

KS1 Assessment Briefing 2017

Kingswear Primary School

Why assess?

Assessment is important because it helps teachers to understand how your child is doing and put in place support to help them improve if they need it. If, for example, your child is struggling with their reading, it is vital that the school knows this early on, so they can give them the help they need to get back on track. Without these assessments, there is risk your child is struggling and they do not get the support they need.

Overview of 2017 tests

- ▶ The KS1 tests are designed to test pupils' knowledge and understanding of the KS1 programmes of study. Teachers must administer the English reading and mathematics tests to help make a secure judgement for their final TA at the end of KS1. The tests make up one piece of evidence for overall TA.

The KS1 tests consist of:

- ▶ English reading Paper 1: combined reading prompt and answer booklet
- ▶ English reading Paper 2: reading booklet and reading answer booklet
- ▶ mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic
- ▶ mathematics Paper 2: reasoning

KS1 English reading test

There are 2 reading papers. Paper 1 includes the texts and questions combined and Paper 2 contains more challenging texts with the questions in a separate booklet.

Each paper has a selection of texts which are designed to increase in difficulty. There is a mixture of text genres.

- ▶ Paper 1 consists of a combined reading prompt and answer booklet. The paper includes a list of useful words and some practice questions for teachers to use to introduce the contexts and question types to pupils. The test takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, but is not strictly timed.
- ▶ Paper 2 consists of an answer booklet and a separate reading booklet. There are no practice questions on this paper. Teachers can use their discretion to stop the test early if a pupil is struggling. The test takes approximately 40 minutes to complete, but is not strictly timed.

KS1 mathematics test

There are 2 mathematics papers: Paper 1: arithmetic, Paper 2: reasoning

- ▶ Paper 1: arithmetic assesses pupils' fluency in the fundamentals of mathematics, including place value, calculations and fractions. Some questions have grids in the answer or working out spaces. Grids are provided with questions where pupils may benefit from using more formal methods for calculations. The arithmetic test consists of a single test paper and takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, but is not strictly timed. The paper includes a practice question.
- ▶ Paper 2: reasoning assesses pupils' mathematical fluency by demonstrating their ability to solve problems and reason mathematically. The reasoning test consists of a single test paper and will take approximately 35 minutes to complete, but it is not strictly timed. The paper includes a practice question and 5 aural questions. After the aural questions, the time for the remainder of the paper should be around 30 minutes.

When the tests are administered

Schools must administer the KS1 tests in English reading and mathematics during May 2017. The tests do not have set days for their administration, and they may be administered to groups of pupils on different days.

Scores and reporting to parents

A pupil's scaled score will be based on their raw score. The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil receives in a test, based on the number of questions they answered correctly. The pupil's raw score will be translated into a scaled score using a conversion table. A pupil who achieves the national standard will have demonstrated sufficient knowledge in the areas assessed by the tests. This will mean that they are well placed to succeed in the next phase of their education.

At Kingswear:

- ▶ We will continue to prepare and administer in the same way as previous years according to DfE guidance.
- ▶ We will continue to focus on quality teaching and learning.

How can you help?

- ▶ Support at home with homework, reading, spellings, times tables
- ▶ Early nights, good breakfast
- ▶ Liaise with school if you have any issues/concerns at any point
- ▶ Reassure your child that we want them to do their best but there is also more to life at Kingswear Primary School when you are 7 years old and there is nothing to worry about!
- ▶ Outstanding attendance and punctuality throughout the year