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KEY STAGE  
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YEARS  
1-2

National curriculum assessments

# Key stage 1 Mathematics test framework (draft)

National curriculum tests from 2016

2016

**For test developers**



Standards  
& Testing  
Agency

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2016 Key stage 1 mathematics test framework:  
national curriculum tests from 2016

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# 1. Overview

This test framework is based on the national curriculum programme of study (2014) for mathematics, introduced for teaching in schools from September 2014 and first assessed in summer term 2016. The framework specifies the purpose, format, content and cognitive demand of the key stage 1 mathematics tests; it is not designed to be used to guide teaching and learning or to inform statutory teacher assessment.

This document has been produced to aid the test development process and is therefore draft at this stage. Although any changes are expected to be minor, the document will be updated as required following evidence from trialling the test. The document will be finalised and published on the Department for Education's (DfE's) website in advance of full sample test materials being released for schools in summer 2015.

## 1.1 Purposes of statutory assessment

The main purpose of statutory assessment is to:

- ascertain what children have achieved in relation to the attainment targets outlined in the national curriculum (2014) in mathematics.

The main intended uses of the outcomes as set out in the Bew Report<sup>1</sup> and the Government's consultation document on primary assessment and accountability are to:

- hold schools accountable for the attainment and progress made by their children
- inform parents and schools about the performance of individual children
- enable benchmarking between schools, as well as monitor performance locally and nationally.

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1 'Independent review of key stage 2 testing, assessment and accountability' (2011), Lord Bew. <https://media.education.gov.uk/MediaFiles/C/C/0/%7BCC021195-3870-40B7-AC0B-66004C329F1F%7DIndependent%20review%20of%20KS2%20testing,%20final%20report.pdf>

## 2. What is a test framework?

The purpose of the test framework is to provide the documentation to guide the development of the tests. The framework is written primarily for those who write test materials and to guide subsequent development and test construction. It is being made available to a wider audience for reasons of openness and transparency; it is not designed to be used to guide teaching and learning or to inform statutory teacher assessment.

Some elements of the statutory curriculum are not possible to assess using the current form of testing; they will need to be assessed by teachers as part of their statutory assessment of the complete national curriculum.

The framework includes those parts of the programme of study as outlined in the national curriculum (2014) that will be covered in the test (the 'content domain'). The cognitive processes that are considered central to the mathematics tests are also detailed in the cognitive domain.

Also included in the test framework is a test specification from which valid, reliable and comparable tests can be constructed each year. This includes specifics about test format, question types, response types and marking as well as a clear test-level reporting strategy.

By providing all of this information in a single document, the test framework answers questions about what the test will cover, and how, in a clear and concise manner. The framework does not provide information on how teachers should teach the national curriculum.

The test development process used by the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) embeds within it the generation of validity and reliability evidence through expert review and trialling. Given that the tests will be internally marked by teachers, an additional study to consider the reliability of marking will be undertaken as part of the 'technical pre-test' trial. The test framework does not provide detail of the validity and reliability of individual tests; this will be provided in the test handbook which will be published on the DfE's website following the administration of the test.

The test framework should be used in conjunction with the national curriculum (2014) and the annual 'Assessment and reporting arrangements' (ARA) document.

## 3. Nature of the test

The key stage 1 mathematics test forms part of the statutory assessment arrangements for children at the end of key stage 1.

The test is based on the national curriculum (2014) statutory programme of study for mathematics at key stage 1.

The mathematics test will cover the aspects of the curriculum that lend themselves to paper-based testing.

The key stage 1 mathematics test will be internally marked by teachers.

### 3.1 Population to be assessed

All eligible children who are registered at maintained schools, special schools or academies (including free schools) in England and are at the end of key stage 1 will be required to take the key stage 1 mathematics test, unless they have taken it in the past. Independent schools may choose to participate in the statutory assessment arrangements on a year by year basis.

Some children are exempt from the tests. Further details are in the ARA which can be downloaded from the Department's website at [www.education.gov.uk/ks1](http://www.education.gov.uk/ks1).

### 3.2 Test format

The mathematics test is comprised of two components, which are presented to children as two separate test papers. The first component is an arithmetic paper. The second paper presents a range of mathematical problems. The test is administered on paper.

The test is designed to enable children to demonstrate their attainment and as a result is not strictly timed since the ability to work at pace is not part of the assessment. Guidance will be provided to schools to ensure that children are given sufficient time to demonstrate what they understand, know and can do without prolonging the test inappropriately. The table below provides an indication of suggested timings for each paper. The total testing time is approximately 50 minutes.

**Table 1: Format of the test**

Component	Description	Number of papers	Number of marks	Approximate timing of paper
<b>Paper 1</b>	Arithmetic	1	15	15 minutes
<b>Paper 2</b>	Mathematical fluency, solving problems and reasoning	1	35	35 minutes, with a break, if necessary
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Recommended 50 minutes</b>

### 3.3 Resource list

The resource list for the mathematics test comprises: number line (0–30), hundred square, structured apparatus (tens and ones), pencil, eraser and ruler. Children will not be permitted to use a calculator in either of the components.

## 4. Content domain

The content domain draws out the relevant elements from the national curriculum (2014) programme of study for mathematics at key stage 1 that are assessed in the mathematics test. The tests will, over time, sample from each area of the content domain.

The content domain also identifies elements of the programme of study that cannot be assessed in the key stage 1 tests (section 4.1). Attainment in these elements will be monitored through teacher assessment.

