KS2 SATs – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. What are KS2 SATs?

A. KS2 SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) are national assessments taken by Year 6 pupils in Reading, Maths, and Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar (SPAG). Writing is assessed by teachers rather than through a test.

Q. Why are SATs important?

A. SATs provide a measure of your child's progress at the end of primary school. Secondary schools use the results to help set students in appropriate groups and to identify where extra support may be needed.

Q. What subjects are tested?

A.Reading - One paper (1 hour) with questions based on three different texts.

SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar) – Two papers:

Grammar & Punctuation (45 mins)

Spelling (approx. 15 mins)

Maths – Three papers:

Arithmetic (30 mins)

Reasoning Paper 1 (40 mins)

Reasoning Paper 2 (40 mins)

Q. When do SATs take place?

A. SATs are held in May. A specific timetable will be provided closer to the time.

Q. What do SAT results mean?

Your child's results will indicate their attainment level:

WTS (Working Towards the Expected Standard) – Developing within the KS2 curriculum.

EXS (Expected Standard) – The national benchmark for Year 6 pupils.

GDS (Greater Depth Standard) – Above the expected standard, demonstrating higher-level understanding.

Q. How can I help my child prepare for SATs?

A. Encourage daily reading and ask questions about what they've read.

Support with home learning tasks and provide a quiet study space.

Use revision guides and online resources (e.g., BBC Bitesize, Topmarks, Khan Academy).

Keep learning fun – practice spelling, grammar, and mental maths through games and discussions.

Ensure they get plenty of rest, eat well, and have downtime to relax.

Q. What happens during SATs week?

A. School will provide breakfast each morning to help pupils feel settled and ready.

Children will take tests in smaller, quieter groups with rest breaks available if needed.

Staff will be on hand to support and reassure children throughout.

Q. What if my child is anxious about SATs?

A. Reassure them that SATs are just a way to show what they have learned.

Encourage them to do their best, rather than worry about results.

Help them manage stress with a good routine, relaxation, and positive encouragement.

Q. Will my child's SAT results affect their secondary school place?

A. No, SAT results do not impact school admissions, but they do help secondary schools understand each child's abilities to support their learning from Year 7 onwards.