

## **Statutory Assessments in Primary Schools (Early Years and Key Stage 1)**

### **Phonics Screening**

The [phonics screening check](#) is a short, simple assessment to ensure that all pupils have learned phonic decoding to an appropriate standard by the age of 6. All Year 1 pupils in maintained schools, academies and free schools must complete the check.

The phonics check is to support teachers in identifying the children who need extra help so they can receive the support they need to improve their reading skills. These pupils will then be able to retake the check in Year 2. If the pupil does not pass the phonics screening test for a second year they will not undertake the check in Year 3. The Year 3 class teachers however will be made aware of these children to provide additional phonics support.

The phonics screening check comprises a list of 40 words and non-words (alien words) which the child will read one-to-one with their teacher.

### **Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)**

SATS tests are given at the end of Key Stage 1. They comprise a mixture of teacher-led and test-based assessments.

#### **Key Stage 1**

In Key Stage 1 SATs take place in year 2 usually in May. Each child is tested in reading, writing (including spelling and handwriting), maths and science. These tests are undertaken with the class teacher in small groups usually of similar ability children. We keep the process for the children very informal and we do not talk about 'SATs' and request you do the same to prevent any unnecessary worry or pressure.

The national average expectation is every child will achieve 'met' End of Year Expectations with some working at 'greater depth'.

A writing task is set for the children, again undertaken in small groups, and from this the teacher uses a set of pre-prescribed assessment tools to level the work.

All Key Stage 1 tests are marked internally. The reading and maths papers are checked by other members of the school for consistency and accuracy. To ensure writing levels are accurate rigorous moderation is undertaken internally with all teaching staff, the SWAN Academy Trust, other primary schools and the local authority. Every few year's external moderators will visit the school and moderate a sample of children's reading, writing and maths levels.

The children's SATs results are then used to support teacher's assessments.

Once the children's outcomes have been validated parents will be informed of this information is shared with parents towards the end of the Summer term.