YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

Parent Workshop
February 2026

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES IMPORTANT?

We appreciate there's more to maths than times tables, and there's more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about the multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables.

For that reason, learning the tables is **fundamental** – they are a key facilitator to the maths that sits on top. We've always believed that in education which is why there is still such a focus on it in schools today.





CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS



x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	0	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Under the National Curriculum, it is expected that children know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

Officially announced by the Department of Education in September 2017. The first year that the Multiplication Check was due to take place was Summer 2020 but this was delayed due to Covid related school closures.

The first official check was completed in the summer of 2022.

The check is a statutory requirement for all state maintained schools and academies.

WHEN WILL THE MTC BE ADMINISTERED?

2026 Check
The check window opens on Monday 1st June until the 12th June.

All pupils must complete the check in this 2 week period.

HOW WILL SCORES BE USED?

School-level and individual pupil results will be made available to schools. This will be used to allow schools to provide additional support to pupils who require it.

School-level, county level and national results will be made available to selected users, e.g. Ofsted and the DfE in order to track standards over time.

Results will not be used in performance league tables.

HOW ARE THE CHILDREN TESTED?

Children will be tested using an on-screen check (using iPads or chromebooks), where they will have to answer multiplication questions against the clock.

Materials that could provide children with answers will be removed from rooms where the check is to be administered.

The test will last around 5 minutes, and is similar in format to the soundcheck assessments on TTRockstars.

It will be automatically scored, and results will be available in July

WHAT DOES THE ASSESSMENT LOOK LIKE?

Children will have 6 seconds to answer each question in a series of 25 questions. The test is based on accuracy not speed.

This allows pupils the time required to demonstrate their recall of multiplication tables, whilst limiting pupils' ability to work out answers to the questions.

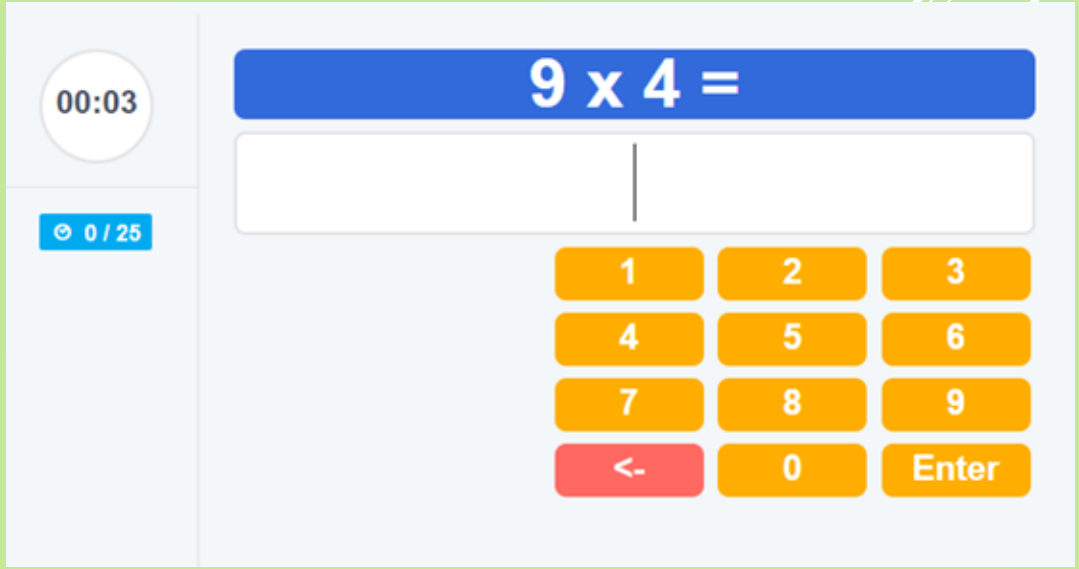
They do not have to press enter and can wait until the 6 seconds has finished if they have inputted the answer prior to the timer running out.

Each question will be worth one mark and will be presented in the format …… x ……. = ……..

Once an answer has been inputted there will be a 3 second pause before the next question is shown.

The expectation is that pupils should be able to get all 25 questions correct given the time allowed.

Children will be given the opportunity to practise answering questions in this format before the official check begins both on TTRockstars and in practice tests available for 1 week prior to the tests themselves.



WHAT IS IN THE TEST?

Questions will be selected from the 121 number facts that make up the multiplication tables from 2 to 12, with a particular focus on the 6,7,8,9 and 12 times tables, as they are considered to be the most challenging.

It is expected that each question will only appear once in any 25-question series and children won't be asked to answer reversals of questions (switchers) as part of the check.

Access Arrangements

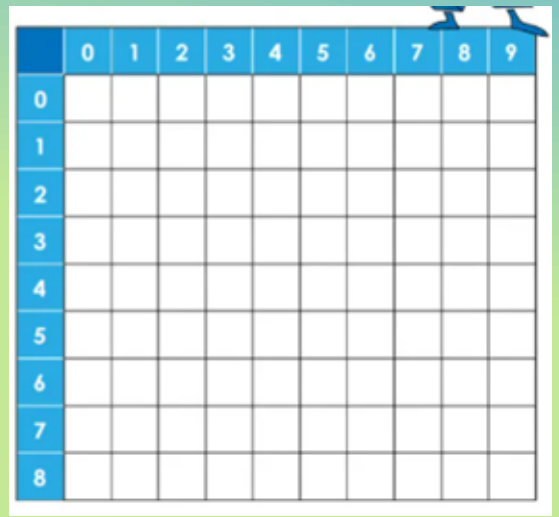
If your child has an EHCP, is on the SEND register, has EAL or has recognised behaviour/emotional difficulties, then there are a number of additional arrangements that may be made if necessary.

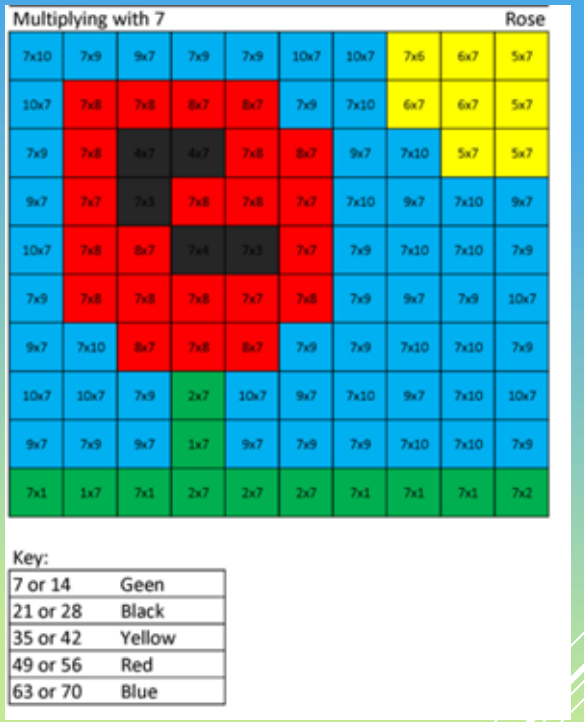
These include:

- Colour contrast
- Font size
- Pause next button between questions
- Remove on screen number pad
- Input assistant
- Audio version

HOW CAN YOU HELP AT HOME?

Soundcheck







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Particularly Hit the Button

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