

Guide to the 2016 Key Stage 1 Assessment Results for Parents and Carers

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

To help parents and carers
understand the 2016
Key Stage 1 national test
assessment results

Key Stage 1
Year 2

INTRODUCTION

As your child reaches the end of Year 2, their school will be reporting to you their achievements in the National Curriculum assessments. The results from tests and teacher assessment judgements are made against the same framework for all children in the country. However, every school will also have its own school report format which will offer much more information about your child's successes. You should always consider the statutory results in combination with the school's other feedback. This guide is intended to help explain the results of the national statutory assessments.

Key Stage 1 tests

Most Year 2 children will have taken the Key Stage 1 tests during May of this year. These tests are marked by the teachers, and the results are used to help teachers in making their final judgements. Some schools may share the test results as part of their report to parents, although this is not required.

Although each test has a different number of questions and marks available, all of the test results have been converted to a common scale. It is likely that if results are shared, then it is the scaled score that will be reported to you. The scaled score gives an indication of how children have achieved against the nationally expected standard. A score of 100 represents the expected standard. Higher scores (up to 115) indicate higher achievement, while scores between 85 and 99 indicate that children have not yet met the expected standard for their age.

However, the tests alone do not tell the full picture of children's attainment. They are used – alongside other work that the children have done over the year – to help teachers make their own assessments about your child's learning.

Teacher assessment

Parents of all children in Year 2 will be provided with teacher assessment judgements to give an indication of their attainment. These judgements are made according to the government's lists of expectations. For example, to reach the expected standard in Maths, children must know their 2×, 5× and 10× multiplication tables. Your child's class teacher will have assessed their work against these lists, and used that to judge their overall standard of work. The outcomes for these are slightly different for each subject.

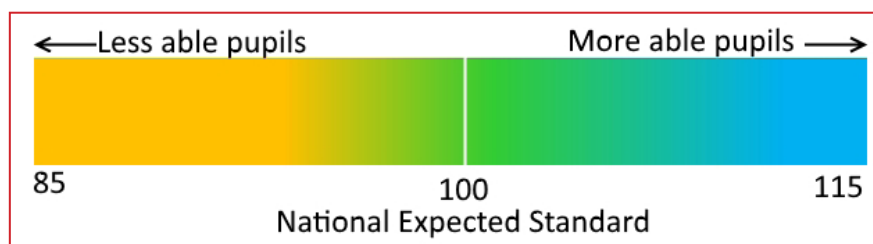


Diagram representing the sliding scale of the scaled score

Reading, Writing and Maths

In these core subjects, teachers will make a separate judgement in each area against the statutory lists of criteria. Children will then usually be judged as meeting one of three different standards. Children who are able to do all of the things required of them for their age will be judged to be working at the expected standard. This table shows an example of the sort of thing that is expected at this age:

Subject	Example of 'Expected Standard' criteria
Reading	Sound out most unfamiliar words accurately, without undue hesitation, including words with suffixes such as -ing or -ness
Writing	Use different types of sentences (questions, commands, etc.) with correct punctuation, including full stops, capital letters and question marks
Mathematics	Mentally subtract a two-digit number from another two-digit number when there is no regrouping required (e.g. 74 – 33)

In some cases, more confident children may be able to use more advanced skills and knowledge. These children will be judged to be Working at Greater Depth within the Expected Standard, showing that they have developed their skills more fully. Some children may not yet have achieved all the requirements for the expected standard, and will be judged as Working Towards the Expected Standard. This will show that children can use some of the basic ideas that are covered in the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

Science

Teachers will also provide an assessment of children's attainment in Science. In this subject, the only judgement that can be made is to say whether or not your child has met the expected standard in Science. To achieve the expected standard, teachers must feel confident that children are able to do a number of things that appear on the statutory list, including describing the basic needs of plants for survival, and comparing the suitability of materials for different uses.

What is the expected standard?

The government has set a new standard for each subject, which it wants the majority of children to reach. For teacher assessment judgements these 'standards' are based on a list of things that children should be able to do. For the tests, a similar list is used to work out how many marks a pupil should score to reach these new expectations. This score is then used to set the scaled score range. It is likely that fewer children will reach this new higher standard this year than used to be the case, as the level of challenge is deliberately set at a higher point.

Lower-attaining pupils

Some children will not have been taught everything in the Key Stage 1 curriculum, and so won't meet all the criteria from the curriculum. These children will be assessed against a different list of criteria that more closely match what they're able to do. For children working at this level, pupils will be shown to be working on the Foundations of the Expected Standard.

The full range of judgements that a teacher can make is shown below, starting with the highest:

Working at Greater Depth within the Expected Standard	For children who have taken the Year 2 tests
Working at the Expected Standard	
Working Towards the Expected Standard	
Foundations of the Expected Standard	

*Some pupils with Special Educational Needs may be judged against the separate P-levels.

As always, the best information about your child's progress will come from their class teacher. End-of-year reports and parent consultation meetings will tell you far more than you can learn from a single score or descriptor. If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child's assessment results, then start by talking to the school – they'll surely be happy to help.