Education, Improvement and Partnerships

KS2

Moderation Process 2026

Teachers New to Year 6 Briefing

5th November 2026

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Jo Head – Lead Moderator
Natalie Anwar- Lead Moderator

Aims



- To share STA requirements for end of KS2 assessment
- To advise on preparation for end of KS2 tests
- To advise on evidence gathering for teacher assessment

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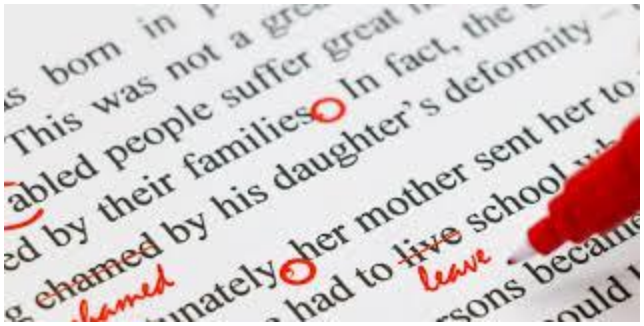
KS2 Test dates

The Key Stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May 2027

- English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling papers 1 & 2 (Mon 10th May)
- English Reading (Tues 11th May)
- Mathematics arithmetic paper 1 and reasoning paper 2 (Wed 12th May)
- Mathematics reasoning paper 3 (Thu 13th May)

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KS2 English, Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling test

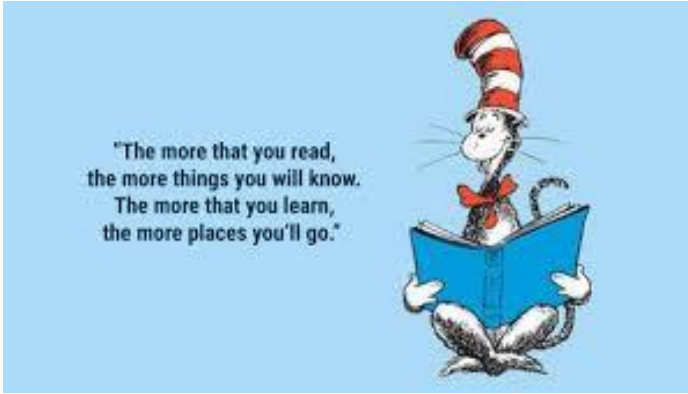


- Knowledge and application
- Grammatical terms to be learnt and understood will be tested
- Spellings and spelling patterns
- 2 papers:
  - Paper 1: short answers, 45 minutes
  - Paper 2: spelling, transcribed test script read by teacher, 15 minutes (not strictly timed), 20 missing words in answer book

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KS2 Reading test

- Focus on comprehension elements of curriculum consisting of:
  - ranking/ordering
  - labelling
  - find and copy
  - short constructed response
  - open-ended response

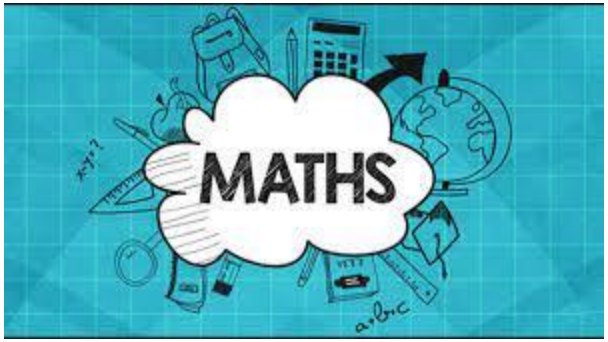


- 1 hour in total to read 3 passages of texts and complete questions in answer book

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KS2 Mathematics – 3 papers

- **Paper 1 – arithmetic**
  - Fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct answer to calculations, including long multiplication and division
  - 30 minutes



- **Papers 2 & 3 – reasoning**
  - Multiple choice
  - True or false
  - Constrained questions, e.g. giving the answer to a calculation, drawing a shape or completing a table or chart
  - Less constrained questions, where children will have to explain their approach for solving a problem
  - 40 minutes for each paper

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KS2 Science sampling tests



- Teacher assessment framework 2018 onwards
- Pupil can statements have been refined for improved clarity
- For several years the STA required a random selection of primary schools to set Science Sampling Tests. However, in July 2022 the STA announced that there would not be any further science sampling tests. Instead, teacher assessment data would be used.

