

Dear Year 4 parents,

We are writing to inform you that 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 is a statutory assessment that all Year 4 pupils will undertake this year.

The multiplication tables check will be carried out between Monday 6 June and Friday 24 June. It will be done in small groups and will only take about five minutes to do. The outcome of the check will inform both us as a school and you as parents as to where each child is in terms of their times tables.

Below is some useful information for parents about the multiplication tables check.

1. 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. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

2. What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, which can be used to support pupils with specific needs. Your child's teacher 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, you should discuss this with your child's headteacher.

3. 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. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will 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.

4. How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, allowing those pupils who need additional support to be identified.

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

Yes. Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you, as they would with all national curriculum assessments. There is no pass mark for the check.

What can you do?

Please regularly quiz your children on times table recall. This should be done in a fun way using games, songs or puzzles rather than as a test. There are also lots of online apps, games and puzzles widely available to support children to learn their tables in a fun and engaging way.

Each week as part of their maths homework, we also ask that you encourage your child to use their online TTRockstars account as regularly as possible. This is a fun way for your child to practise their times tables but also allows them to practise using a device which reflects how the test will be carried out. Both 'Soundcheck' and 'Gig' are useful games to play as they are similar to the multiplication tables check.

MathsFrame have also created an online check that is very similar to the MTC:

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

If you have any further questions about the MTC, please see a member of the Year 4 team.

Mrs Mulvihill and Miss Moss