



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

believe, achieve and soar with pride

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

The Year 4 Times Tables check, known by the government and schools as the [Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check](#) (MTC), is an annual check which takes place in June to see if Year 4 pupils have a good level of times tables knowledge. Primary-school children are expected to know all their times tables up to 12x12. Under the current National Curriculum, children are supposed to know their times tables by the end of Year 4.

Why has the test been put in place?

The check is part of a focus on mastering numeracy, giving children the skills and knowledge they need for secondary school and beyond. The purpose of the Multiplication Tables Check is to determine whether Y4 pupils can recall their multiplication tables fluently (being able to answer times tables questions accurately and quickly, without having to work out the answers).

What is the Year 4 times tables test's format?

The Multiplication Tables Check is an online, on-screen digital assessment meaning the children will take the test on a chrome book at school.

The times tables test will be timed, with the entire assessment lasting approximately 5 minutes in total. The children will be set a handful of practice questions to begin with. Following the practice questions, the test itself will comprise of 25 questions; children must answer each question within 6 seconds.

How will the results be reported?

Pupils' individual results will be made available to schools, and the Department for Education will report national results to track how they change over time.

What happens if my child does not score very highly on the test?

There will be no "pass mark" (expected standard threshold) and no child will "fail" the test. Multiplication facts will be the only things tested (there will be no testing of children's knowledge of division facts or problem-solving in the check).

The DfE says the purpose of the check is to help teachers identify which children are falling behind and target areas where they're not being given a chance to succeed.

Why are times tables so important?

Secure and confident knowledge of times tables is vital to children's success in Maths. They are the building blocks of Maths and with multiplications mastered the doors to many other areas of Maths become unlocked.

Here are some ways which memorising times tables can benefit your child:

- Most importantly, knowing their times tables will give your child confidence in their ability in Maths. We aim for all children to be able to mentally recall their times tables, moving away from counting on their fingers as they become more confident.
- Times tables can help your child to grasp other mathematical concepts, such as fractions, division, ratio and percentages to name a few. Children who do not know their times tables will not be able to access more complex procedures.
- If a child is confident with their times table skills, then this can reduce the cognitive load when learning a new method. An example of this is when learning the long multiplication method; if a child is already confident with their times tables then they can solely focus on the new skills with the method, e.g. where exchanges are needed, when a place value holder is needed, estimating and checking that their answer is correct. This will not only help to ensure that their calculations are accurate, but speed up the process of learning a new method and also boost their confidence as they see that they have been successful.

Expectations for times tables for each year group:

Year 1 - Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use all doubles to 10 and corresponding halves.

Year 2 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables. Including recognising odd and even numbers.

Year 3 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.

Year 4 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12x12.

Year 5 - Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12x12.

Year 6 - Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12x12.

How can I help my child?

Times tables are learnt best when learnt regularly and in short bursts. At Dean Bank Primary School, we use morning starters to familiarise children with multiplication facts; children receive badges for each times table they successfully achieve. We also use 'Times Tables Rock Stars' to support instant recall and help learn multiplication and division tables. This interactive tool is a fun way of learning times tables facts as well as helping them to familiarise themselves with the online element of the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.

Please click the 'Times Tables Rock Stars' link below to take you to the pupil login area.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/29484>

Some other useful websites for practising times tables are included below:

[Maths Frame tables check](#) This activity mirrors the multiplication table check children will complete in June. We will use this frequently throughout the year to track children's progress and familiarise them with the format of the check.

[Hit the button!](#) Hit the Button is an interactive maths game with quick fire questions

[Times Table Mountain](#) Select the table you wish to practise and then begin your ascent. If you manage to reach the top you can print out a certificate and view a report of your mistakes.

For further information see [Multiplication tables check: information](#)