Using the outcomes of the tests

This section provides information about interpreting the scores from the year 7 optional test in English, levels 3–4. It explains how teachers can use the test scores to find out more about pupils' attainments in the national curriculum.

In order to make use of the information in this section, you should administer the tests according to the guidance given in this booklet. It is particularly important that you observe the time limits given in the test instructions, and mark questions strictly according to the mark schemes. If not, the information derived from this section cannot be used reliably.

To establish the national curriculum level attained, you must first begin with a raw score. For the reading test, you should total the marks for each pupil. For the writing test, you should total the scores of the longer task, shorter task and the scaled spelling test score (out of 7).

Level thresholds

The following tables give an indication of the national curriculum levels for pupils attaining each of the score bands in the tests.

Reading test (maximum mark 40)

| Below level 3 | 0–12 marks |
|---------------|-------------|
| Level 3 | 13-20 marks |
| Level 4 | 21–40 marks |

Writing test (maximum mark 38)

| Below level 3 | 0-15 marks |
|---------------|-------------|
| Level 3 | 16–25 marks |
| Level 4 | 26-38 marks |

English overall (maximum mark 78)

| Below level 3 | 0–28 marks |
|---------------|-------------|
| Level 3 | 29-46 marks |
| Level 4 | 47–78 marks |