

# SAT's for Year 6 Pupils in 2016

## A Parent's Guide...

UPDATED 10th July 2016

### What Does SAT's Actually Stand For ?

It stands for Statutory Assessment Tasks and Tests. This also includes any Teacher Assessment undertaken in school. These tests are undertaken in Year 2 (age 7) and Year 6 (age 11).



### I Heard That The Tests Were Different This Year - Is That Right ?

Yes it is. In September 2014 the Government brought in a new national curriculum. It gave schools two years to implement the changes to the curriculum before it tested children on them. The first tests for that new curriculum were in May 2016. The new curriculum brought new standards and as such, new tests.

### What Were The Changes ?

1. The mental maths test has been replaced with a new Arithmetic Test.
2. There were no Level 6 tests. However, the new tests included questions to stretch and challenge the most able pupils.

### How Were Children Assessed ?

Children were assessed in two ways : through a series of tests and through the teacher's own assessments. The tests took place in 2016 from the 9th to the 12th May.

### What Is The Difference Between The Tests And The Teacher Assessment ?

Teacher assessments draws on everything a child has undertaken or achieved in school - including tests, marking, observations and any formal / informal assessments. Teacher assessment is not a 'snapshot' like the tests and can therefore be considered more of an accurate record. In some cases, there will be a difference between what the teacher assessments concludes and what the tests outcomes are.

The tests assess a pupils ability to draw upon their knowledge, skills and abilities in a more focussed way. They demonstrate a child's performance on one day, at one time - unlike teacher assessment which focuses on achievement over time.

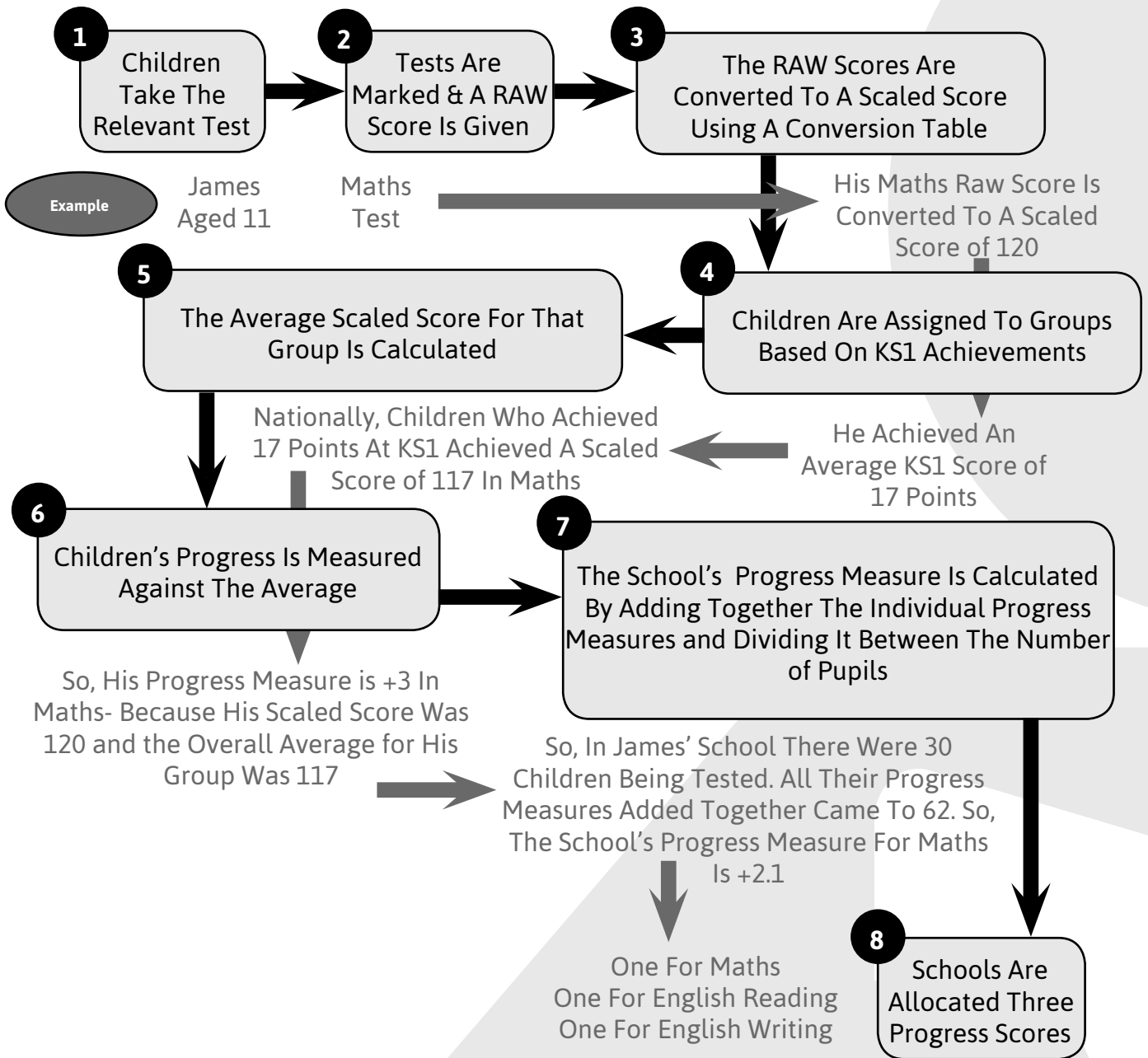
### What Will The Results Look Like ?

