

# Welcome to the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Presentation for Parents, Carers & Guardians

**Please put a tick next to your child's name on the correct class register, while you are waiting for the meeting to start. Thank you.**

## What is the purpose of the multiplication tables check?

- To determine whether Year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables.
- To help schools to identify pupils who require additional support.
- **The check will focus on what they know about times tables**
- **The check is only 5 minutes long**
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold.

What is the **MTC** (*Multiplications Tables Check*)?

The MTC is an on-screen check consisting of **25 times tables questions**.

Your child will answer 3 practice questions before moving on to the official check.

They will then have **6 seconds** to answer each question.

The check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

## When the multiplication tables check will be carried out

- There will be **3-week window in June** for the administration of the check (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June).
- There is **no set day** to administer the check.
- Children are not expected to take the check at the same time.
- All Year 4 pupils in England are eligible to take the check.
- Your child's result will be reported to you in July.

## How the multiplication tables check is carried out

- The check will be **fully digital** and take place on screen.
- Children will be able to use the desktop computers in our ICT room.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard or by pressing digits using a mouse.
- Unless there are special arrangements, the actual multiplication check will take **less than 5 minutes per pupil**.
- Children will get **6 seconds** from the time the question appears to input their answer.
- There will be **25 questions** with a 3 second pause in-between questions.

To give you an idea of the speed your child needs to be working at, have a go yourself:

$$1) 6 \times 7 =$$

$$2) 3 \times 8 =$$

$$3) 11 \times 10 =$$

$$4) 9 \times 12 =$$

$$1) 6 \times 7 = 42$$

$$2) 3 \times 8 = 24$$

$$3) 11 \times 10 = 110$$

$$4) 9 \times 12 = 108$$

## The questions

- Each pupil will be **randomly assigned** a set of questions.
- There will be repeated questions across different checks each year, but no more than 30% of questions will be repeated in any two checks.
- Children will **only be given multiplication statements** in the check (not related division facts) e.g.  $11 \times 12 =$
- Pupils will not see their individual results when they complete the check.
- The results will be sent to the schools in July and will be reported in your child's end of year report.



## Specific arrangements for multiplication tables check

**Children with additional needs**, who have similar provision in their day-to-day learning at school, **may be allotted specific arrangements, including:**

- Colour contrast;
- Font size adjustment;
- ‘Next’ button (alternative to 3-second pause);
- Removing on-screen number pad;
- An adult to input answers;
- Question reader;
- Audible time alert.

## During the check

- 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.
- **They will not be given reversed questions.** For example, if they are given  $6 \times 7$  they will not be given  $7 \times 6$  later on in the test.
- It is essential that children have a **RAPID RECALL** of **ALL** multiplication facts up to  $12 \times 12$

## Before the check: Encourage your children to practise daily before taking the check




- Research has shown that just **21 minutes practise a day** can dramatically improve a child's rapid recall of multiplication tables.
- Practising on **Times Tables Rock Stars** will help your child and there are a brilliant range of on-line games I would recommend, including challenges and timed tests, which are almost identical to the MTC. **You can find them on the school's VLE page for Y4:**



Year 4 (4A and 4B)

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### Important Information

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  [Getting Ready for the Year 4 MTC: Multiplication and Division Games](#) 

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## How the school teaches times tables so pupils learn instant recall

**Your children have been learning their times tables since Year 2.**

### **Teaching times tables facts first:**

- Counting and **looking for patterns** (*All answers to the 4 x table are even numbers*)
- **Repeated addition** ( $25 \times 3 = 25 + 25 + 25$ )
- Multiplication is **commutative** (*7 x 4 is the same as 4 x 7*)
- Multiplication is **the inverse** of division (*9 x 4 = 36 so I know  $36 \div 9 = 4$* )
- Number families

## Multiplication is commutative

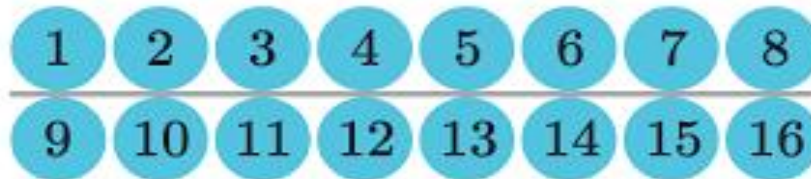
8 x 2 is the same as 2 x 8.

