

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

08.02.22



LIME TREE
PRIMARY ACADEMY
TO NURTURE, TO GROW, TO DREAM

Introduction of the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

- Primary school children are expected to know all of their times tables up to 12×12 . Under the current National Curriculum, children are supposed to know their times tables by the end of Year 4, but have previously not been formally tested on them.

What is the purpose of the check?

- The DfE says that the check is part of a new focus on mastering numeracy, giving children the skills and knowledge they need for secondary school and beyond.
- The purpose of the multiplication tables check is to determine whether Year 4 pupils can recall their multiplication tables fluently.
- The test is compulsory

When will the MTC happen?

- Towards the end of Year 4
- Schools can choose when in the three week period they decide to administer the test
- The multiplication check at Lime Tree will take place in the week beginning 13th June. We envisage that it will only take this week to complete the test with all children.

What will the MTC test?

- By the end of Year 4, children should be able to fluently recall their multiplication and division facts up to 12×12
- The MTC only assesses the instant recall of multiplication facts
- However, there is an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 multiplication tables because these have been determined to be the most difficult multiplication tables.

How will the MTC be administered?

- The MTC will be administered on-screen and online using either a laptop or iPad
- Over the coming months, the Year 4 teachers will work to prepare the children for this and will give them opportunities to practise times tables in similar conditions to the actual MTC.

What will the MTC look like?

- It will take 5 minutes to complete
- There will be 25 questions worth one mark each
- Pupils will have 6 seconds to enter a response to the question and the 6 seconds start as soon as the question appears
- Once the pupil has entered an answer, they can press proceed or wait until the time expires
- Once the question has been answered, there will be a 3 second pause before the next question appears
- Pupils and schools will be able to access a practice area prior to the check window opening, in order to become familiar with the MTC format

How will the results from the MTC be reported?

- At the end of the assessment window, a total score out of 25 will be reported to each school for all of the pupils who took the check
- There will be no expected standard threshold for the MTC (no pass mark)
- The DfE says the purpose of the check is to help teachers identify which children are falling behind and target areas where they're not being given a chance to succeed
- School level results won't be made publicly available or be used in league tables
- Guidance is expected to be updated in March 2022

Learning Times Tables

- Tables seem easy when children have learned them, but the prospect of having to learn them drives fear into children – and this in turn has a negative effect on learning
- This diagram shows the 144 times tables multiplication facts that every child needs to commit to memory
- Children need to be able to recall any times tables answer within two or three seconds. This leaves no time for counting the way up to the answer from $2x$, $3x$, $4x$ etc. – the answer has to ‘pop’ out of memory pretty much instantly

x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

When do the children learn the different times table facts?

- The preparation does not begin in Year 4

Expectations for times tables for each year group	
Year 1	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use all doubles to 10 and corresponding halves.
Year 2	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables including recognising odd and even numbers.
Year 3	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.
Year 4	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for tables up to 12 x 12
Year 5	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12
Year 6	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12

Useful tips

- Stick to one table at a time to minimise confusion.
- Start with chanting and writing them out slowly in order.
- Then move on to completing the answers quickly in order – on paper or verbally with your child.
- Finally, move on to completing the answers in any order.
- Keep reminding your child that 3×4 is the same as 4×3 – this effectively halves the number of tables facts.
- Talk about the numbers as you are encountering them “ $5 \times 7 = 35$ that’s our house number” – this makes more memory hooks.

What are we doing in school to prepare for the MTC?

- Active maths
- Chanting times tables
- Times Table Rock Stars
- Prodigy
- Hit the Button
- <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>
- Put useful resources on google classroom

Games to try at home

Super Fingers!

This is a game for two players.

The game is basically a version of rock, paper, scissors but with numbers. Two players count to 3 and then make a number using their fingers.

Both players then have to multiply both numbers together and the quickest wins.



Games to try at home

Multiplication Snap!

You will need a deck of cards for this game.

1. Flip over the cards as though you are playing snap.
2. The first to say the fact based on the cards turned over (2 and 3 say 6) gets the card.
3. The person to get all of the cards wins.



Thank you!

- Thank you for coming along this evening. We hope you have found the meeting useful and that you are leaving with a few extra ideas on how to support your child at home.
- If you have any questions then please let us know now or write a question in the chat function!