The following tables detail content from the national curriculum (2014). Elements from the curriculum are ordered to show progression across the years. The curriculum has been grouped into subdomains and these are detailed in the strand column.

### 4.1 Content domain referencing system

A referencing system is used in the content domain to indicate the year, the strand and the sub-strand, for example '1N1' equates to:

- year - 1
- strand - Number and place value
- sub-strand - 1

Table 2 shows the references for the strands and sub-strands and table 3 shows the progression across the years.

**Table 2: Content domain strands and sub-strands**

Strand	Sub-strand	Reference
<b>Number and place value</b>	Counting (in multiples)	<b>N1</b>
	Read, write, order and compare numbers	<b>N2</b>
	Place value; Roman numerals	<b>N3</b>
	Identify, represent and estimate; rounding	<b>N4</b>
	Negative numbers [KS2 reference]	<b>N5</b>
	Number problems	<b>N6</b>
<b>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations)</b>	Add / subtract mentally	<b>C1</b>
	Add / subtract using written methods	<b>C2</b>
	Estimate, use inverses and check	<b>C3</b>
	Add/subtract to solve problems	<b>C4</b>

Strand	Sub-strand	Reference
<b>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations)</b> (continued)	Properties of number (multiples, factors, primes, squares and cubes) [KS2 reference]	<b>C5</b>
	Multiply / divide mentally	<b>C6</b>
	Multiply / divide using written methods	<b>C7</b>
	Solve problems (commutative, associative, distributive and all four operations)	<b>C8</b>
	Order of operations	<b>C9</b>
<b>Fractions</b>	Recognise, find, write, name and count fractions	<b>F1</b>
	Equivalent fractions	<b>F2</b>
<b>Measurement</b>	Compare, describe and order measures	<b>M1</b>
	Estimate, measure and read scales	<b>M2</b>
	Money	<b>M3</b>
	Telling time, ordering time, duration and units of time	<b>M4</b>
	Convert between metric units [KS2 reference]	<b>M5</b>
	Convert metric/imperial [KS2 reference]	<b>M6</b>
	Perimeter, area [KS2 reference]	<b>M7</b>
	Volume [KS2 reference]	<b>M8</b>
	Solve problems (a, money; b, length; c, mass / weight; d, capacity / volume)	<b>M9</b>
<b>Geometry - properties of shape</b>	Recognise and name common shapes	<b>G1</b>
	Describe properties and classify shapes	<b>G2</b>
	Draw and make shapes and relate 2-D to 3-D shapes (including nets)	<b>G3</b>
<b>Geometry - position and direction</b>	Patterns	<b>P1</b>
	Describe position, direction and movement	<b>P2</b>
<b>Statistics</b>	Interpret and represent data	<b>S1</b>
	Solve problems involving data	<b>S2</b>

## 4.2 Content domain for key stage 1 mathematics

Table 3: Content domain

Strand	National curriculum reference Year 1	National curriculum reference Year 2
Number and place value	<b>1N1a</b> Count to and across 100, forward and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number	<b>2N1</b> Count in steps of 2, 3, and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward or backward
	<b>1N1b</b> Count in multiples of twos, fives and tens	
	<b>1N2a</b> Count, read and write numbers to 100 in numerals	<b>2N2a</b> Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words
	<b>1N2b</b> Given a number, identify one more and one less	<b>2N2b</b> Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use $<$ , $>$ and $=$ signs
	<b>1N2c</b> Read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words	
		<b>2N3</b> Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones)
	<b>1N4</b> Identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line, and use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least	<b>2N4</b> Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, including the number line
	<b>N5</b> Only tested at key stage 2	
		<b>2N6</b> Use place value and number facts to solve problems

Strand	National curriculum reference Year 1	National curriculum reference Year 2
<b>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations)</b>	<b>1C1</b> Represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20	<b>2C1a</b> Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100
	<b>1C2a</b> Add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including zero	<b>2C1b</b> Add and subtract numbers mentally, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a two-digit number and ones</li> <li>• a two-digit number and tens</li> <li>• two two-digit numbers</li> <li>• adding three one-digit numbers</li> </ul>
	<b>1C2b</b> Read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (−) and equals (=) signs	<b>2C2</b> Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a two-digit number and ones</li> <li>• a two-digit number and tens</li> <li>• two two-digit numbers</li> <li>• adding three one-digit numbers</li> </ul>
	<b>1C4</b> Solve one-step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations, and missing number problems such as $7 = \square - 9$	<b>2C3</b> recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and missing number problems
		<b>2C4</b> Solve problems with addition and subtraction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures</li> <li>• applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods</li> </ul>

Strand	National curriculum reference Year 1	National curriculum reference Year 2
<b>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (calculations)</b> (continued)	<b>C5</b> Only tested at key stage 2	
		<b>2C6</b> Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers
		<b>2C7</b> Calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division within the multiplication tables and write them using the multiplication ( $\times$ ), division ( $\div$ ) and equals ( $=$ ) signs
	<b>1C8</b> Solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division, by calculating the answer using concrete objects, pictorial representations and arrays with the support of the teacher	<b>2C8</b> Solve problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods, and multiplication and division facts, including problems in contexts
		<b>2C9a</b> Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot
<b>Fractions</b>		<b>2C9b</b> Show that multiplication of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and division of one number by another cannot
	<b>1F1a</b> Recognise, find and name a half as one of two equal parts of a object, shape or quantity	<b>2F1a</b> Recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{3}$ , $\frac{1}{4}$ , $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity
	<b>1F1b</b> Recognise, find and name a quarter as one of four equal parts of a object, shape or quantity	<b>2F1b</b> Write simple fractions [eg: $\frac{1}{2}$ of $6 = 3$ ]
		<b>2F2</b> Recognise the equivalence of $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

