

Children working below the level of the tests do not have to sit them; the school can decide this using their knowledge of the child. In this case the school only reports the Teacher Assessment results.

If your child hasn't completed the whole curriculum for Key Stage 2, the teacher will make assessments against the 'KS2 pre-key stage standards' or for some children, the 'Engagement Model'. If this is the case, you should ask your child's teacher for more information.

### **Progress**

Your child's teacher will have been working hard to make sure that they make as much progress as possible, during this time. Their end of year school report will give you more information about the progress that they have made.

Bear in mind, your child may have just achieved a standard or just missed out on reaching the 'expected' standard by a small margin. Your child's teacher and school report can explain this in more detail.

At KS2 the teacher assessment and the test results provide you with complementary, but slightly different information (and the results may not be the same). The tests are more formal, are strictly timed and marked externally.

Teacher assessment recognises aspects which are not tested formally. Remember too, that children react differently to the formality of a test situation.

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any queries about the tests and the overall teacher assessment judgements, or you can visit [www.gov.uk/STA](http://www.gov.uk/STA) for more details.

You can find more information about scaled scores at [www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2).

For KS2, you can see how your child's test scores compare with the national average for each subject by going to [Statistics: key stage 2 - GOV.UK](http://Statistics: key stage 2 - GOV.UK)

You can also see the Teacher Frameworks by going to: [Non-statutory teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 1 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://Non-statutory teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 1 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk))

[Teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 2 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://Teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 2 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk))

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# End of Key Stage Assessments

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Optional Key Stage 1

Statutory Key Stage 2



## Explanatory Notes for Parents 2026

Your child is reaching the end of either Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2. This leaflet briefly explains the results which will be reported to you.



## **Introduction**

When children reach the end of KS2 (Year 6) they are formally assessed against statements in the 'Teacher Assessment Frameworks', published by the Department of Education. These frameworks for English reading and writing, mathematics and science have remained unchanged since 2018/19. The frameworks focus on key aspects of the core subjects and children will have been taught a much broader curriculum than they are assessed on.

Data from these assessments is used as a snapshot of where children are at that point in their education career. This information will help the school plan future provision to ensure that children have the best possible educational experiences.

## **Optional Key stage 1 Assessments**

From the 2024 year onward, assessment in KS1 is no longer statutory and has now become optional. Schools often choose to assess children throughout the year as well as the end of year and use this assessment to inform their plans for the next stage of learning. They assess by marking work, talking to children to check their understanding, and observing the children completing tasks. Towards the end of KS1, schools **MAY** choose to complete tests for reading and mathematics. There is also a grammar, punctuation and spelling test which schools can choose to use to inform their judgements.

If the optional tests are used, they are marked in school and then used by the teacher to help inform a final judgement of a Teacher Assessment (TA) against the standards.

## **What is assessed and reported at the end of Key Stage 1?**

As assessment at Key Stage 1 is optional schools may choose to assess reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling and maths. As the assessments are non-statutory schools do not have to report the results to the Local Authority or to parents.

Schools do have to provide a report to parents that includes details of how their child has progressed and their general achievements over the year. Schools may provide details of how children performed in the optional tests, but this is at their discretion.

## **Key stage 2 tests**

During May, children complete Statutory Assessment Tests in reading, grammar/punctuation/spelling, and mathematics. These are sometimes called SATS. The tests are externally marked and results returned to school in July ready to report to parents. The tests have been designed to assess children against the expected standards at the end of key stage. The tests are designed to stretch all children, including the most able, so some pupils will find them harder than others. That's normal and expected. One of the purposes of the assessments is to identify where children may need more support, so that their secondary school can help them from day one.

## **Key Stage 2 teacher assessment**

Writing and Science are not assessed by a test and are assessed through teacher assessment. This is completed by the teacher drawing together all they know about what a child can do, from marking, talking to children and observation.

At Key Stage 2, you will receive Teacher Assessment judgements against the expected standards for writing.

The teacher assessment for writing will tell you whether your child:

- Has met the expected standard.
- Or is working towards the expected standard.
- Or is working at a greater depth within the expected standard.

The teacher assessment for science will tell you if you child has met the expected standard or not.

## **Key stage 2 results**

You will receive your child's national curriculum statutory assessment results for the subject areas that have been tested and those that are teacher assessed. It is up to the school to decide when to share these with parents, but it will be before the end of the summer term.

Your child's results in each test will be reported using a scaled score. A scaled score of 100 represents the expected standard for each test. If your child achieves a scaled score of 100 or more, it means they are working at the expected standard in the subject. If your child achieves a scaled score of less than 100 it means that they may need more support to reach the expected standard.

The highest scaled score possible is 120, and the lowest is 80.