Mathematics tests

Subject-specific guidance

Key points

You should:

- ensure that pupils have the following mathematical equipment:
  - a sharp pencil for mathematical drawing
  - a calculator
  - a ruler (showing millimetres and centimetres)
  - an angle measurer or protractor
  - tracing paper
  - a mirror
- ensure that pupils write their name and the name of the school in the spaces provided on the front cover of their test paper
- explain to your pupils that there are three named pupils who feature in some of the questions in this year’s written tests. They are called: Lin, David and Rosie. Full-length pictures of these pupils appear on page 2 of the test paper
- read out the ‘Instructions’ on page 3 of the test paper
- inform pupils that they may ask questions during the test if they have any queries
- give pupils appropriate time reminders during the test.

For information only: Some of the 2006 test papers have been printed with bar codes and computer recognition marks. This is for a trial in electronic marking, which will take place after the 2006 test series. You should administer the tests in the usual way.

During the test you should note the following:

Mathematical notation

In cases where a pupil asks for clarification of the mathematical symbols or notation used in a question, you may read these to the pupil but you should not indicate the operation or process involved. For example:

0.5 nought point five (not five tenths)

% per cent (not out of every hundred)
Pointing out given information

At a pupil’s request, you may point to information on the test paper such as charts, diagrams, statements and equations, but you should not explain the information nor help the pupil by interpreting them.

Unfamiliar contexts

If an everyday context or words related to the context of a question are unfamiliar to a pupil, you may show them related objects or pictures, or describe the context or related objects.

Questions that must not be enlarged

If your school needs to enlarge questions or parts of questions to meet the specific requirements of individual pupils, and has not ordered the enlarged papers from the Modified Test Agency, the following question must not be enlarged. This is because enlargement may affect the pupils’ responses.

Test B
Question 15