Strand	National curriculum reference Year 1	National curriculum reference Year 2
<b>Measurement</b>	<p><b>1M1</b> Compare, describe and solve practical problems for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lengths and heights [eg: long/short, longer/shorter, tall/short, double/half]</li> <li>• mass/weight [eg: heavy/light, heavier than, lighter than]</li> <li>• capacity and volume [eg: full/empty, more than, less than, half, half full, quarter]</li> <li>• time [eg: quicker, slower, earlier, later]</li> </ul>	<p><b>2M1</b> Compare and order lengths, mass, volume/capacity and record the results using <math>&gt;</math>, <math>&lt;</math> and <math>=</math></p>
	<p><b>1M2</b> Measure and begin to record the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lengths and heights</li> <li>• mass/weight</li> <li>• capacity and volume</li> <li>• time (hours, minutes, seconds)</li> </ul>	<p><b>2M2</b> Choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure length/height in any direction (m/cm); mass (kg/g); temperature (<math>^{\circ}</math>C); capacity (litres/ml) to the nearest appropriate unit using rulers, scales, thermometers and measuring vessels</p>
	<p><b>1M3</b> Recognise and know the value of different denominations of coins and notes</p>	<p><b>2M3a</b> Recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value</p>
	<p><b>1M4a</b> Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times</p>	<p><b>2M3b</b> Find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts of money</p>
	<p><b>1M4b</b> Sequence events in chronological order using language [eg: before and after, next, first, today, yesterday, tomorrow, morning, afternoon and evening]</p>	<p><b>2M4a</b> Tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times</p>
	<p><b>1M4c</b> Recognise and use language relating to dates, including days of the week, weeks, months and years</p>	<p><b>2M4b</b> Compare and sequence intervals of time</p>
		<p><b>2M4c</b> Know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day</p>

National curriculum reference Year 1		National curriculum reference Year 2	
<b>Strand</b> <b>Measurement</b> (continued)	<b>M5-8</b> Only tested at key stage 2	<b>2M9</b>	Solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change
	<b>1G1a</b> Recognise and name common 2-D shapes [eg: rectangles (including squares), circles and triangles]	<b>2G1a</b>	Compare and sort common 2-D shapes and everyday objects
<b>Geometry - properties of shapes</b>	<b>1G1b</b> Recognise and name common 3-D shapes [eg: cuboids (including cubes), pyramids and spheres]	<b>2G1b</b>	Compare and sort common 3-D shapes and everyday objects
		<b>2G2a</b>	Identify and describe the properties of 2-D shapes, including the number of sides and line symmetry in a vertical line
		<b>2G2b</b>	Identify and describe the properties of 3-D shapes including the number of edges, vertices and faces
		<b>2G3</b>	Identify 2-D shapes on the surface of 3-D shapes, [eg: a circle on a cylinder and a triangle on a pyramid]
<b>Geometry - position and direction</b>		<b>2P1</b>	Order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns and sequences
	<b>1P2</b> Describe position, directions and movement, including half, quarter and three-quarter turns	<b>2P2</b>	Use mathematical vocabulary to describe position, direction and movement, including movement in a straight line and distinguishing between rotation as a turn and in terms of right angles for quarter, half and three-quarter turns (clock-wise and anti-clockwise)

Strand	National curriculum reference Year 1	National curriculum reference Year 2
Statistics		<p><b>2S1</b> Interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables</p>
		<p><b>2S2a</b> Ask and answer simple questions by counting the number of objects in each category and sorting the categories by quantity</p>
		<p><b>2S2b</b> Ask and answer questions about totalling and comparing categorical data</p>

## 4.3 Elements of the national curriculum that cannot be fully assessed in this format

The table below identifies areas that are difficult to fully assess in a paper-based format. Some of the points below may be partially assessed.

**Table 4: Elements of the national curriculum that cannot be fully assessed in paper-based format**

National curriculum reference	Explanation
<b>2S2a</b> and <b>2S2b</b> – asking questions	The ‘ask questions’ of this element is more suited to classroom assessment.
<p><b>2C1a</b> – recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently</p> <p><b>2C1b</b> – add and subtract numbers mentally</p> <p><b>2C6</b> – solve problems with addition and subtraction: applying their increasing knowledge of mental methods</p> <p><b>2C8</b> – solve problems involving multiplication and division, using mental methods</p>	<p>Mental mathematics skills cannot be directly assessed in a paper-based test since you can only mark what the child records. For questions where only the answer is recorded, it is not possible to know the method that the child used or how quickly he or she completed the question.</p> <p>Children who are fluent with numbers will be able to use their mental arithmetic skills to find efficient strategies for completing calculations under test conditions. Therefore, good mental arithmetic skills will enable children to re-call and apply number knowledge rapidly and accurately.</p>

## 5. Cognitive domain

The cognitive domain seeks to make the thinking skills and intellectual processes required for the key stage 1 mathematics test explicit. Each question will be rated against the four strands of the cognitive domain listed in the tables below.

The cognitive domain will be used during test development to ensure comparability of demand as well as difficulty for tests of successive years. The national curriculum (2014) aims of solving problems, fluency and reasoning are reflected within the cognitive domain.

