



BROADOAK PRIMARY
SCHOOL

SATs 2017

A Guide for Parents



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We are ambitious for our children and for our school.

Introduction

This year your child will be entered for the national Standardised Assessment Tests or 'SATs'.

There have been many changes in education recently and the SATs are based on the new National Curriculum 2014.

This means that your child will be formally tested in maths, reading, spelling and grammar skills taught across the four years of their KS2 schooling.

Each year some schools are also selected to take the science SATs test. You will be notified if this happens nearer the time.

In addition to the formal tests, teachers make assessments in English, Maths and Science for pupils in their class and this information is also submitted as part of your child's SATs result. This is also shared with the High School your child will be attending next year.

Timetable

SATs week begins on Monday 8th May 2017.

Please ensure that your child has an early night the night before each test and arrives at school on time each day.

Unless your child is seriously ill, they must not be absent during the week. All children must take the exam on that date.

Date	Activity
Monday 8 th May 2017	English Reading
Tuesday 9 th May 2017	English Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation: Paper 1 English Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation: Paper 2
Wednesday 10 th May 2017	Mathematics Paper 1: Arithmetic Mathematics Paper 2: Reasoning
Thursday 11 th May 2017	Mathematics Paper 3: Reasoning

All pupils will be taking all of the tests unless you are notified by letter. There are no higher Level 6 papers this year as the harder questions have been incorporated into each test.

How To Support Your Child



Each child is an individual and will need supporting in different ways. Try to remember that the tests are only one snapshot of your child's abilities in a few areas – English, Maths and Science.

Try to encourage your child to see SATs as an opportunity to show what a good reader / writer / speller / mathematician they are.

For many children this is their first experience of exam-style testing so they may be anxious about them. Tell them how proud you are of their efforts and learning, not any scores they may attain.

Try to avoid offering rewards for good scores. Instead offer rewards for effort. We find promises of treats if they do well only adds unnecessary pressure. No-one fails their SATs, they all put in a tremendous amount of effort and get the best score they possibly can.

Other Helpful Hints

Sleep: The brain needs rest to function well. In SATs week your child will be extra tired. Give your child time to rest and sleep more. Change bedtimes and allow time for your child to relax without electronic toys before sleeping.

Eat: Some foods are good for the brain. Breakfast is especially good so we will give each child a free one in school each morning during SATs week.

Water: Water keeps you awake and helps your brain too. Get your child into the habit of sipping water throughout the day. Start now so their body gets used to it.

Encourage and Praise: We all need encouragement to do well. Your child will be working hard towards achieving the best score they can. Praise any extra learning they do and encourage them to complete any home learning. Praise them for a great effort even if they cannot do something. The new curriculum is quite difficult in parts so if you cannot help your child do not be afraid to speak to us or to 'google' the answers **with your child**.

Parent Questions

How will I know how my child has done?

Your child's scores will be reported to you in July when the results are returned to school. You will receive your child's raw score, scaled score and a confirmation of whether or not they have attained the '*expected standard*'.

I'm worried, what if my child can't do the tests?

Your child will not be entered for a test if they are working significantly below a Year 6 standard.

Children will be supported before, during and after each test and will be encouraged to be proud of their achievements whatever standard they achieve.

What if my child gets stuck during the tests?

In most tests you child can ask for questions to be read to them. In the reading test they will be encouraged to have a go or move on to the next question. As the higher level test questions have been included in the main tests, only a few children will be able to answer all of the questions. As we do a few practice tests before the SATs your child should be used to these tests techniques.

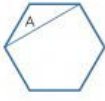
Tips for Tests

- A Pupil's Guide -

1. Read all of the questions carefully and ask yourself: 'What do I have to find out? What do I know already that could help me?'
2. Underline or highlight important parts of the question to help you understand.
3. Look at the answer you have written. Think: 'Does this make sense? Have I answered fully enough for the examiner to give me the marks?'
4. Use the diagrams or pictures to help you see the information or understand the question better.
5. Remember you can use any space on the tests to make notes or do working out.
6. Draw on or highlight graphs / tables / pie charts / co-ordinate grids and any other mathematical diagram if it will help you to solve the problem.

