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Year Six children in Moorside and England will soon be taking the Key Stage 2 (KS2) national curriculum tests, which are often referred to as SATs. The assessments are used to measure school performance and to make sure individual children are being supported in the best way possible as they move into secondary school.

When are SATs?

This year, SATs will take place over four days from **13th May to 16th May 2024**. The timetable is as follows:

Date	Subject	Test papers
Monday 13 May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling	Paper 1: Questions Paper 2: Spelling
Tuesday 14 May	English reading	English reading
Wednesday 15 May	Mathematics	Paper 1: Arithmetic Paper 2: Reasoning
Thursday 16 May	Mathematics	Paper 3: Reasoning

What are the tests on?

While children won't be able to see what's on the test beforehand, the assessments only include questions on things that children should already have been taught as part of the national curriculum.

As usual, there won't be a test for English writing or science. Instead, this will be reported as a teacher assessment judgement. This is a judgement teachers will make based on your child's work at the end of KS2.

Does my child need to revise for SATs?

Children shouldn't be made to feel any unnecessary pressure when it comes to the KS2 assessments and teachers will make sure that all children in their class are prepared. You should follow their general advice about supporting your child's education throughout the year and ahead of the tests.

While it is statutory for schools to hold the assessments, Head Teachers make the final decision about whether a child participates in them.

Some children – for example those with special education needs or disabilities – may be assessed under different arrangements if these are more appropriate.

What if my child finds the SATs tests too difficult?

It's important to remember that one of the purposes of the key stage 2 assessments is to identify each child's strengths and the areas where they may have fallen behind in their learning as they head into secondary school. The results will help their new school determine in which areas your child needs the most support.

The tests are designed to be challenging to measure attainment, including stretching the most able children. It means some children will find them harder than others.

It takes three years to create appropriate tests. During the process, they're rigorously trialled with Year Six pupils and reviewed by education and inclusion experts to make sure they're the right difficulty level.