differing depths.
- No racing ahead! **Deeper, broader learning** to embed concepts.
- The language of assessment: "a child is on track/is not on track to meeting age related expectations..."; "a child has/does not have the potential to meet expectations..."
- Interim and end of year **reports to parents** will indicate attainment in this way.

Year 2 Tests

It is a statutory requirement that children in Year 2 undertake tests in reading, mathematics and, from 2016, grammar during the summer term.

The purpose of these tests is to assist the class teacher in making overall 'teacher assessments' of a child's final attainment and progress at the end of Year 2.

This test data is not published or routinely provided for parents.

The tests are administered and marked by the class teacher. They are not timed, although expected timings are given.

The following pages give further details regarding the content of the tests.

Mathematics test

There are two papers in the mathematics test for Year 2.

Paper 1 –
Arithmetic
20 minutes
(approx)
25 marks

Paper 1 – Arithmetic

The arithmetic paper will test your child's number and calculation skills. It has 25 questions, some of which will require children to know some basic number facts, such as the number bonds (adding two single-digit numbers) and the $2\times$, $5\times$ and $10\times$ tables. Towards the end, there are some more challenging calculations such as missing number problems or finding simple fractions of quantities.

Arithmetic Paper – Example Questions

Starter questions: $3 + 7 =$

$8 \times 10 =$

Challenging questions: $65 + \square = 93$

$\frac{3}{4}$ of 40 =

Paper 2 –
Reasoning
35 minutes
35 marks

Paper 2 – Reasoning

The second mathematics paper requires reasoning – using maths to solve problems. The first five questions in this paper will be read to your child, before they move on to the rest of the paper. But don't worry – if they find anything difficult to read, then help will be available.

The questions in this paper will often include some background explanation, such as using money to buy fruit or measuring drinks.

As with the arithmetic paper, the earlier questions will be more straightforward; questions towards the end will offer more challenge. Not all children will reach them or complete them – and that's fine; nobody expects a perfect score! Some of these questions may also require more than one step and so will be worth up to 2 marks.

Reasoning Paper – Example Questions

Starter question: **Sita puts 2 shoes in each of these 7 boxes. How many shoes are there altogether?**

Challenging question: **Complete the number sentence:** $3 \times 8 = 2 \times \square$

Marking and Results

Your child's teacher will mark the test and their marks (the total out of 60 marks) will be converted into a scaled score and each child will receive an overall result indicating whether or not they have achieved the required standard of the test.

English tests

There are two tests for English: Reading; and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS).

The Reading test

Paper 1 –
English Reading
(lower demand)
30 minutes
(approx)
20 marks

Paper 1 – English Reading (lower demand)

The first paper contains short texts with two or three questions to answer. Many of these will require either single-word answers or ticking a box.

Reading – Paper 1 – Example Questions

Extract from short text: **Ants are insects that you can often see in a garden, in a park or just on the pavement. They usually live underground.**

Retrieval question: **Find and copy two places you might see ants.**

Explanation question: **What kind of animal is an ant?**

Paper 2 –
English Reading
(higher demand)
40 minutes
(approx)
20 marks

Paper 2 – English Reading (higher demand)

In Paper 2, children will read two different texts and use these to answer questions in a separate booklet. Most children will take this paper, but teachers will not expect all children to complete the whole task. If your child finds reading more of a challenge at this stage, then his/her teacher will stop the test at an appropriate time. The questions in the booklet contain a mix of tick-box and 'circle the correct answer' questions, with some that require a written answer. Some questions require simple retrieval of information from the text; others will ask your child to explain something in more detail.

Reading – Paper 2 – Example Questions

Retrieval questions: **Why did the king want to have blackbirds?
When were plastics first made?**

Explanation question: **Why can plastics be dangerous when they melt?**

The Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test

Paper 1 –
Spelling
15 minutes
(approx)
20 marks

Paper 1 – Spelling

The spelling paper requires children to spell 20 words. Each word is read out as part of a sentence, which is printed in the answer booklet. Your child will be asked to write the missing word into the gap. The words in the test will be based on the familiar phonics patterns taught in Key Stage 1, in increasing difficulty. All words to be spelled are repeated more than once.