This is the first year in which these new tests have been undertaken, but also the way the outcomes are reported has also changed. In summary, the results will include three aspects : a scaled score, a raw score and confirmation of attainment against the national standard.

*The first Key Stage SAT's in England were introduced in 1998 ...*

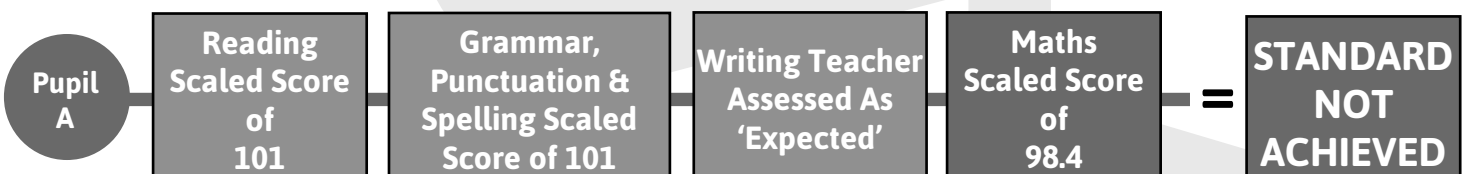
## Measuring Progress

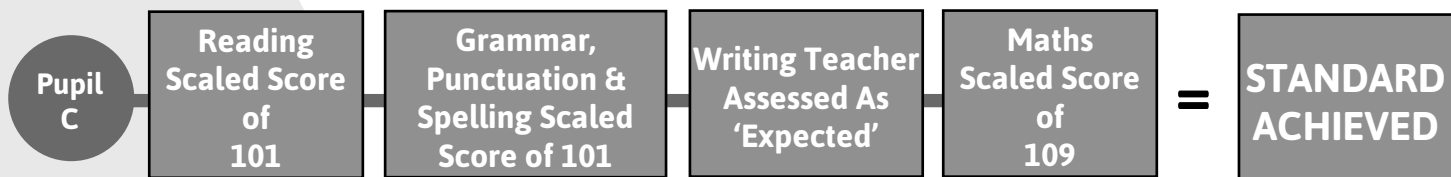
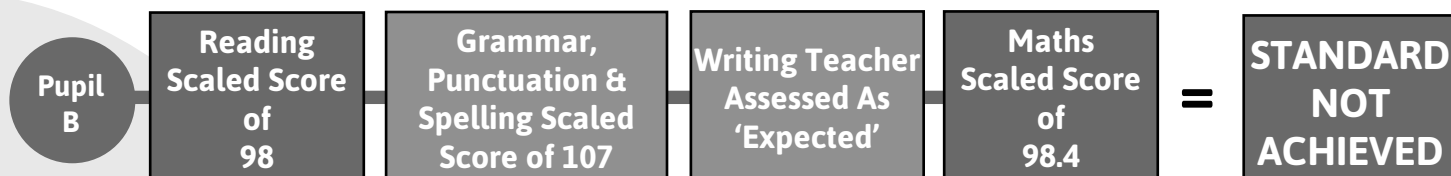
In the past, progress was measured by using a two-levels of progress indicator. However, as levels are not being used any more, there is now a revised measure for progress. This has been assessed as follows :



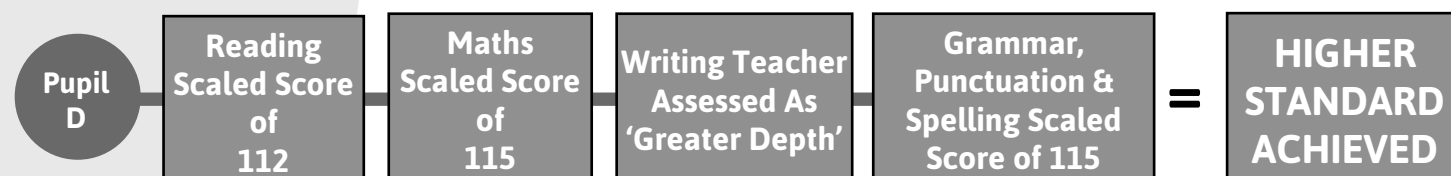
## What is the National Standard ?