The cognitive domain for the mathematics test is based on the CRAS tool<sup>2</sup>. The four dimensions of CRAS describe the degree of **C**omplexity of the test question, the availability of **R**esources to answer the question, the degree of **A**bstractness that the question presents and the **S**trategy required to answer the question. The user can then assign a demand score for a given question in each of the four cognitive strands using the tool.

The cognitive domain for the mathematics test essentially separates **C**omplexity in the original CRAS scale into two strands: one which describes the cognitive demands associated with conceptual understanding of mathematical facts and procedures; and a second which describes the computational complexity of the processes embedded within the task. We have combined the original strands of **R**esources and **A**bstractness into 'spatial reasoning and data interpretation' to best describe the demands associated with processing the information available in questions assessing geometry and data handling. The final strand of response strategy in our tool is very similar to the original CRAS definition of **S**trategy and describes the cognitive effort associated with organising a response.

The cognitive domain used for the mathematics test also aligns with other tools that have been used to assess mathematics items cognitively (see for example Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) scale and the work of Smith and Stein)<sup>3,4</sup>.

The following tables show the four strands of the cognitive domain for the mathematics test. Each strand is categorised using a four-point rating scale. More detailed descriptions of each strand are also provided.

2 Hughes S., Pollit A., & Ahmed A. (1998) 'The development of a tool for gauging demands of GCSE and A-Level exam questions'. Paper presented at the BERA conference The Queens University Belfast.

3 Webb L. N. (1997). 'Criteria for alignment of expectations and assessments in mathematics and science education'. Research Monograph No. 8. Council of Chief School Officers.

4 Smith M.S., Stein M.K. (1998) 'Selecting and creating mathematical tasks: from research to practice'. Mathematics teaching in middle school 3 pp344–350.

## 5.1 Depth of understanding

*This strand is used to assess the demand associated with recalling facts and using procedures to solve problems.*

Questions requiring less depth of understanding require simple procedural knowledge, such as the quick and accurate recall of facts.

At intermediate levels of demand, a question may require the interpretation of a problem or the application of a fact or procedure. However, the component parts of these questions will be simple and the links between the parts and processes will be clear.

At a high level of demand, a greater depth of understanding is expected. Questions may require that facts and procedures are used flexibly and creatively to find a solution to the problem.

**Table 5: Depth of understanding**

Strand	Rating scale			
	(low) 1	2	3	4 (high)
<b>Depth of understanding</b>	Recall of facts	Application of learned facts and procedures	Use facts to solve simple problems	Understand and use facts and procedures to solve more complex problems

## 5.2 Computational complexity

*This strand is used to assess the computational demand of questions.*

In questions with lower complexity, there will be no numeric operation.

At an intermediate level of complexity, the problem will involve using one or two processes or numeric operations.

At a high level of complexity, questions will involve more than two processes or numeric operations.

**Table 6: Computational complexity**

Strand	Rating scale			
	(low) 1	2	3	4 (high)
<b>Computational complexity</b>	No numeric steps	One numeric step	More than one numeric step. All steps are simple	More than one numeric step, at least one of which is more complex

## 5.3 Spatial reasoning and data interpretation

*This strand is used to assess the demand associated with the representation of geometrical problems involving 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes, position and movement. This strand is also used to assess the demand associated with interpreting data.*

There is a low level of demand when all and only the resources or information required to answer the question are presented within the problem, eg: counting the number of sides of a given 2-D shape.

At intermediate levels of demand, spatial reasoning will be needed to manipulate the information presented in the question to solve the problem, eg: find a line of symmetry on a simple shape or interpret a 2-D representation of a 3-D shape. Retrieval of information may be needed to solve the problem.

At the highest level of demand, there may be the need to use complex manipulation or interpretation of the information as part of the problem.

**Table 7: Spatial reasoning and data interpretation**

Strand	Rating scale			
	(low) 1	2	3	4 (high)
<b>Spatial reasoning</b>	No spatial reasoning required	All and only the geometric information required to solve the problem is present	Manipulation of the geometric information given is required to solve the problem	Complex manipulation of the geometric information given is required to solve the problem
<b>Data interpretation</b>	No data information required	Select and retrieve information	Select and interpret information	Interpret more complex information, or interpret more than one piece of data

## 5.4 Response strategy

*This strand describes the demand associated with constructing a response to a question.*

At a low level of demand, the strategy for answering a problem is given as part of the presentation of the problem.

At a lower intermediate level of demand, the strategy for answering a problem is clear. Very little construction is required to complete the task.

At an upper intermediate level of demand, there may be simple procedures to follow that will lead to completion of the problem.

At a high level of demand, the question will require that a simple strategy is developed (and perhaps monitored) to complete the task. The answer may need to be constructed, organised and reasoned.

**Table 8: Response strategy**

Strand	Rating scale			
	(low) 1	2	3	4 (high)
<b>Response strategy</b>	Select one response	Select multiple responses or single constructed response required	Construct a small set of simple responses	Constructs a complex response. Shows evidence of a method

## 6. Test specification

This section provides details of each test component.

### 6.1 Summary of test

The test will comprise two components, which will be presented to children as two separate papers.

