



## **Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check**

*Information Evening for Parents and Carers*

Ms Smith and Miss Ryan

## **What is the purpose of the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)?**

- The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables.
- The MTC is focused on the fluent recall of multiplication facts. This is included in the National Curriculum (2014) statutory programme of study for mathematics at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The National Curriculum states, 'By the end of year 4, pupils should be able to recall multiplication facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12.'
- Children who are secure in the times tables knowledge are in a better position moving into Year 5 and Year 6, as it underpins many mathematical concepts.

# When is the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)?

- In 2024, schools must administer the MTC to all eligible year 4 pupils between **Monday 3rd June and Friday 14th June**.
- Schools can use the following week, Monday 17 June to Friday 21 June, to administer the check to any pupils who were absent during the first 2 weeks or in case of any delays to the administration of the check due to technical difficulties.
- It is a statutory assessment, so all Year 4 pupils in England will be required to take the check.
- Before the check, there will be a ***'Try It Out'*** area which the children can use to become familiar with the timings and layout of the check.

# What does the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) look like?

- It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions.
- Children will use a Chromebook to complete the test.
- Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check.
- They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question.
- On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.
- Each pupil will be randomly assigned a set of questions.
- Children will only face multiplication questions in the check (not related division facts).
- Pupils will not see their individual results when they complete the check.

## What does the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) look like?

- There will always be questions from the 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 multiplication tables in each check.
- There will be no questions from the 1 times table (i.e  $1 \times 8$  or  $8 \times 1$ ).
- The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are more likely to be asked.
- There will only be a maximum of 7 questions from the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Reversal of questions will not feature in the same check.

# Example Multiplication Table Check



## **Specific arrangements for the Multiplication Tables Check**

Access arrangements may be appropriate for pupils with specific needs who require additional arrangements so they can take part in the MTC. However, the support given should be based primarily on normal classroom practice and must never advantage or disadvantage pupils.

- Colour contrast
- Font size adjustment
- 'Next' button (alternative to 3-second pause)
- Removing on-screen number pad
- An adult to input answers
- Audio version
- Audible time alert

## How does the school teach times tables so pupils learn instant recall?

Teaching times tables facts first:

- Counting and looking for patterns

Counting in 2s 2, 4, 6, 8, 10...

- Repeated addition

Knowing that  $2 \times 4$  is the same as  $2 + 2 + 2 + 2$

- Multiplication is commutative

$3 \times 2$  is the same as  $2 \times 3$ .

- Multiplication is the inverse of division

$20 \div 5 = 4$  can be worked out because  $5 \times 4 = 20$

- Number families

$4 \times 5 = 20$ ,  $5 \times 4 = 20$ ,  $20 \div 5 = 4$ ,  $20 \div 4 = 5$

- Using known facts

$7 \times 12 = ?$  I know  $7 \times 11 = 77$  Therefore,  $77 + 7 = 84$



# Example Multiplication Table Check

You can use this free MTC tool which will give you an idea of the speed at which children will be asked questions:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

Scan the QR code with your smartphone or device's camera to access the site.



# Example Multiplication Table Check

The screenshot shows a digital interface for a multiplication table check. At the top left is a 'MAIN MENU' button. The title 'Multiplication Tables Check' is displayed in red. A 'Time left: 2' indicator is in the top right. The main question area shows the equation  $3 \times 8 =$  followed by a blue input box containing the number '24'. Below the question is a numeric keypad with buttons for digits 1-9, 0, and an 'ENTER' button. A 'Time allowed: 6 seconds' and 'Tables selected: All' box is in the bottom left. The bottom of the screen features 'Question 1 of 25' in red and the 'MATHSFRAME' logo.

MAIN MENU **Multiplication Tables Check** Time left: 2

$3 \times 8 =$  24

1 2 3  
4 5 6  
7 8 9  
✕ 0 ENTER

Time allowed: 6 seconds  
Tables selected: All

**Question 1 of 25** MATHSFRAME

# How you can support your child

Hit the Button on TopMarks

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Times Tables Rockstars (log in available if needed)

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

Numberock Songs

<https://numberock.com/lessons/skip-counting-by-5/>

## How will the results be used?

- There is no expected standard threshold for the MTC, but higher scores indicate greater proficiency in fluently recalling multiplication tables.
- Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, allowing those pupils who need additional support to be identified.
- Your child's result will be shared with you, as with every other National Assessment.
- Remember this about the multiplication tables check. The check will focus on what they know about times tables. It won't reflect their understanding of wider mathematical topics.

## Any questions?

Thank you for your continued support in your child's learning.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. We are more than happy to speak to you about your child's learning.

If you are not able to speak with the class teacher face-to-face, then messages can be forwarded via the school office at [admin@bowmansgreen.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowmansgreen.herts.sch.uk) or 01727 767772. A member of the Year 4 team will then contact you as soon as possible.