

SATS-IFACTORY

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In this issue we will be looking at:

- The importance of SATs
- What is SATs?
- Why do we need them?
- Do you get stressed over SATs?
- Do you think SATs are necessary?

Recently there has been an on going debate about whether children at such young ages should be put under vast amounts of pressure due to the preparation of SATs.

Students:

Are you stressed about SATs?

Not particularly, because it doesn't matter as long as you work hard and do your best.

Do you feel prepared for your SATs?

Not entirely, I need to do a bit more revision.

Do you feel put under pressure to do well?

No, because I have revised and know that they aren't as important as other tests in the future.

Are you worried that your grade will affect you in the future?

No, it's not important like GCSE and A-Level.

Do you feel properly informed about SATs?

Differing opinions - because we've not done it before even though we've been told what it might be like.

Over decades, primary school students in year 6 around the UK begin to prepare for the start of SATs.

In this article, we asked a local primary school to answer some of these questions as well as their students.

Different perspectives were captured from the interviews with members of staff at primary schools:

Teachers:

What are SATs and why do we have them?

SATs are compulsory tests that students in year six have to take to rate the school's overall performance in teaching these pupils.

Do you think they are necessary?

They help verify teachers' judgments on the students they are teaching.

Do you feel like it is too early for primary school students to be taking exams? Why?

I think it is a little early to be putting children in tests that will pressure them to succeed. But, if the tests are only to verify teachers' judgements, they shouldn't worry too much. Often, in some cases, there is as much pressure on school's to achieve higher grades.

Do you think SATs put students under a lot of pressure?

SATs themselves don't put the students under pressure, however the approach that guardians, teachers and school's take can impinge on students' stress levels

Do you think SATs are good preparation for future exams?

They do prepare children at a young age to sit in on exams.

If you had a choice, would you change something?

I would rely on teachers' assessments and professional judgements than tests.



Year Six students starting their SATs

Despite the fact that many students and teachers have very different opinions, what do you think? Hopefully, we have inspired you to investigate further into SATs.