**Table 9: Format of the test**

Component	Description	Number of papers	Number of marks	Approximate timing of paper
<b>Paper 1</b>	Arithmetic	1	15	15 minutes
<b>Paper 2</b>	Mathematical fluency, solving problems and reasoning	1	35	35 minutes, with a break if necessary
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Recommended 50 minutes</b>

### 6.2 Breadth and emphasis

The content and cognitive domains for the mathematics tests are specified in sections 4 and 5. The test will sample from the content domain in any given year. Although every element may not be included within each test, the full range of content detailed in this document will be assessed over time. The questions in each test will be placed in an approximate order of difficulty.

The following sections show the proportion of marks attributed to each of the areas of the content and cognitive domains in a test.

#### 6.2.1 Profile of content domain

Each of the seven strands listed in table 10 will be tested on a yearly basis and these will be present in the tests in the ratios shown.

Table 10 shows the distribution of marks across the content domain.

Table 11 shows the distribution of marks across the components of the test and by national curriculum element.

**Table 10: Profile of content domain**

Content area	Number of marks	Percentage of marks
<b>Number</b> Number and place value (N) Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division (calculations) (C) Fractions (F)	32–38	65–75%
<b>Measurement, geometry and statistics</b> Measurement (M) Geometry - properties of shapes (G) Geometry - position and direction (P) Statistics (S)	12–18	25–35%

**Table 11: Profile of marks by paper and curriculum element**

Curriculum element	Number	Measurement, geometry and statistics	Total marks
Paper 1 (arithmetic)	15	0	<b>15</b>
Paper 2 (fluency, solving problems and reasoning)	17–23	12–18	<b>35</b>

### 6.2.2 Profile of cognitive domain

The cognitive domain is specified in section 5. Each test question will be rated in terms of demand against each of the four strands of the cognitive domain. The allocation of marks across each strand and demand rating is detailed in table 12.

**Table 12: Profile of marks by cognitive domain strand**

Cognitive domain strand	(low) 1	2–3	4 (high)	Total marks
Depth of understanding	10–30	15–35	0–20	<b>50</b>
Computational complexity	0–20	25–40	0–10	<b>50</b>
Spatial reasoning and data interpretation	10–30	15–35	0–20	<b>50</b>
Response strategy	0–20	30–45	0–10	<b>50</b>

## 6.3 Format of questions and responses

### 6.3.1 Paper 1

Paper 1 (arithmetic) will be comprised of constructed response questions, presented as context-free calculations. The arithmetic questions will each be worth one mark.

### 6.3.2 Paper 2

For Paper 2, mathematical problems are presented in a wide range of formats to ensure children can fully demonstrate mathematical fluency, problem solving and reasoning. Five questions at the start of the paper will be aural and will help the children settle into the test; these will be placed in approximate order of difficulty. All questions may be read aloud, so that reading ability does not impair a child's ability to demonstrate his or her mathematical attainment.

Paper 2 will include both selected response and constructed response questions.

Selected response questions, where children are required to select which option satisfies the constraint given in the question, will include question types such as:

- multiple choice, where children are required to select their response from the options given
- matching, where children are expected to indicate which options match correctly
- true–false, where children are required to indicate whether each of a set of statements are true or false.

Constructed response questions, where children are required to construct an answer rather than simply select one or more options, will include:

- constrained questions, where children are required to provide a single or best answer (These might involve giving the answer to a calculation, completing a chart or table, or drawing a shape. For questions worth more than one mark, partial credit will be available)
- less constrained questions, where children are required to communicate their approach to evaluating a statement or problem.

Questions in Paper 2 will comprise both those presented in context and out of context.

## 6.4 Marking and mark schemes

The test will be internally marked by the children's teachers.

The mark scheme will give the general principles for marking the test to ensure consistency of marking together with specific guidance for the marking of each question.

The mark scheme will provide the total number of marks available for each question and the criteria by which teachers should award the marks to children's responses. Where multiple correct answers are possible, examples of different types of correct answer will be given in the mark scheme. Where applicable, additional guidance will indicate minimally acceptable responses and unacceptable responses. The mark scheme will provide a content domain reference, so it is possible to determine what is assessed in each question.

For all questions, the mark schemes will be developed during the test development process and will combine the expectations of experts with examples of children's responses that have been obtained during trialling.

For two-mark questions, where the correct answer has not been obtained, the mark scheme will indicate how marks can be awarded for correctly following a process or processes through the problem.

Within the mark schemes, examples of responses will be developed for 'working' questions. This is because the questions are open, leading to children giving a wide range of responses that are very close to the border between creditworthy or non-creditworthy. For these questions, it can be very difficult to draw the line. The additional examples help to improve marking reliability by providing examples of responses that fall just either side of the border of what is creditworthy or non-creditworthy.

There will be a system of sampling and moderation of marking organised by the STA to ensure consistency between schools. Full details will be available in the ARA.

## 6.5 Reporting

The raw score on the test (the total achieved marks out of the total 50 marks) will be converted into a scaled score using a conversion table. Translating raw scores into scaled scores ensures performance can be reported on a consistent scale for all children. Scaled scores retain the same meaning from one year to the next. Therefore, a particular scaled score reflects the same level of attainment in one year as in the previous year, having been adjusted for any differences in difficulty of the test.

Additionally, each child will receive an overall result indicating whether or not he or she has achieved the required standard on the test. A standard-setting exercise will be conducted on the first live test in 2016 in order to determine the scaled score needed for a child to be considered to have met the standard. This process will be facilitated by the performance descriptor in section 6.7 which defines the performance level required to meet the standard. In subsequent years, the standard will be maintained using appropriate statistical methods to translate raw scores on a new test into scaled scores with an additional judgemental exercise at the expected standard. The scaled score required to achieve the expected level on the test will always remain the same.