Children need to understand that multiplication can be completed in any order to produce the same answer. Sometimes this link needs to be made explicit.

$$8 \times 2 = 16$$



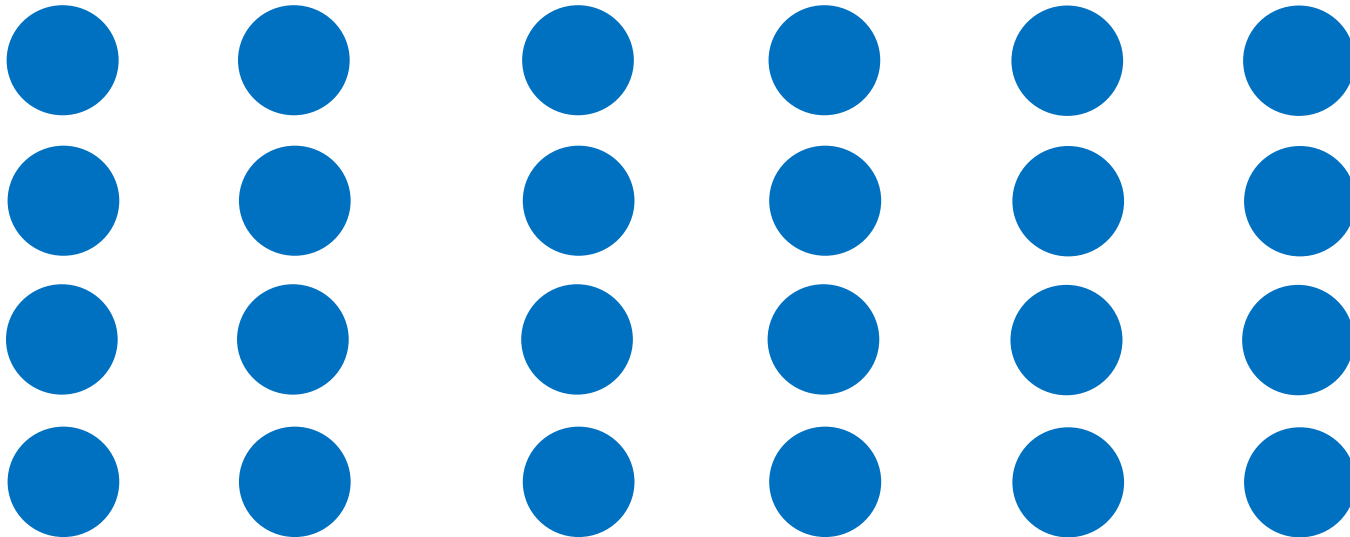
$$2 \times 8 = 16$$



## Multiplication is the inverse of division

$24 \div 6 = 4$  can be worked out because  $6 \times 4 = 24$ .

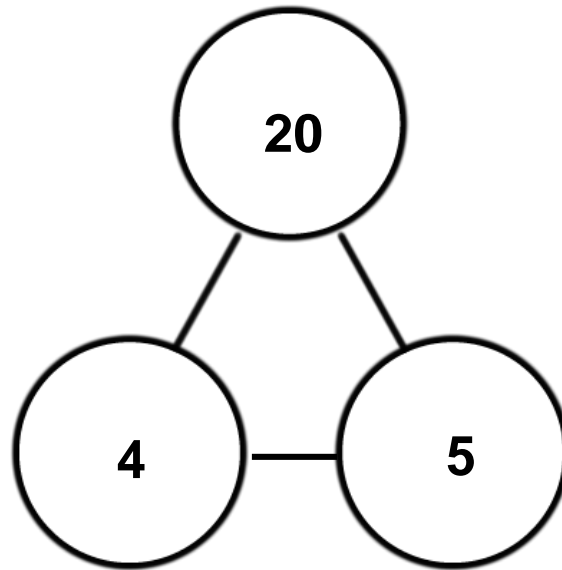
Using pictorial representations (such as arrays) is useful here for children to see the link between multiplication and division.



## Number families

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

Due to their commutative understanding, children should also be able to see whole number families. This helps children find missing numbers in a calculation e.g.   $\times 4 = 20$



## Using known facts

$$7 \times 12 = ?$$

$$\text{I know } 7 \times 11 = 77$$

So I add another 7 to 77, to get my answer

$$77 + 7 = 84$$

By **using known facts** from 'easier' times tables, children should be able to find answers with increasing speed.

$$\text{I know that } 3 \times 7 = 21$$

This means that I can calculate  $6 \times 7$  because double 3 is 6, so I can double 21 because the answer to  $6 \times 7$  will be double the answer to  $3 \times 7$ .

$$6 \times 7 = 42$$



## How can you support your child in preparing for their multiplication tables check?

Firstly, **a positive attitude goes a long way** – so as much encouragement and support as possible (but we don't need to tell you that)!

Some further tips:

- **Make times tables fun!**
  - Climb stairs counting in multiples
  - Play verbal times tables games
  - Listen to and learn times tables songs (**links on the VLE**)
  - Play all the challenges which have been set on **Times Tables Rock Stars**
  - Play online Maths games (**links on the Y4 VLE page**)
  - **Keep practicing – the more your child practices, the more confident and fluent they will become.**

Any Questions?