

## Year 4 Multiplication Test – June 2020

Following our meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, please take time to read the information below. It highlights what the times table test involves and how you can support your child.

### What is the purpose of the test?

- To determine whether year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables.
- To help schools to identify pupils who require additional support.
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold.
- The DfE will create a report on overall results across all schools in England to measure improvements.

### When the multiplication tables check will be carried out:

- There will be **3-week window in June** for the administration of the check

### 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 laptops, desktops and tablets.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard or by pressing digits using a mouse or touchscreen using an on-screen number pad.

### How the multiplication tables check is carried out

- Under standard administration\* the 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.

### 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.
- Reversal of questions will not feature in the same check.

### **Questions more likely to appear**

The following 11 multiplication questions are more likely to be asked:

- $6 \times 6, 6 \times 7, 6 \times 8, 6 \times 9, 6 \times 12$
- $7 \times 8, 7 \times 9, 7 \times 12$
- $8 \times 9, 8 \times 12$
- $12 \times 12$

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

Teaching times tables facts first:

- Counting and looking for patterns
- Repeated addition
- Multiplication is commutative
- Multiplication is the inverse of division
- Number families

Use of different representations

- Concrete manipulatives such as counters or multilink cubes
- Pictorial representations such as arrays
- You can use this free multiplication table check which will give you an idea of the speed at which children will be asked questions:

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

### **How can I support my 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
  - Take it in turns to say different times tables in funny voices (i.e. say  $2 \times 3 = 6$  in a lion's voice)
  - Play online maths games
- Talk directly to your child's class teacher if you have any worries (try not to worry your child);
  - Encourage your child to talk to you, their teacher, or another adult they trust, if they express persisting anxieties about the check. Remember that a small amount of anxiety is normal and not harmful.

Thank you,

Mrs Hill and Mrs Matravers