Spelling Paper – Spelling Examples

Starter words:	Hannah ran faster than Lee. Yesterday it was very sunny .
Challenging words:	I saw a beautiful rainbow . The school garden is a peaceful place to sit.

Paper 2 –
Grammar,
punctuation and
vocabulary
20 minutes
(approx)
20 marks

Paper 2 – Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary

The second paper assesses grammar and punctuation. 2016 will be the first time that this is tested in Year 2, and the questions will refer both to children's knowledge of grammatical terms (such as *noun* and *verb*) and use of words in the right context. Some questions will also require children to put in the appropriate punctuation marks to sentences, or to change the tense of a sentence.

Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary paper – Example Questions

Starter question:	Write the missing punctuation mark in this sentence: <i>Can you play my favourite tune</i>
Challenging question:	Change the verb in this sentence to the past tense: <i>My brother <u>smiles</u> for his picture.</i>

Marking and Results

All the tests will be marked by teachers at your child's school to help them judge the attainment and progress of your child. The results will be reported to you, often as part of a wider school report at the end of the school year. However, the way this is done has changed significantly from the national curriculum levels used in the past.

Your child's score will be converted to a scaled score to allow it to be compared to others'. Scaled scores will normally range between 80 and 130. The scale will be set so that reaching a score of **100** will indicate that your child is working at the expected standard for the end of Key Stage 1. Higher scores indicate more advanced attainment, with lower scores suggesting that your child may need some additional support to catch up with his or her peers.

Scores will be provided for reading and mathematics, with a single score for grammar, punctuation and spelling. Alongside these scores, your child's school will report on other subjects such as spoken language and science, as well as the more general report comments.

Year 6 Tests

It is a statutory requirement that children in Year 6 undertake tests in reading, mathematics and grammar during the summer term.

The purpose of these tests is to provide a national benchmark for both progress and attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 for parents, for school accountability and for national statistics (Department for Education / Ofsted).

The tests are unseen, timed and taken in exam conditions. They are marked externally.

Class teachers are required to make 'teacher assessment' judgements, based on work in class, for writing and science (as these are not formally tested) in addition to reading and maths.

The following pages give further details regarding the content of the tests.

The Mathematics test

There are three papers in the mathematics test for Year 6.

Paper 1 –
Arithmetic
30 minutes
40 marks

Paper 1 – Arithmetic

The first is an arithmetic paper that will test your child's number and calculation skills. The test has nearly 40 questions and is worth 40 marks, making up just over one-third of the total marks available for mathematics. Some of the questions will require children to know some number facts, such as multiplication tables (and the related division facts); others test the use of calculation methods.

Towards the end of the paper there are some more challenging calculations such as those using fractions, or examples of calculations with larger numbers. For multiplication and division questions, 2 marks are available. If your child's final answer is incorrect, they may still earn 1 mark for showing correct use of the formal long multiplication or long division methods. This 'method mark' is not available, though, if they use any other calculation method than the expected formal one.

Paper 1 – Arithmetic – Example Questions

Starter questions: $979 + 100 =$ $48 \div 6 =$
Challenging questions: $2331 \div 37 =$ $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{7}{8} =$

Papers 2 & 3 –
Mathematical
Reasoning
40 minutes
35 marks
per paper

Papers 2 & 3 – Mathematical Reasoning

The questions on these papers, as with the arithmetic one, are set out in approximate order of difficulty, so children who are less confident with more challenging mathematics may not finish the whole paper. That's fine; nobody expects a perfect score!