The range for the scaled scores will be from 80 to 120. For a pupil to have met the expected standard they must have achieved 100 or more in Reading, Maths, GP&S, plus have achieved at least an expected standard in teacher-assessed writing. This chart gives some examples ...





Additionally in 2016 a small group of schools (80 in total) will pilot the new '**Multiplication Tests**'. These come into force for all schools in 2017.



## What Do the Tests Actually Involve ?

### English ...

**Writing :** There was NO writing test for any schools in 2016. The writing was assessed by the teacher through a range of regular classroom writing tasks (just as they are in KS1).

**Reading Comprehension :** The focus was on fictional texts this year. Each child had one hour to read the booklet and answer the questions at their own pace. There were around 35 to 40 questions, each different (some short answers, some one word and some longer length).

**Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling :** The focus was on knowing and applying grammatical terminology, with all punctuation tested. For spelling, the patterns and methodology that form the basis of words were also tested - not a specific list of words. This aspect is tested through two tests - one for each. The grammar paper was for 45 minutes and the spelling one for 15 minutes.

### Maths ...

There were two formal test papers, each testing the application of maths. These papers focused on mathematical reasoning.

**Arithmetic Test :** This assessed basic mathematical understanding, without any context. There were 36 questions in 30 minutes.

## So, What Were The Actual Results This Year ?

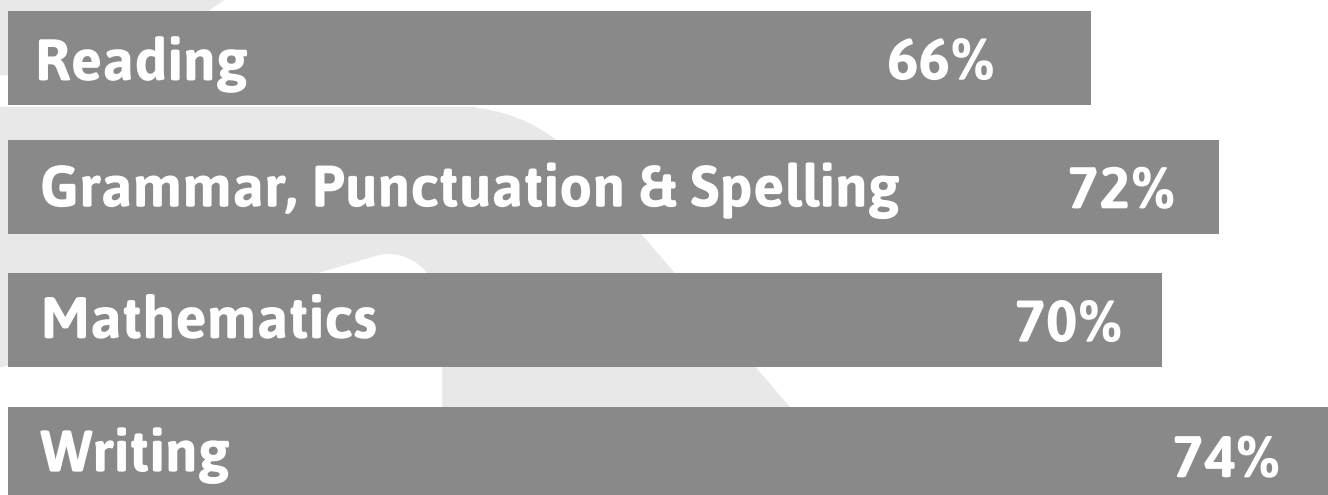
As we have already said, these were the first results from the new style tests.

The national results this year were as follows.

The average scaled scores per subject were as follows ...



The percentage of schools that achieved the national standard (i.e. scale score of 100) was ...



The percentage of pupils who achieved the national standard of 100 in all subjects was :

**53%**

## So, How Well Has My Child Done This Year ?

As we said, these are new tests with new ways of measuring progress.

The government states that only if your child has achieved a scaled score of 100 in their subjects have they met the expected standard. However, parents should look carefully at the Teacher Assessments as they have been assessed over time and not just on the basis of tests on a few days. If you have any worries, please speak to your child's teacher.