



# Duke of Norfolk CE Primary School

Royle Avenue, Glossop, Derbyshire. SK13 7RD

Headteacher: Mrs S Barker

Tel: 01457 852 635

Email: [info@dukenorfolk.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@dukenorfolk.derbyshire.sch.uk)

[www.dukenorfolk.co.uk](http://www.dukenorfolk.co.uk)

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Dear Parents/Carers

## RE: Year 6 – SATs

As you are aware, this term your child will be sitting their SATs tests. Below you can find information regarding which tests will take place on which day and how you can help to support your child in the lead up and throughout the week.

SATs will take place each morning between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of May. Some days your child will have two tests, other days they may just have the one. Where the children have more than one, there will of course be a break in between. At the end of the SATs week, we will have a 'Chippy Friday' (the hardest question they will have to answer is curry or gravy!) to congratulate the children on their hard work and resilience throughout their SATs journey.

The test days are as follows:

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar – Paper 1 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar – Paper 2
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	English Reading
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

## SPAG Paper

The Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar papers consist of:

- A Punctuation, Grammar and Vocabulary Paper (paper 1) which is 45 minutes long. This paper consists of 50 short answer questions, including some multiple choice, each worth one mark each.
- A Spelling Paper (paper 2) which lasts approximately 15minutes. The test consists of 20 spellings.

Marks for these two tests are added together to give a total score for grammar, punctuation and spelling.



## **Reading Paper**

The reading test consists of a single test paper with three unrelated reading texts. Children are given 60 minutes in total, which includes reading the texts and answering the questions. A total of 50 marks are available. Questions are designed to assess the comprehension and understanding of a child's reading. During the reading paper, a child's inference and deduction skills are thoroughly tested. They will also be expected to answer questions on authorial choices: explaining why an author has chosen to use particular vocabulary, grammar and text features. Some questions are multiple choice or selected response; others require short answers and some require an extended response or explanation.

## **Maths Paper**

Children will sit three tests: paper 1, paper 2 and paper 3. Paper 1 is for arithmetic lasting for 30 minutes, covering calculation methods for all operations, including use of fractions, percentages and decimals. These questions will gradually increase in difficulty. Not all children will be expected to access some of the more difficult questions later in the paper. Papers 2 and 3 cover problem solving and reasoning, each lasting for 40 minutes. Pupils will still require calculation skills but will need to answer questions in context and decide what is required to find a solution.

## **How will Key Stage 2 SATs be marked?**

All of the test papers are sent away to be marked. Children will be given scaled scores for each of the three areas being tested. In order to achieve the expected standard at the end of Key Stage 2, your child will need to achieve a scaled score of 100. The scale usually begins at 80 and ends at 120. A child who achieves the 'national standard' (a score of 100) will be judged to have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the tests. Anything above 100 will show a child is exceeding the expected standard and similarly, anything below means they have not met the expected standard.

## **How will the results be shared?**

As a school we receive the following for each child:

- a raw score (actual number of raw marks awarded)
- a scaled score in each tested subject
- confirmation of whether or not they attained the national standard.

The government calculate a 'greater depth' scaled score much later the following academic year for the purposes of measuring school progress. It changes but is usually an approximate scaled score of above 110. Therefore, SATs results reported to parents simply report whether your child is 'Working At The Expected Standard' or 'Not Working At The Expected Standard'. Your child will receive their results in their end of school report.



## Higher attaining children

In the past, Key Stage 2 tests were aimed at children achieving levels 3-5 (with a national expectation to reach at least level 4). This meant that additional level 6 tests were produced for children who demonstrated higher than expected attainment. Under the new system, there are not any separate tests for the most-able children. Instead, each test will have scope for higher-attaining pupils to show their strengths. This means that some questions towards the end of the tests may be more difficult for many children, but they should be encouraged to attempt as much of the test as they are able to.

## How you can help

No matter how much reassurance we all give, some children can't help but feel the pressure on the lead up to tests. Keep reminding them to just do their best – that's all they can do. Also remind them they are well prepared and that nothing bad will happen to them. Please make sure your child gets a good night's sleep before the tests and has a relaxing weekend beforehand. On the test days, we have breakfast all together to help the children feel relaxed. You can drop your child off from 8:15am. Any help from parent volunteers for this will be greatly appreciated.

And finally, during the last SATs exams, children came in and out of every test smiling and feeling happy and confident, so if your child is feeling worried now, they will be fine when it comes to test week.

If you have any further questions regarding the tests, please feel free to get in touch.

Kind Regards

Mrs Pendlebury

