

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 2026

Presentation for Parents, Carers & Guardians



Important information about multiplication tables check (MTC)

- The MTC determines if Year 4 children can **fluently** recall their multiplication tables.
- They are designed to help schools identify which children require more support to learn their times tables.
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold which means that, unlike the Phonics Screening Check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check.
- The Department for Education (DfE) will create a report about the overall results across all schools in England, not individual schools.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>



When the check will take place

- There will be a **2 week window** from **Monday 1 June 2026** for schools to administer the check.
- There is **no set day** to administer the check and children are not expected to take the check at the same time.
- All eligible Year 4 children in England will be required to take the check.

Monday 1 June to Friday 12 June	MTC administration period
Monday 15 June to Friday 19 June	Schools administer the MTC to any pupils who were absent in the administration period or where administration has been delayed due to technical difficulties
Friday 19 June	Deadline for schools to ensure pupils have completed the MTC or have been recorded as not taking the check



How the check is carried out

- The check will be **fully digital**.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard, by pressing digits using a mouse or using an on-screen number pad.
- Usually, the check will take less than **5 minutes** for each child.
- The children will have **6 seconds** from the time the question appears to input their answer.
- There will be a total of **25 questions** with a **3 second pause** in-between questions.
- There will be **3 practice questions** before the check begins.



The check questions

- Each child will be **randomly assigned** a set of questions
- There will only be **multiplication** questions in the check, not division facts.
- The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are **more likely** to be asked.
- Reversal of questions (e.g. 8×6 and 6×8) will not be asked in the same check.
- Children will not see their individual results when they complete the check.



More information about the questions

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) state that they are classifying the multiplication tables by the first number (multiplier) in the question. For example, 8 x 3 would fall within the 8 times table.

5.2.1 Table 1 – Multiplication table limits in the MTC

Multiplication Table	Minimum number of items in each form	Maximum number of items in each form
1	Not applicable	Not applicable
2	0	2
3	1	3
4	1	3
5	1	3
6	2	4
7	2	4
8	2	4
9	2	4
10	0	2
11	1	3
12	2	4

The table shows the minimum/maximum number of questions from each times table that will be asked.



Ways to support times table knowledge

- Count and look for patterns.
 - Understand that multiplication is repeated addition.
 - Remember that multiplication is commutative.
 - Remember that multiplication is the inverse of division.
 - Recall and utilise fact families.
- Use different representations to represent multiplication, such as:
- Concrete manipulatives such as multilink cubes or counters.
 - Create pictorial representations such as arrays.



How best to prepare your child for the check

- Remind them that the check should last no more than **5 minutes**.
- If you want to go over times tables, make them fun.
- If you have any concerns, talk to your child's teacher.
- If your child has any concerns, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult (for example, yourself, their teacher).

Games to try:

- Climb the stairs counting in multiples
- Play time tables games verbally.
- Listen and sing along to times tables songs.
- Take it in turns to say times tables in funny voices.
- Play maths games online.

Useful websites:

[Hit the button](#)

Mock Test:

[Times Tables](#)

Practise the Multiplication tables check

