



Governors Newsletter

April 2025

Finalisation/Approval of School Budget 2025-26 (LA Maintained Schools)

Just a reminder that you should have received your 2025-26 school budget details from Barnsley Financial Services on 28 February 2025.



Your school budget needs to be approved by the Governing Body (unless this decision has been delegated to the appropriate committee) and submitted to Barnsley Financial Services by 31 May 2025.

BMBC Governor Training will continue to be fully subsidised in 2025/26

We are delighted to report that Governor Training sessions will once again be fully subsidised between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.

Since we began subsidising the cost of training in 2023/2024, bookings have continued to increase year on year, which is testament to the quality of training being offered and your commitment as Governors to take advantage of our CPD offer.



Our thanks go to the Barnsley Schools' Alliance for providing the funding to fully subsidise Governor Training and for their continued support.

Details of courses available are regularly publicised via email (through GovernorHub) and are detailed at the bottom of each Governing Body meeting agenda. They can also be found on the [School Governors Website](#)

Key Stage 2 (KS2) SATs are scheduled to take place from 12-15 May 2025

At the end of Key Stage (KS) 2, pupils take National Curriculum tests, also known as SATs.



Academies, including free schools, are not required to teach the National Curriculum but must still administer SATs if their funding agreements require them to follow the KS2 [assessment and reporting arrangements \(ARA\)](#).

KS2 Assessment Data will be published this year
Just like last year, school-level data from SATs will be published on the DfE's [performance measures](#)

[website](#). This means you'll be able to compare your school's results with other schools.

What are Pupils tested on?

The KS2 SATs consist of:

- English grammar, punctuation and spelling
 - Paper 1 – questions
 - Paper 2 – spelling
- English reading
- Mathematics arithmetic and reasoning
 - Paper 1 – arithmetic
 - Paper 2 – reasoning 1
 - Paper 3 – reasoning 2

This is outlined in the ARA guidance, linked above (section 4.1).

How and when will pupils receive results?

Test results will be available to schools via the Primary Assessment Gateway (PAG) at **7:30am on Tuesday 8 July 2025**.

For each pupil registered for the tests, schools will receive:

- A raw score
- A scaled score
- Confirmation of whether or not they reached the expected standard

What is a Scaled Score?

A pupil's raw score is the total number of marks they get in a subject. This is converted into their scaled score and pupils' results are then reported as scaled scores.

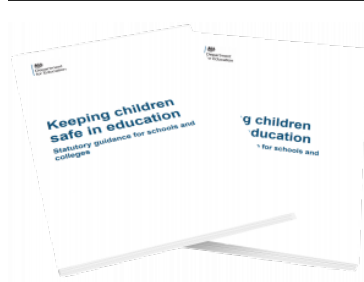
These help test results to be reported consistently from 1 year to the next, as the difficulty of the test may vary slightly between years.



A scaled score of 100 always represents the expected standard. But, depending on the difficulty of the test, the number of raw score marks needed to achieve a scaled score of 100 may change.

Pupils' scaled scores can range between 80 and 120. A scaled score of 99 or less means the pupil hasn't met the expected standard in the test.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025



We were expecting major changes to this document, however, the DfE has put this on hold.

Therefore, any changes to 2025 are likely to be less major and simply in line with legislation changes.

When the revised guidance is issued, this information will be shared with you.

Free Breakfast Club Pilot Scheme

In February 2025, the government announced the First 750 schools to offer free breakfast clubs for primary school children from April 2025.

The government announced the first schools set to pilot free breakfast clubs, which will benefit 180,000 children across all nine regions in England.



Three Barnsley schools have been selected as part of the pilot scheme, which are:

- Brierley CE (VC) Primary School;
- Shawlands Primary School;
- Summerfields Primary School.

These schools will help inform the national policy aimed at ensuring all primary-aged children have access to a free breakfast club and at least 30 minutes of free childcare each day.

The pilot will run until July 2025, after which the programme is expected to be rolled out nationally.

Government announces the approval of 300 new school-based nurseries

The funding for 300 new school-based nurseries has been approved by the government, as it attempts to deliver on its manifesto pledge to boost early education.



The measures are intended to help parents get to work, increasing access to childcare when they need it.

Funding for the programme has been more than doubled to £37 million — marking an important milestone in the expanded childcare rollout.

Further information on the subject can be found here: [Approval of 300 new school-based nurseries](#)