Mathematics Paper 2 - Set A


13. Line A joins two vertices of a regular hexagon.
Draw a line that connects two vertices and is **parallel** with line A.



Use a ruler

1/1


Draw a line that connects two vertices and is **perpendicular** to line A.



Use a ruler

1/1

14. Below is a grid of regular hexagons. The shaded section has an area of 3 hexagons and a perimeter of 28cm.



2cm

Shade another section of the grid which has an area of 4 hexagons and a perimeter of 28cm.

1/1

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Reading Tips

1. *Relax and pretend you are reading for fun.*
Don't rush through the reading part or your brain won't understand what you are reading.
2. *Highlight key dates / names / numbers in the text as you read* so you can find them quickly if you need to.
3. If the question says: **'find and copy'**, do just that!
Don't put your answers into your own words.
Copy them from the text.
4. If it says: **'explain fully'**, or **'use the text'**, then include a quote if you can in your answer.
5. *Re-read your answer to yourself to check it makes sense or matches what has been asked.*
Beware of the **'tick 2'**, or **'circle all'** questions.

SPAG Tips

(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)

The marking for the grammar test is very strict: if pupils put a larger letter it will be assumed to be a capital letter and your child could lose marks even if the question was about something completely different.

Their punctuation must also be clear; correctly sized and spaced.

1. ***Keep checking your handwriting;*** don't let your letters get too large eg. s, w, c can look like capital letters.
2. ***Remember your full stops.*** If you forget them you will definitely lose a mark - even if you knew the correct answer.
3. ***Check your punctuation is correctly placed*** and is not too large or in the middle of a space.
4. ***Try to answer all the questions even if you have to guess,*** especially the multiple choice answers. Lots of the questions you can answer correctly, even if you can't remember the meaning of the technical word used in the question.
5. ***If in doubt, use your common sense and have a go!***

Spelling Tips

1. ***Close your eyes!*** It sounds silly but we can often 'see' the correct spelling in our heads if we close our eyes.
2. ***Sound it out.*** Use your spelling patterns and syllables to break the word up.
3. ***Look at your answer.*** If it looks wrong write it again in a different way. Don't forget to cross out the wrong answer and leave behind the one that looks best.
4. ***Think about the root word.*** Can you see which word it comes from? Take off any prefixes or suffixes to see if the root word is spelled correctly first before adding them on.
5. ***Remember, most suffixes follow these rules:***
 - Short vowel sound – double the last letter before adding the ending.
 - Long vowel sound – just add the ending.
 - Ends in e – take off the e before putting on the ending.
 - Ends in y – change it to an i before adding the ending.

Learn your spellings every week and find out the meanings. Some spellings just have to be learned by heart!

Maths Tips

1. *Put your hand up and get the questions read to you.* It really can help your brain to sort out the information.
2. *Underline any words in bold or key facts in the problem.* Think: 'How does this word help me? What do I know about . . .?'
3. *Use the diagrams or draw your own!* Often with tricky 3 part questions there will be a picture. Add on as much information as you have from the questions to help you see the problem.
4. *Don't be afraid to add your own lines to diagrams* – split up pie charts, draw a line across grids and graphs to see the number on the axis better.
5. *Use a ruler and be careful when drawing lines or measuring.* They will only allow a 1 millimetre mistake.
6. *Don't be afraid to move on if you are stuck;* you can come back to it if you have time at the end of the test. If you struggle with algebra or long division leave those questions until last. Don't waste time struggling.

Learn your times tables and key facts like the number of degrees in a triangle or centimetres in a metre.

The questions assume that you know these so won't allow time for you to count on or try to work them out!

And when they are over

Be Proud

Of all you have achieved while you've been at Broadoak!

