

When will children be assessed?

Alongside continuous teacher assessments, there will still be national assessments at regular intervals in English primary education:

- The Phonics Screening Check in Year 1
- The end-of-Key-Stage test in Year 2 (KS1 SATs)
- The end-of-Key-Stage test in Year 6 (KS2 SATs)

Phonic Screening Check Year 1

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. It will identify pupils who need extra help to improve their decoding skills.

The check consists of 20 real words and 20 pseudo-words that a pupil reads aloud to the teacher. Teachers can use the [sample materials](#) to familiarise themselves with the check.

Teachers can also look at [materials from previous years](#).

End of Key Stage Assessments

2016 is the first year that children at the end of both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be assessed against the new National Curriculum. In addition, from 2016 attainment in national curriculum tests will no longer be reported in levels. Instead, scaled scores will be used.

Scaled scores help test results to be reported consistently from one year to the next. National curriculum tests are designed to be as similar as possible year on year, but slight differences in difficulty will occur between years. Scaled scores maintain their meaning over time so that two pupils achieving the same scaled score in different years will have demonstrated the same attainment.

A scaled score of 100 will always represent the 'expected standard'.

A pupil's scaled score will be based on their raw score. The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil receives in a test, based on the number of questions they answered correctly. The pupil's raw score will be translated into a scaled score using a conversion table. In KS1, teachers will need to use these to translate pupils' raw scores into scaled scores to see whether each pupil has met the expected standard.

For the 2016 KS2 tests STA will publish test results on the NCA tools website and each pupil will receive a raw score (the number of raw marks awarded), a scaled score and confirmation of whether or not they attained the expected standard.

Key Stage One

For 2016, a new set of KS1 national curriculum tests replaces the previous tests and tasks.

The new tests consist of:

- English reading Papers 1 and 2
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: spelling and Paper 2: questions

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- Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic and Paper 2: reasoning

There is no longer a test or task for English writing.

Most children in Year Two will sit the tests, and they will be administered as part of normal class room practice during May every year. Teachers will use the outcomes of the tests along with a broad range of other evidence to inform their teacher assessments. For 2017 the **Interim Teachers Assessment Framework for KS1** and the **Interim Pre Key Stage Standards for KS1** are the standards against which teachers will make their assessments.

In reading, writing and maths, depending on a child's depth of understanding of the KS1 programme of study, they may be assessed as either working towards the expected standard, working at the expected standard or working at greater depth within the expected standard.

Additionally, if a pupil has reached the chronological age where an outcome must be reported but the pupil is deemed not to have completed the key stage 1 programme of study, then they may be assessed as working at the foundations for the expected standard.

For science, children may be assessed as either working at the expected standard or working below the expected standard.

Key Stage Two

For 2016, a new set of KS2 national curriculum tests has been introduced consisting of:

- English reading : reading booklet and associated answer booklet
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: short answer questions
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling
- mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic
- mathematics Paper 2: reasoning
- mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

There will only be 1 set of tests for each subject. The tests will include a small number of questions designed to assess the most able pupils so separate tests, such as the previous level 6 tests, are no longer required.

The mental mathematics test has been replaced with an arithmetic test.

Most children in Year Six will sit the tests, and they will be administered in the week commencing 8 May 2017.

In addition, science sampling tests are taken biennially in a sample of schools selected by the STA. The STA will contact selected schools early in the spring term. If selected, representatives from the STA administer the tests.

In addition to the outcomes of the tests, teachers will also use a broad range of other evidence to inform their teacher assessments. For 2016 the **Interim Teachers Assessment Framework for KS2** and the **Interim Pre Key Stage Standards for KS2** are the standards against which teachers will make their assessments.

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For reading, maths and science, depending on a child's depth of understanding of the KS2 programme of study, they may be teacher assessed as either working at the expected standard or working below the expected standard. For writing, there is a broader range of possible teacher assessment outcomes as this is the sole measure of pupil attainment in writing at the end of KS2.

For writing, they may be assessed as either working towards the expected standard, working at the expected standard or working at greater depth within the expected standard. Additionally, if a pupil has reached the chronological age where an outcome must be reported but the pupil is deemed not to have completed the key stage 2 programme of study, then they may be teacher assessed in reading, writing and maths as having achieved either the foundations for the expected standard, early development of the expected standard or growing development of the expected standard.