

Whole School Times Tables Challenge 2021- 2022

The times tables challenge has been created for children in Key Stages 1 and 2, supporting rapid recall of multiplication facts and the corresponding division facts. There are various stages which are progressive and in line with the sequence in the National Curriculum. All children will be given a times table challenge booklet to track their progress, however they can also be viewed and printed below.

Children should be practising their level regularly at home. When children feel they are fluent and have rapid recall at their particular stage, they will be tested in school. Once completed successfully, pupils will move onto the next stage.

Certificates will be given for specific milestones and we hope to have lots of children achieve 'Times Tables Champion' both at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.



Frequently asked questions.

Why is it important to learn times tables?

Multiplication facts is a main tool to help children with lots of different areas of maths, such as division, fractions, factors, decimals, ratio, algebra. If your child knows their times tables rapidly, it will help them access other topics in maths with greater confidence and skill. If your child is secure with their multiplication facts, they will find it easier to solve problems and do mental arithmetic.

Why do they have to know them rapidly?

Being able to answer the question accurately, is the most important thing. However during statutory school assessments, the children are given a time limit, so this is one way of preparing the children to be able to answer accurately and quickly. The National Curriculum for Mathematics states children should be able to 'recall knowledge accurately and rapidly'.

What is the Y4 Multiplication Check?

The purpose of the Y4 Multiplication Check (MTC) is to determine whether Y4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables and are meeting the expected standard for their year group before moving to Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6). It will be taken by Y4 children in the summer term (during a three-week period in June). Children will be tested using an on-screen check (on a computer or a tablet), where they will have to answer multiplication questions against the clock. The test will last no longer than 5 minutes and is similar to other tests already used in school. The following website will give you further information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>

These websites are similar to the way the MTC test is administered, so can be used to practise speed.

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

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

How can we help at home?

Focus on helping your child to answer accurately. At first you may have to model ways to find the answer. You could use some of the games and links identified on our website. Encourage your child to practise regularly during the week for short periods of time.

Every child from Y2-Y6 has a Times Tables Rock Star username and password, so they can use it at home. Encourage your child to go on this regularly as this will improve speed and accuracy.

Look out for competitions set by your child's class teacher.

There are also some 'Ultimate Times Tables Tests' attached below which you can print out for some extra challenge.

What are the times tables expectations for each year group?

The following chart shows the expectations for each child based on their age or year group at school, as stated in the National Curriculum.

Year Group:	Expectation:
Year 1 (age 5/6)	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use doubles to 10 and corresponding halves. (For example, knowing that 4 is half of 8, and that 6 is double 3.)
Year 2 (age 6/7)	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers. (In other words - as an example - your child should be able to tell you that 15 is an odd number and that $15 \div 5 = 3$)
Year 3 (age 7/8)	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables. (So, your child should be able to tell you that $8 \times 9 = 72$ and that $28 \div 4 = 7$, as examples)
Year 4 (age 8/9)	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 - knowing that $1 \times 1 = 1$ up to being able to recall that $144 \div 12 = 12$. (Beginning in the 2019/2020 school year all children in academies, free schools and maintained state schools will sit the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check in June - more information is available on our blog.)
Year 5 (age 9/10)	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12×12 .
Year 6 (age 10/11)	Revision of all times tables and division facts up to 12×12 .