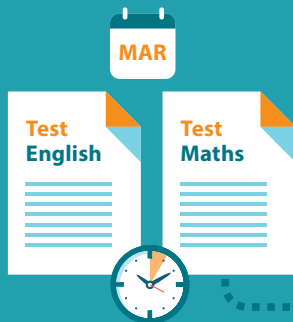


## National Reference Test

Each year  
300x schools  
in England...



around 30x Year 11s  
selected to take...



1 of 2  
one hour tests

National  
test results



taken into account for

**GCSE  
awarding**



GCSE  
marks



Key Stage 2  
results

**The National Reference Test is being introduced in 2017 to provide additional information to support the awarding of GCSEs. Trials in March 2016 allowed us to check processes ahead of the first live test in 2017.**

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**Annual tests in maths and English** will be taken by a sample of year 11 students in February and March each year. The test questions will remain largely the same from year to year. We will not be able to provide individual feedback to students and the results won't be used for accountability purposes.

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Each year, around **300 schools in England** will take part in the tests. Legislation requires that these schools take part. At each school, around 30 students will take an English paper and around another 30 students will take a maths paper. The tests will take an hour to complete and will be administered and invigilated by the National Foundation for Educational Research.

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**Evidence for  
Excellence in  
Education**

We intend to **publish national test results** towards the end of August each year. Over time, the tests have the potential to provide a valuable additional source of information that may be **taken into account when GCSEs are awarded.**