

2026 national curriculum tests

Key stage 2

Mathematics

Administering the braille version of
Paper 1: arithmetic

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2026

CONFIDENTIAL: Please read the 2026 test administration guidance before opening this pack on **Wednesday 13 May 2026**.

You may open it up to 1 hour before test administration to adapt the papers to meet your pupils' needs.

Written STA approval is required to open it earlier.

Keep these materials secure until **Friday 22 May 2026**.

Pack contents:

- Test administration instructions for the braille version of the key stage 2 mathematics test Paper 1: arithmetic (overleaf)
- One copy of the braille tactile version of the key stage 2 mathematics test Paper 1: arithmetic
- One copy of the printed transcript of the braille version of the key stage 2 mathematics test Paper 1: arithmetic

For test administration

Key stage 2 mathematics test

The key stage 2 mathematics test consists of 3 papers. The papers must be administered in order. Pupils can have a break between Papers 1 and 2.

The scheduled day for the administration of Papers 1 and 2 is Wednesday 13 May.

The scheduled day for the administration of Paper 3 is Thursday 14 May.

Paper 1: arithmetic

The following information explains how to administer the braille version of the key stage 2 mathematics test Paper 1: arithmetic. Modified test administration guidance is available at www.gov.uk/sta. If you have any questions, you should check with your headteacher or key stage 2 test co-ordinator before you administer the test.

Please follow these instructions correctly to ensure the test is properly administered. Failure to administer the test correctly could result in a maladministration investigation.

Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper 1: arithmetic consists of a single test booklet in braille.• There is a printed transcript of the braille booklet to help test administrators.• Pupils will have 30 minutes to complete the test, plus up to 100% additional time.• Changes have been made to the layout of some parts of the standard test paper to create the Braille version.• You must refer to the printed transcript rather than the standard test questions when administering this test.
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each pupil will need the equipment specified below:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- a suitable way of recording their answers that reflects the usual way they write in class, such as a brailler, electronic braille display or word processor- braille paper (if the pupil is brailleing their responses).• Pupils are not allowed:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- calculators- other mathematical equipment, such as angle measurers
Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You must ensure nothing you say or do during a test could be interpreted as giving pupils an advantage, for example, indicating an answer is correct or incorrect, or suggesting the pupil look at an answer again.• If a pupil requests it, you may read a question to the pupil on a one-to-one basis.• If reading to a pupil, you may only read words and numbers, but not mathematical symbols. This is to ensure pupils are not given an unfair advantage by having the function inadvertently explained by reading its name.• The example below illustrates how to deal with a common situation: Question: Do I need to multiply when I calculate 95% of 240? Answer: I can't tell you, but think hard and try to remember. We can talk about it after the test.
Guidance for specific questions	There is no specific guidance needed to administer the braille version of Paper 1: arithmetic.
Before the test begins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure you have the printed transcript of the braille booklet.• Ensure the following is written on the cover of the pupil's paper (or on every page of braille paper used if this is how the pupil is answering): pupil's name provided during pupil registration, your school's name and DfE number.• Review the list of pupils with any particular individual needs and consider whether they may need rest breaks or other access arrangements.• Ensure you know how to administer any access arrangements correctly. Please refer to the key stage 2 access arrangements guidance.• It is important that the pupils' names on their test papers match the names on the test attendance register. Check with your test co-ordinator whether any pupil in your group is known by a different name in school, or has changed their name since pupil registration. This is so you can write the correct name on their test paper.

