

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Tuesday 8th March 2022 5pm



Year 4 MTC - Purpose

MTC = Multiplication Tables Check

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether Year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables. Although the check will help schools to identify pupils who require additional support, it is not intended as a diagnostic tool.

Year 4 MTC - Who

All Year 4 pupils will participate in this check. It is a national test of which children up and down the country will sit.

Children with Special Educational Needs will receive additional support during the test. The timer may be removed and/or an adult inputs the answers for them.

Year 4 MTC - How

It's been confirmed that the test will be fully digital and take place on screen. It will be available to use on laptops, desktops and tablets.

The Department for Education is opening up a 'try it out area' to familiarise schools and pupils with the system. This is likely to be open from the start of the summer term, or earlier. In 2020, it was due to be available from 23rd March to 6th June.

During this time, we can apply any necessary accessibility features for children with SEND that may need them. Pupils will then try these features out ahead of the check window to ensure they work for them.

Year 4 MTC – How Long

Under standard administration (i.e. without any access arrangements) the multiplication check will take less than 5 minutes per pupil. There is no requirement for all children in the class to take the check all at once.

We will be spread our tests out over a few days.

The test is 25 questions. Children will get 6 seconds **from the time the question appears** to input their answer. This means that children must be able to **read, recall** and **enter their response** within 6 seconds.

Children will enter their answer using a keyboard or by pressing digits using a mouse or touchscreen on an on-screen number pad.

This means that it is vital we are ensuring children are able to rapidly recall multiplication facts, and can do so 'out of sequence' (i.e. answer 6×7 without having to count in 6s from 0).

Whilst it may be tempting for us to resort to 'rote learning' for the multiplication tables, the children don't have time within the 6 seconds to chant up from $1 \times _$. Therefore, they have got to be able to quickly answer a random times table question without counting up.

Year 4 MTC - scores

At the end of the testing fortnight, I will share your child's score with you, as we would with all National Curriculum assessments.

There is no pass mark for the check. However, the National Curriculum states that children need to be able to quickly recall **all** times tables by the time they leave Year 4.

Year 4 MTC - Support

We practise our times tables daily at school; we would love for your children to practise with you at home so that they feel confident when completing the test.

The easiest way is to quiz your child.

8x6 is?

In your pack, you will find a selection of resources designed to make this fun.

- Poster
- Question wheels
- Flashcards – can be used while walking, in the car etc.

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Encourage children to play Times Tables Rock Stars as often as possible. Small, 5 minute daily sessions will help children to learn times tables more than one long session a week. The SoundCheck games is very similar to the multiplication check.

Quiz your child at home regularly. This could be when making dinner or on the journey to school.



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We use lots of songs to teach our times tables in school. Children can recognise these from BBC SuperMovers by typing in times tables collection on Google. Let them sing along with those at home. Children could also make their own times tables songs to tunes they know and love.

Chanting their times table is an excellent way to learn them. They could do this each time they walk up the stairs.

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Any times tables practise that the children can do at home will really support them to become proficient in their times tables and help them with their everyday maths learning.

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Key Takeaways –

- 25 questions
- 6 seconds per question
- On screen – laptop or tablet
- Access arrangements for children with SEND
- No pass mark
- Every bit of practice will help your child feel more confident going into the test

Any questions?