The exact scale for the scaled scores will be determined following further analysis of trialling data. This will include a full review of the reporting of confidence intervals for scaled scores.

## 6.6 Desired psychometric properties

While the focus of the outcome of the test will be whether a child has achieved the expected standard, the test must measure children's ability across the spectrum of attainment. As a result the test must aim to minimise the standard error of measurement at every point on the reporting scale, particularly around the expected standard threshold.

The provision of a scaled score will aid in the interpretation of children's performance over time as the scaled score which represents the expected standard will be the same year on year. However, at the extremes of the scaled score distribution, as is standard practice,

the scores will be truncated such that above or below a certain point all children will be awarded the same score in order to minimise the effect for children at the ends of the distribution where the test is not measuring optimally.

## 6.7 Performance descriptor

This performance descriptor describes the typical characteristics of children whose performance in the key stage 1 tests is at the threshold of the expected standard. Children who achieve the expected standard in the tests have demonstrated sufficient knowledge to be well placed to succeed in the next phase of their education having studied the full key stage 1 programme of study in mathematics. This performance descriptor will be used by panels of teachers to set the standards on the new tests following their first administration in May 2016. It is not intended to be used to support teacher assessment since it only reflects the elements of the programme of study that can be assessed in a written test (see content domain in section 4).

### 6.7.1 Overview

Children working at the expected standard will be able to engage with all questions within the test. However, they will not always achieve full marks on each question, particularly if working at the threshold of the expected standard.

Questions will range from those requiring recall of facts or application of learned procedures to those requiring understanding of how to use facts and procedures creatively to decide how to solve more complex and unfamiliar problems. There will be a variety of question formats including selected response, short answer and more complex calculations involving a small number of steps.

Question difficulty will be affected by the strands of the cognitive domain such as computational complexity and spatial reasoning and data interpretation. This should be borne in mind when considering the remainder of this performance descriptor, since children working at the threshold of the expected standard may not give correct responses to all questions. In cases where there are multiple interrelated computational steps and / or a need to infer new information or to visualise or represent a more abstract problem some children may find the question difficult to understand in a test setting. This will be true even when the performance descriptor determines that a skill should be within the child's capacity if working at the expected standard.

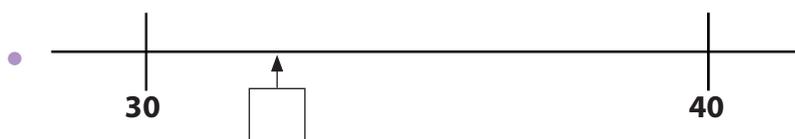
The following sections describe the typical characteristics of children in year 2 working at the threshold of the expected standard. It is recognised that different children will exhibit different strengths, so this is intended as a general guide rather than a prescriptive list. References in [square brackets] refer to aspects of the content domain specified in section 4.

### 6.7.2 Number

Children working at the expected standard are able to:

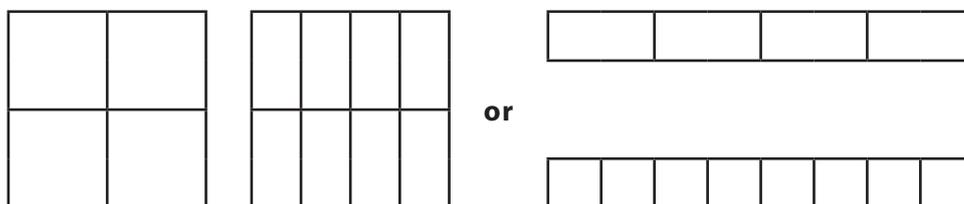
- count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10, to 100, forwards and backwards [N1]
- count forwards in multiples of 3, to 18 [N1]
- count in steps of 10, to 100, forward and backward (eg: 97, 87, 77, 67, ...) [N1]

- read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals, and phonetically attempts to write numbers to 100 in words [N2]
- use place value in whole numbers up to 100 to compare and order numbers, sometimes using  $<$  and  $>$  signs correctly [N2, N3]
- identify, represent and estimate within a structured environment (eg: estimate 33 on a number line labelled in multiples of ten [N4])



- use place value and number facts to solve problems (eg:  $60 - \square = 20$ ) [N6]
- recall and use addition and subtraction facts [C1]
- two simple two-digit numbers, which do not involve bridging ten (eg:  $36 - 24$ )
  - adding three one-digit numbers, where they use known addition or doubling facts (eg:  $6 + 6 + 3$  or  $7 + 3 + 8$ ) [C1]
- add and subtract numbers using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including:
  - a two-digit number and ones (eg:  $65 + 8$ ,  $79 - 6$ )
  - a two-digit number and tens (eg:  $62 + 30$ ,  $74 - 20$ )
  - adding two two-digit numbers (eg:  $36 + 41$ ,  $29 + 13$ )
  - adding three one-digit numbers (eg:  $9 + 6 + 8$ ) [C2]
- use inverse operations to solve missing number problems for addition and subtraction (eg: given  $9 + 5 = 14$ , complete  $14 - \square = 9$  and  $\square - 9 = \square$ ) [C3]
- solve simple 2-step problems with addition and subtraction (eg: Ben has 5 red marbles and 6 blue marbles. He gives 7 of his marbles to a friend. How many marbles does he have left?) [C4]
- recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 10 multiplication table using the appropriate signs ( $\times$ ,  $\div$  and  $=$ ) (eg:  $80 \div 8 = \square$ ) [C6, C7]
- recall and use multiplication facts for the 2 and 5 multiplication tables and begin to recall and use division facts for the 2 and 5 multiplication tables using appropriate signs ( $\times$ ,  $\div$  and  $=$ ) (eg:  $2 \times \square = 16$ ,  $5 \times 6 = \square$ ) [C6, C7]
- recognise odd and even numbers [C6]
- solve simple problems involving multiplication and division (eg: Ben shares 15 grapes between 3 friends; how many grapes do they each receive?) [C8]
- know that addition and multiplication of two small numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot (eg:  $5 \times 6 = 6 \times 5$ , but  $19 - 12$  is not equal to  $12 - 19$ ) [C9]
- recognise and find half of a set of objects or a quantity (eg: find  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 18 pencils) and begin to find  $\frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a small set of objects with support (eg: find  $\frac{1}{3}$  of nine pencils) [F1]