The reasoning questions often include some background information, such as solving problems to do with purchasing things in a shop, or dealing with measurements such as weight or area. These test papers cover the wider areas of mathematics such as geometry and statistics, as well as using arithmetic and number knowledge to solve problems.

Several questions are likely to involve more than one step and so will be worth 2 marks. Overall, each reasoning paper is worth 35 marks.

Papers 2 & 3 – Mathematical Reasoning – Example Questions

Starter question: **A pack of paper has 150 sheets.
4 children each take 7 sheets.
How many sheets of paper are left in the pack?**

Challenging question: **One gram of gold costs £32.94
What is the cost of half a kilogram of gold?**

The English tests

There are two tests for English: Reading; and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS). The reading test has one paper and the grammar, punctuation and spelling test has two papers.

The Reading test

Paper 1 –
Reading test
60 minutes
50 marks

Paper 1 – Reading test

The reading test lasts for 1 hour. During this time your child will be given around three different texts to read – often a mix of fiction, non-fiction and poetry – and a separate booklet of questions to answer about the texts. Your child’s teacher will probably teach them strategies for tackling this paper, such as answering the questions about each text one section at a time.

Several of the questions in this test will involve ticking the correct box, or picking out a single word from the text. These often require finding straightforward information directly from the text. However, in more complex questions – such as those asking for an explanation of the author’s choices – there will be several lines for free text, and up to 3 marks may be available for more detailed answers which use evidence given in the texts.

Paper 1 – Reading – Example Questions

Retrieval question: **How much did the first space tourist pay to go into space?**
Explanation question: **Explain how the descriptions of the iguanodons in this paragraph support the idea that they were both *inoffensive* and *brutes*. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.**

The Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test

Paper 1 –
Grammar,
punctuation &
vocabulary
45 minutes
(approx)
50 marks

Paper 1 – Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary

Paper 1 assesses grammar, punctuation and vocabulary. This is an area that has changed significantly in the new curriculum and questions will refer to both children’s knowledge of grammatical terms (such as *pronoun* and *conjunction*) and use of language in the right context. Some questions will also require children to put in the appropriate punctuation marks to clauses or sentences or to use a particular sentence structure.

Paper 1 – Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary – Example Questions

Starter question: **Write the contracted form of the underlined words:**
That decision does not seem fair.
Challenging question: **Circle all the determiners in the sentence below:**
Two apple trees screened the open windows on one side.

Paper 2 –
Spelling test
15 minutes
(approx)
20 marks

Paper 2 - Spelling test

Paper 2 assesses spelling and requires children to spell 20 words. Each word is read out as part of a sentence that is printed in the answer booklet. Your child will be asked to write the missing word into the gap. The words in the test will be based on the spelling rules taught across Key Stage 2, in increasing difficulty.

There are 70 marks altogether, made up of the scores from both papers to achieve an overall score for grammar, punctuation & spelling.

Spelling Paper – Spelling Examples

Starter words: Sara wanted to be an explorer and **discover** new lands.
The spy was sent on a secret **mission**.

Challenging words: Omar put the cutlery back in the **drawer**.
Ellen's gold bracelet was her most treasured **possession**.

Marking and Results

All of the tests will be carried out in school and organised by your child's teachers. Following this, they will be sent to be marked by a central agency and then returned shortly before the end of the summer term. Once the results are returned to the school, they will be reported to you, often as part of a wider school report at the end of the school year.

The way this is done has changed significantly from the national curriculum levels used in the past. Your child's score will be converted to a scaled score to allow it to be compared to others'. Scaled scores will normally range between 80 and 130. The scale will be set so that reaching a score of **100** will indicate that your child is working at the expected standard for the end of Key Stage 2.

Higher scores indicate more advanced attainment, with lower scores suggesting that your child may need some additional support to catch up with his or her peers.

Scores will be provided for reading, mathematics, and grammar, punctuation and spelling. Alongside these scores, your child's school will report on other subjects such as science and writing, as well as the more general report comments.