Frequently Asked Questions about the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

What is the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)?

The MTC is a short online assessment that all Year 4 pupils in England complete. It checks how quickly and accurately children can recall their multiplication tables up to 12 × 12.

Why do children take the MTC?

Knowing times tables by heart helps children with many areas of maths, including:

- Long multiplication and division
- Fractions and decimals
- Problem solving
- Mental maths

The check helps teachers identify which multiplication facts children know well and which may need further practice.

When does the MTC take place?

The check is usually completed during a two-week period in June of Year 4.

How is the check completed?

Children complete the check online using a computer or tablet. They answer multiplication questions one at a time on the screen.

How many questions are there?

There are **25 multiplication questions**.

How much time does my child have?

Children have:

- Up to **6 seconds** to answer each question
- A short pause between questions

The whole check normally takes less than 5 minutes.

Which multiplication tables are included?

Questions can cover all multiplication facts up to **12 × 12**, including:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 times tables

Questions are selected automatically by the computer.

Will children be tested on division facts?

The MTC only asks multiplication questions. However, knowing related division facts can help children understand the relationships between numbers.

Is the MTC a pass or fail test?

No. There is no official pass mark. The check is designed to give teachers information about each child's recall of multiplication facts.

Will parents receive the results?

We will share your child's score with you following the assessment, usually in July.

What if my child makes a mistake?

Children cannot return to previous questions once they have moved on. Teachers encourage children to answer as many questions as they can without worrying about mistakes.

Will my child be expected to show working out?

No. The MTC is designed to assess quick recall of multiplication facts, so children simply type their answer.

How can I help my child at home?

You could:

- Practise times tables regularly for a few minutes each day.
- Use flashcards or quick-fire quizzes.
- Ask multiplication questions while travelling or walking.
- Encourage use of songs, rhymes, and games.
- Use online resources such as Times Tables Rock Stars or Hit the Button.

Short, frequent practice is usually more effective than long practice sessions. See out Times Tables policy, and our Times Tables information pack for further ideas and detail.

What should I say to my child before the check?

Reassure them that:

- The check is only one way of showing what they know.
- It is not a test to worry about.
- Their teacher is proud of the effort they have put into learning their tables.
- The most important thing is to try their best.