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Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check



Y4 teachers will administer the check to all participating pupils within the 2-week check window from Monday 7th June 2027

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Writing Teacher Assessment

Use the Teacher Assessment Framework for writing

- TA should be a **cumulative** judgement and not based on one piece of work
- Please access STA exemplification material online



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Working at the expected standard

The pupil can:

- write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting language that shows good awareness of the reader (e.g. the use of the first person in a diary; direct address in instructions and persuasive writing)
- in narratives, describe settings, characters and atmosphere
- integrate dialogue in narratives to convey character and advance the action
- select vocabulary and grammatical structures that reflect what the writing requires, doing this mostly appropriately (e.g. using contracted forms in dialogues in narrative; using passive verbs to affect how information is presented; using modal verbs to suggest degrees of possibility)
- use a range of devices to build cohesion (e.g. conjunctions, adverbials of time and place, pronouns, synonyms) within and across paragraphs
- use verb tenses consistently and correctly throughout their writing
- use the range of punctuation taught at key stage 2 mostly correctly^ (e.g. inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech)
- spell correctly most words from the year 5 / year 6 spelling list,* and use a dictionary to check the spelling of uncommon or more ambitious vocabulary
- maintain legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed.[2]

Working at greater depth

The pupil can:

- write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting the appropriate form and drawing independently on what they have read as models for their own writing (e.g. literary language, characterisation, structure)
- distinguish between the language of speech and writing[3] and choose the appropriate register
- exercise an assured and conscious control over levels of formality, particularly through manipulating grammar and vocabulary to achieve this
- use the range of punctuation taught at key stage 2 correctly (e.g. semi-colons, dashes, colons, hyphens) and, when necessary, use such punctuation precisely to enhance meaning and avoid ambiguity.^

[There are no additional statements for spelling or handwriting]

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KS2 Writing



- Writing is the only teacher assessment subject that is moderated
- Teacher assessment framework does not cover all of the national curriculum content and is used for end of year assessment only (*Refer to it throughout the year)*
- Need to refer to national curriculum programmes of study and Year 5/6 spelling lists
- ‘Pupil can’ statements form a basis

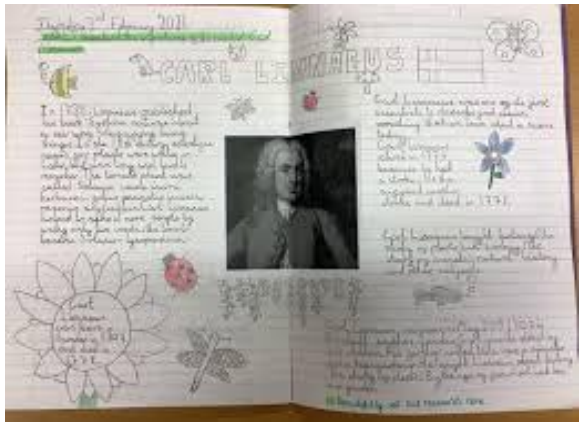
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KS2 qualifiers and examples

- **Most** -indicates that the statement is generally met with only occasional errors
- **Many-** indicates that the statement is met frequently but not yet consistently
- **Some -** indicates that the knowledge or skill is starting to be acquired and is demonstrated correctly on occasion, but is not yet consistent or frequent
- Some statements contain examples – these examples do not indicate evidence required - only how statement may be met
- Refer to national curriculum and STAs exemplification material

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Evidence for judgements - moderation