- recognise, find and name fractions,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a shape (eg: shade  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a square split into 4 equal rectangles, or shade  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a symmetrical shape split into 8 equal parts [F1])



- recognise the equivalence of two quarters and one half in practical contexts [F2].

### 6.7.3 Measurement

Children working at the expected standards are able to:

- compare and order lengths, mass, volume/capacity (eg: 30cm is longer than 20cm, order parcels weighing 1kg,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ kg,  $\frac{1}{2}$ kg) [M1]
- choose and use appropriate standard units to measure length/height in any direction (m/cm); mass (kg/g); temperature ( $^{\circ}$ C); capacity (litres/ml) to the nearest appropriate unit (eg: the bucket contains 4 litres of water, scale marked every litre and labelled at 5 litres) using rulers, scales, thermometers and measuring vessels and begin to make good estimates (eg: the book is about 20cm long) [M2]
- recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value and find different combinations of coins to equal the same amounts of money (eg: find two different ways to make 48p) [M3]
- recognise, tell and write the times: o'clock, half past and quarter past and are beginning to recognise quarter to the hour; draw hands on a clock face to show half past and o'clock times [M4]
- solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change (eg: Mrs Smith buys a cake for 12p and a biscuit for 5p; how much change does she get from 20p?) [M9].

### 6.7.4 Geometry

Children working at the expected standards are able to:

- compare and sort common 2-D shapes (eg: semi-circle, rectangle and regular polygons such as pentagon, hexagon and octagon) and everyday objects, identifying and describing their properties (eg: the number of sides or vertices, and are beginning to recognise symmetry in a vertical line) [G1, G2]
- compare and sort common 3-D shapes (eg: cone, cylinder, triangular prism, pyramid) and everyday objects, identifying and describing their properties (eg: flat / curved surfaces, and beginning to count number of faces and vertices correctly) [G1, G2]

- identify 2-D shapes on the surface of 3-D shapes and images of them (eg: a circle on a cylinder and a triangle on a pyramid) [G3]
- order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns (eg: continue a repeating pattern such as ) [P1]
- use mathematical vocabulary to describe position, direction (eg: left and right) and movement including movement in a straight line and distinguishing between rotation as a turn and in terms of right angles for quarter and half turns [P2].

### 6.7.5 Statistics

Children working at the expected standards are able to:

- interpret simple pictograms (where the symbols show one to one correspondence), tally charts, block diagrams (where the scale is divided into ones, even if only labelled in multiples of two) and simple tables [S1]
- answer questions by counting the number of objects in each category and sorting the categories by quantity [S2]
- answer questions about totalling and begin to compare simple categorical data (eg: when the pictures or blocks are adjacent) [S2].

### 6.7.6 Solve problems, communicate and reason mathematically

Children working at the expected standards are able to:

- solve problems by applying their mathematics in a range of contexts (including money and measures, geometry and statistics) using the content described above; use and interpret mathematical symbols and diagrams; and begin to communicate their reasoning; for example:
  - use place value and number facts to solve problems (eg:  $40 + \square = 70$ ) [N6, C1]
  - use inverse operations to solve missing number problems for addition and subtraction (eg: There were some people on a bus, six get off leaving seventeen people on the bus. How many were on the bus to start with?) [C3]
  - solve simple 2-step problems with addition and subtraction, which require some retrieval (eg: There are 12 kittens in a basket, 6 jump out and only 2 jump back in; how many are in the basket now?) [C4]
  - solve simple problems involving multiplication and division (eg: Ahmed buys 3 packs of apples. There are 4 apples in each pack. How many apples does he buy?) [C8]
  - solve problems with one or two computational steps using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and a combination of these (eg: Joe has 2 packs of 6 stickers; Mina gives him 2 more stickers; how many stickers does he have altogether?) [C4, C8]
  - solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change (eg: Identify three coins with a total value of 24p or find the two items which cost exactly £1 altogether from a list such as: 70p, 40p, 50p and 30p) [M3, M9].

## 7. Diversity and inclusion

The Equality Act 2010 sets out the principles by which the national curriculum assessment and associated development activities are conducted. During the development of the tests, STA's test development division will make provision to overcome barriers to fair assessment for individuals and groups wherever possible.

National curriculum tests will also meet Ofqual's core regulatory criteria. One of the criteria refers to the need for assessment procedures to minimise bias: 'The assessment should minimise bias, differentiating only on the basis of each learner's ability to meet national curriculum requirements'. (Ofqual, [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2011-regulatory-framework-for-national-assessments.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2011-regulatory-framework-for-national-assessments.pdf)).

