Parent and Carer Guide to Primary SATs

Practical tips to help you prepare at home
SATs books

Practice Papers
Plenty of realistic practice and fully up-to-date for the 2020 SATs.

SATs Question Books
One book per paper covering everything children will be tested on.

SATs Study Books
Clear and accessible explanations of every topic with lots of practice opportunities.

Find out more at collins.co.uk/satspractice
Preparing for SATs

SATs are intended to show the progress your child has made at school. They are a record of your child’s attainment that can be passed on to their secondary school. SATs are also an indicator of how well your child’s school is doing. The school’s KS2 results are published nationally in league tables and can really impact a school’s profile.

At KS1 children barely know they are taking their SATs but at KS2 they are often very aware and preparation for them at school will be a lot more obvious. Many children will care that they do well in these tests and will do want to do their best.

Exams can be a bit scary and for your child this will be their first experience.

Some children might like to have a go at practice test papers and if so, it is a good idea to let them. This will reassure your child about what is to come and take away a lot of their nerves. Once they have done a few test papers you could encourage them to have a go timed and in silence so they won’t struggle with this on the day.

Preparation and practice can help a child relax and reduce their anxiety.

Helping them know what they need to do

Helping your child prepare for SATs can be a useful way to see where there may be gaps in their learning and understanding. Once spotted these gaps can be addressed. Investing in a few Collins practice workbooks is well worthwhile. Working through these will help your child recall what they have learned throughout their school year and affirm their understanding. Just 10 minutes every now and again can make such a difference.

No pressure

It is the school’s job to prepare the children for their SATs, not primarily yours, so there does not need to be pressure from home. If your child does not want to have any additional support with their SATs it may be wise to back off. They are, after all, just primary school tests and you don’t want to stress your child out about them.

It is important to emphasise they are nothing to worry about and you think your child is just brilliant no matter how their tests go.

Opportunities to learn, revise and practice can be offered and encouraged. It is important though that life should go on as normal with the usual sports, playdates and relax time. The more positive, calm and relaxed you are the more positive, calm and relaxed your child’s attitude will be and the more likely they to achieve their potential.

Targeted Practice Workbooks

Practice really does make perfect with each Year 2 and Year 6 topic covered in depth.
**What is in the SATs papers?**

**KS1 SATs**

- **KS1 Maths (2 papers)**
  - Paper 1 is an arithmetic test which takes around 15 minutes and carries 25 marks.
  - Paper 2 involves reasoning, problem solving and mathematical fluency. This paper has 35 marks available, lasts approximately 35 minutes and contains a variety of question types.
  - Children are not allowed to use any tools such as calculators or number lines.

- **KS1 Reading (2 papers)**
  - Paper 1 is a spelling test, comprising of 20 marks, 1 for each word spelt correctly and takes around 15 minutes.
  - Paper 2 is a grammar, punctuation and vocabulary test, in two sections of around 10 minutes. Each section is worth 20 marks and involves selecting the right answers through multiple choice or short written answers.

**KS2 SATs**

- **KS2 Reading (1 paper)**
  - This is one paper with a range of questions types based on 3 different passages of text. Children have 1 hour, including reading time, to complete the paper.

- **KS2 Maths (3 papers)**
  - Paper 1 is an arithmetic paper with fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct answer to calculations. The test lasts for 30 minutes.
  - Papers 2 and 3 are reasoning papers with a number of question types, including: multiple choice; true or false; constrained questions and less constrained questions. Each paper lasts for 40 minutes each.

- **KS2 Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (2 papers)**
  - There are 2 parts to this paper. The grammar and punctuation paper lasts for 45 minutes and requires short answers as either a selected response or constructed response. This lasts for 45 minutes. There is also a 20 word aural spelling test which lasts approximately 15 minutes.

**When are the 2020 tests?**

**KS1 SATs**

- Each school chooses their own dates within a certain range. The exact dates selected by schools will vary but will take place in May.
  - May 2020: KS1 English Reading Test Paper 1
  - May 2020: KS1 English Reading Test Paper 2
  - May 2020: KS1 English Grammar and Punctuation
  - May 2020: KS1 English Spelling
  - May 2020: KS1 Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)
  - May 2020: KS1 Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)

**KS2 SATs**

- The KS2 tests will take place between Monday 11th May 2020 – Thursday 14th May 2020. During this week, children will sit 6 different tests as follows:
  - Monday May 11th 2020: English Grammar and Punctuation
  - Monday May 11th 2020: English Spelling
  - Tuesday May 12th 2020: English Reading
  - Wednesday May 13th 2020: Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic)
  - Wednesday May 13th 2020: Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)
  - Thursday May 14th 2020: Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)
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