

Parent Support for the MTC (Multiplication Tables Check)



1. Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check in June. The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help us to identify if your child may need additional support.

2. What is the multiplication tables check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. The children will have 6 seconds to answer a question before the test moves on to the next question. The test records correct, incorrect and unanswered questions. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

3. What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, which can be used to support children with specific needs. We will ensure that the access arrangements are appropriate for your child before they take the check in June.

The check has been designed so that it is inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements.

If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, please email us with your concerns. You can contact Miss Stevens (Maths Lead) or Mrs Bradshaw (SEND Lead and Deputy Head).

4. How does school prepare my child for the check?

In school we practise a specific times table – both multiplication and division facts – weekly for fifteen minutes during ‘Number Skill’ time at the start of the week. The children are then tested on that specific times table at the end of the week. We also have a morning slot during registration on Times Table Rockstars to support the children’s instant recall of facts. In school, we use the data gathered by Times Table Rockstars to support the children as a class. This can be in regard to speed of recall or accuracy of fact.

At school we will also have unlimited access to a ‘try it out’ area from April. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support required to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

5. Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. However, as part of usual practice, we do ask you support your child where possible to learn their times table facts. More information about the times table your child is currently learning can be found on the maths page.

6. How will the results be used?

In school we will have access to all our pupils' results, allowing those pupils who need additional support to be identified.

7. Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Yes. As a school we will share your child's score with you, as we would with all national curriculum assessments. It is important to note that there is no pass mark for the check, however we do look at their score in relation national averages and expectations to identify gaps in learning that will hamper progression in subsequent years.

For any further questions, please speak to your class teacher directly, or email Miss Stevens via the school office.