The end of key stage 1 mathematics test should:

- use appropriate means to allow all children to demonstrate their mathematical fluency, solving problems and reasoning
- provide a suitable challenge for all children and give every child the opportunity to achieve as high a standard in mathematics as possible
- provide opportunities for all children to achieve, irrespective of gender, including children with special educational needs, children with disabilities, children from all social and cultural backgrounds and those from diverse linguistic backgrounds
- use materials that are familiar to children and for which they are adequately prepared
- not be detrimental to children's self-esteem or confidence
- be free from stereotyping and discrimination in any form.

The test development process uses the principles of universal design, as described in the 'Guidance on the principles of language accessibility in national curriculum assessments' (Ofqual, 2012; <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/news/new-language-accessibility-guidance-published/>).

In order to improve general accessibility for all children, where possible, questions will be placed in order of difficulty. Accordingly, to be consistent with all national curriculum tests, attempts have been made to make the question rubric as accessible as possible for all children, including those who experience reading and processing difficulties, and those for whom English is an additional language, while maintaining an appropriate level of demand to adequately assess the content. This includes applying the principles of plain English and universal design wherever possible, conducting interviews with children, and taking into account feedback from expert reviewers.

For each test in development, expert opinions on specific questions are gathered, for example, at inclusion panel meetings which are attended by experts and practitioners from across the fields of disabilities and special educational needs. This provides an opportunity for some questions to be amended or removed in response to concerns raised.

Issues likely to be encountered by children with specific learning difficulties have been considered in detail. Where possible, features of questions that lead to construct irrelevant variance (for example, question formats and presentational features) have been considered and questions have been presented in line with best practice for dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties.

## 7.1 Access arrangements

The full range of access arrangements applicable to key stage 1 assessments as set out in the ARA will be available to eligible children as required.

## Appendix: Glossary of terminology used in the test framework

<b>cognitive domain</b>	<p>Cognitive processes refer to the thinking skills and intellectual processes that occur in response to a stimulus. The cognitive domain makes explicit the thinking skills associated with an assessment.</p> <p>The cognitive domains, as shown in these frameworks, also identify other factors that may influence the difficulty of the questions.</p>
<b>component</b>	<p>A section of a test, presented to children as a test paper or test booklet. Some tests may have two or more components which each child needs to sit in order to complete the test. The key stage 1 mathematics test comprises of two components.</p>
<b>content domain</b>	<p>The body of subject knowledge to be assessed by the test.</p>
<b>construct irrelevant variance</b>	<p>Construct irrelevant variance is the variation in children's test scores that does not come from their knowledge of the ideas being tested. It can result in children gaining fewer marks than their knowledge would suggest or lead to the award of more marks than their knowledge alone would deserve.</p> <p>The former can occur, for example, when questions in a mathematics test also unintentionally measure reading ability. The latter often occurs when unintended clues within questions allow children to answer correctly without having the required subject knowledge.</p>
<b>distribution</b>	<p>The range of possible scaled scores.</p>
<b>domain</b>	<p>The codified definition of a body of skills and knowledge.</p>
<b>mark scheme</b>	<p>The document explaining the creditworthy responses or the criteria that must be applied to award the mark for a question in the test.</p>
<b>national curriculum</b>	<p>For each subject and key stage, the national curriculum outlines the content and skills that should be taught in schools.</p>
<b>performance descriptor</b>	<p>Description of the typical characteristics of children working at a particular standard. For these tests, the performance descriptor will characterise the minimum performance required to be working at the appropriate standard for the end of the key stage.</p>
<b>programme of study</b>	<p>The statutory curriculum of subject knowledge, skills and understanding for a key stage. The key stage 1 and 2 programmes of study are published online at:  <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/curriculum">www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/curriculum</a>.</p>

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<b>raw score</b>	<p>The unmodified score achieved on a test, following marking. In the case of these tests it is the total marks achieved.</p> <p>For example, if a child scores 27 out of 60 possible marks, the raw score is 27. Raw scores are often then converted to other measures such as percentile ranks, standardised scores or grades.</p>
<b>scaled score</b>	<p>A score which has been translated from a raw score onto a score on a fixed, defined scale. This allows performance to be reported on a consistent scale for all children, which retains the same meaning from one year to the next. Therefore, a particular scaled score reflects the same level of attainment in one year as in the previous year, having adjusted for any differences in difficulty of the specific tests.</p>
<b>standard</b>	<p>The required level of attainment in order to be classified into a particular performance category.</p>
<b>standard error of measurement</b>	<p>A reliability estimate that allows the user to determine a confidence interval around a test score. It is a measure of the distribution of scores that would be attained by a child had that child taken the test repeatedly under the same conditions.</p>
<b>standard setting</b>	<p>The process of applying the standard onto a particular test in order to determine the score required for a child to be classified within a particular performance category.</p>
<b>test framework</b>	<p>A document that sets out the principles, rationale and key information about the test and contains a test specification.</p>
<b>test specification</b>	<p>A detailed specification of what is to be included in a test in any single cycle of development.</p>
<b>truncate</b>	<p>To shorten by removing the ends.</p>

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# About this publication

## Who is it for?

This document is primarily aimed at those responsible for developing the key stage 1 national curriculum test in mathematics. It may also be of interest to schools with children in key stage 1 and other education professionals.

## What does it cover?

Detailed information to ensure an appropriate test is developed, including the:

- content domain
- cognitive domain
- test specification

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