The Key Stage 2 SATS assess fluency through calculation alongside other things. This means that children must develop speed and accuracy when working with the four operations. They need to be equipped with efficient methods and show confidence in these.

Pupils will be expected to use formal methods when responding to questions presented in the arithmetic paper. They will even be awarded one out of two marks if a correct formal method is used but the final answer is incorrect.

Here is an explanation of the main formal methods that pupils are expected to know and use.