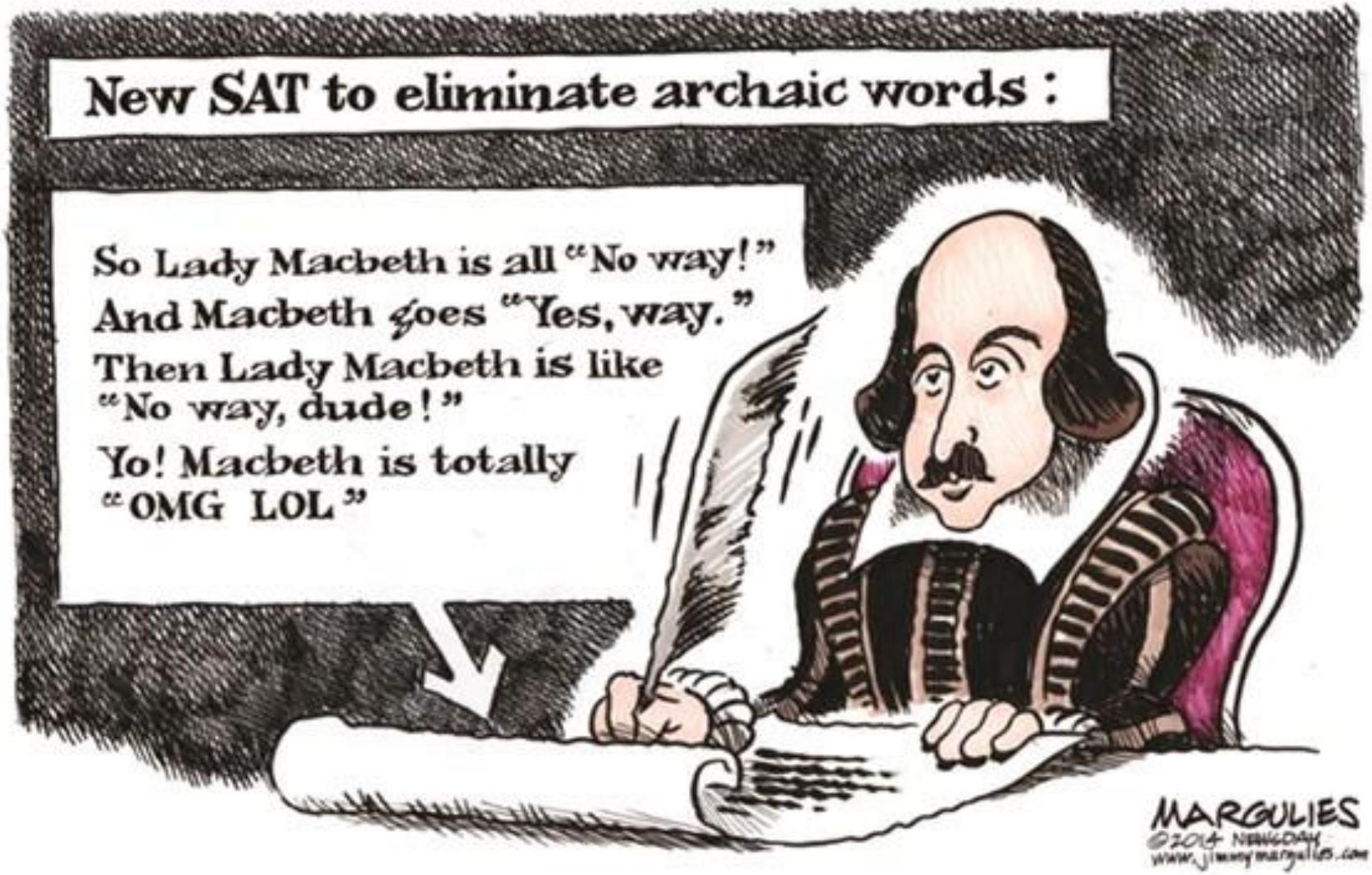
- Sound and demonstrable evidence
- Should be from day to day work in classroom
- A pupil's work in books will often have all the evidence a teacher needs - but could come from other sources
- Avoid excess evidence gathering

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KS2 moderation 2027

- Summer term - 25% of schools (including academies)
- Schools to be moderated informed – Friday 14th May
- Visits between 7th June - 25th June
- Selected 4 year cycle as a minimum (plan for 3 years)
- Additional schools may be added by the LA/DfE/STA/Ofsted
- Teacher assessment framework 2018/2019 onwards
- TAF and guidance is available online

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Assessment and Moderation Support

Register for the next LA free moderation sessions through LEAP-

Thursday 19th November 2026: 2.00-3.30 (Online)

Thursday 11th February 2027: 2.00-3.30 (Online)

Thursday 25th March 2026: 9.00-12.00 (Civic Centre)

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Q&A

Please feel free to ask any questions…



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