



Standards
& Testing
Agency

KS2 modified test administration guidance

**Administering the 2016 national
curriculum tests to pupils with hearing
impairments**

April 2016

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Introduction

The 'Test administration guidance' (TAG), available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-tests-test-administration-guidance-tag> provides guidance for schools administering the 2016 key stage 2 (KS2) national curriculum tests.

This guidance will help you prepare for administering the KS2 tests to pupils with a hearing impairment. You should follow it to ensure that pupils with a hearing impairment can access the tests properly and that they are not at a disadvantage.

The information in this guide builds on section 6 of the 2016 KS2 'Assessment and reporting arrangements' (ARA), available at www.gov.uk/guidance/2016-key-stage-2-assessment-and-reporting-arrangements-ara.

You should use this guidance together with the:

- 2016 [KS2 test administration guidance](#) (TAG)
- printed instructions that accompany the test papers.

The printed instructions include information about what you should do before, during and after each test. Please follow them carefully in order to avoid accusations of maladministration.

The instructions are not on GOV.UK because they contain information which must stay confidential until the test period is over. Schools should use the KS2 sample test administration instructions at www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials to help prepare.

Planning for the tests

This section gives general guidance to help you prepare for administering the tests to pupils with a hearing impairment. Specific guidance for the English and mathematics tests is given in later sections.

Access arrangements

Teachers should decide whether any access arrangements are appropriate, taking into account the assessment needs of each pupil and the support given as part of normal classroom practice. There is guidance about using access arrangements in the KS2 tests at www.gov.uk/guidance/key-stage-2-tests-how-to-use-access-arrangements. Please note the following specific guidance for those pupils with a hearing impairment.

Early opening

If schools need to make modifications to papers to meet a pupil's needs or if signers need access to the papers to prepare for the administration of the tests, schools may open the papers up to an hour before the administration of each test.

If more than hour is required then an application for early opening should have been made via NCA tools, available at <https://ncatools.education.gov.uk> by 29 February 2016.

Use of communicators and sign language

Communicators and sign language interpreters may be used to support pupils who use British sign language or other sign-supported communication in the tests if this is normal classroom practice. Subject-specific guidance on the use of communicators and sign language is given in the relevant sections of this guidance.

Administering the English tests

English reading test

You may only use and give explanations to convey the general instructions. This includes information on the front cover of the test papers and any directions that are not part of the actual questions. For example, 'These questions are about caves'.

English grammar, punctuation and spelling test

You may only use sign language, and give an explanation:

- to convey the general instructions
- where test administrators are instructed to read the prompts to the pupil
- to read and / or sign back to the pupil any part of his or her response.

Paper 2: spelling

A communicator or sign language interpreter may be used during Paper 2: spelling. However, if the spelling paper is presented through sign language, finger spelling mustn't be used.

Compensatory marks

Pupils who have been granted a compensatory mark for Paper 2: spelling are exempt from this component and must not attempt it. If the pupil takes the paper, the test script (answer booklet or test paper containing the pupil's answers) must be sent for marking and their mark will stand. We will not award a compensatory mark.

Mathematics tests

Instructions accompany the test materials for Papers 1, 2 and 3. These describe adaptations which you can make, and suggested rephrasing of words and sentences which may be signed. The instructions highlight any questions where you may need to give the pupil further clarification or exemplification.



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