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Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Dear Parents/Carers,

As some of you may be aware, from June 2020 a new statutory test for year 4 children called the "Multiplication Tables Check" was introduced. Your child will need to take a short online test to make sure their times tables knowledge is at the expected level. This test will take place after May half term. **It is very important that your child attends school during June; please avoid booking any holidays during this time.**

Below is some useful information provided by Standards and Testing Agency:

Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, 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 will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

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.

What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, these 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.

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 March. 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.

How will the results be used?



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

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.

Ways you can support your child at home:

If you would like to support your child with learning their multiplications at home, the following resources/ideas will help:

- **Use times table wall charts**
Wall charts show all the answers for a particular times table. Stick them up somewhere they'll be seen often. For instance, you could put them over the sink so that your child will see them when they're brushing their teeth. You'll be amazed how quickly they learn when they see these number facts every day!
- **Play times tables games**
Games and challenges are a great way to support learning, and a few minutes a day will make all the difference. Why not play snap with some times tables flashcards, matching the sums to the answers as fast as you can? Or you could surprise your child by asking times tables questions at random times during the day and seeing how quickly they can respond (this works particularly well as a competition between siblings or friends).
- **Practise on the computer**
Help your child become comfortable reading and answering questions on a screen. The following websites are particularly useful:
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>
 - <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>
 - <https://www.timestables.co.uk/>
 - <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

If you have any further questions or queries regarding the multiplication check, please contact a member of the year 4 team.

Yours sincerely,
Miss S Cartwright
(Assistant Head)