What to do at the start of the test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check that seating is appropriately spaced.• Check that pupils don't have mobile phones or other disruptive items.• Check that pupils don't have any materials or equipment that may give them extra help.• Ensure each pupil who needs it has a braille copy of mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic.• Tell the pupils the duration of the test.
How to introduce the test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is important to brief pupils fully at the start of each test. You should use this script to introduce Paper 1: arithmetic. <i>This is the key stage 2 mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic.</i> <i>Open your test to page 1. I will read the instructions to you. (Read the instructions for braille pages 1 and 2 from the transcript to the pupils.)</i> <i>You must not use a calculator to answer any questions in this test.</i> <i>You have 30 minutes for this test, plus your additional time allowance.</i> <i>Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.</i> <i>All answers should be given as a single value.</i> <i>For questions expressed as common fractions or mixed numbers, you should give your answer as a common fraction, a mixed number or a whole number as appropriate.</i> <i>A line has been used in some questions to indicate a missing number.</i> <i>If you cannot do a question, go on to the next one. You can come back to it later, if you have time.</i> <i>If you finish before the end, go back and check your work.</i> Marks <i>In this test, long division and long multiplication questions are worth two marks each. You will be awarded two marks for a correct answer.</i> <i>You may get one mark for showing your method. All other questions are worth one mark each.</i> Note to test administrator: <i>Please write the school DfE number on the pupil's braille script.</i> <i>For questions that say 'show your method', any clear correct method is acceptable.]</i> <i>If you want to change your answer, put a line through the response you don't want the marker to read or use a series of 'for' signs (full 6 dot cells) with your braille.</i> <i>Remember to check your work carefully.</i> <i>If you have any questions during the test, you should put your hand up and wait for someone to come to you. Remember, I can't help you to answer any of the test questions.</i> <i>You must not talk to each other.</i> <i>Are there any questions you want to ask me now?</i> <i>I will tell you when you have 5 minutes left.</i> <i>I will tell you when the test is over and to stop working.</i> <i>You may now start the test.</i>

How to deal with issues during the test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is impossible to plan for every scenario. Whatever action you take, pupil safety must always be your first consideration.• In the following circumstances, you will need to stop the test either for an individual pupil, group of pupils or for the whole cohort:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- test papers are incorrectly collated or the print is illegible- an incorrect test has been administered- a fire alarm goes off- a pupil is unwell- a pupil needs to leave the room- a pupil is caught cheating.• If you need to stop the test:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- make a note of the time- make sure pupils are kept under test conditions and that they are supervised- if pupils have to leave the room, ensure they do not talk about the test- speak to your test co-ordinator or a senior member of staff for advice about what to do next- consider contacting the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013 for further advice.• You should brief your headteacher on how the incident was dealt with once the test is over.
What to do at the end of the test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you need to make a transcript of a test script, complete it with the individual pupil at the end of the test under test conditions. Particular care should be taken to ensure accurate transcriptions are made and the pupil's answers are not corrected or amended. Do not transcribe pupils' brailled answers onto standard test scripts.• Ensure you inform your senior member of staff/test co-ordinator if you have made a transcript, or if a pupil has used a scribe, word processor or other electronic or technical device. This is so they can complete the appropriate online notification.• Ensure you have collected every test script including any unused test material and any additional paper which pupils have recorded their answers on.• Ensure each sheet of paper has the pupil's name, school name and the school's DfE number clearly written on it.• Return the test scripts, and any additional paper, immediately to the senior member of staff who is responsible for collating the test scripts. Ensure you inform them of any pupils who have used additional paper so they can collate the pupils' responses correctly.• Do not look at, annotate or review pupils' answers in any way (unless it is necessary to make a transcript). If you amend or tamper with pupils' answers in test scripts, it will be considered maladministration and results may be annulled.• Do not keep or photocopy test scripts for any reason.• All test materials, including printed transcripts and any unused test papers, must be stored securely until Friday 22 May.

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Standards
& Testing
Agency

Key stage 2 mathematics

Administering the braille version of Paper 1: arithmetic

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For more copies

Additional copies of this braille print test paper can be ordered by contacting the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013. After the test window, a transcript can be downloaded from www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-past-test-materials.

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If you have any queries regarding these test materials, please contact the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013 or email assessments@education.gov.uk.