



Glazebury CE Primary School & Nursery

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Dear parents and carers,

Children in Year 4 will be taking the optional multiplication tables check in June. This check was due to be statutory from June 2020. However, due to the pandemic, it was postponed. This year (2021), the check is optional and next year (2022) it will be a statutory requirement for our Year 4 children.

Please find attached some information from the DFE website which explains the purpose of the check and how it will be carried out. You will also find some links to useful websites and ideas for activities you can do at home to support your child learn and recall their times tables facts.

In school, Year 4 children will be given opportunities to practice on laptops – this will help prepare them for the actual check itself and get them used to the format of the check.

If you have any questions about the MTC, please get in touch with school.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Goman

Multiplication tables check

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

If so, they will have the opportunity to take the optional multiplication tables check (MTC), in June 2021.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether pupils 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 pupils who may need additional support.

What is the MTC?

The MTC is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times tables questions. Your child will answer 3 practice questions before moving on to the official check and 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 schools to use, and teachers will be able to ensure that these are appropriate for your child prior to the check window in June.

There are, however, some circumstances in which it may not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check. If you have any concerns about your child being able to access the MTC, you should talk to 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 practice times tables with your child, as they would with spelling.

In terms of preparing pupils for the on-screen nature of the MTC, schools will have access to a 'try it out' area. They will be able to use this to familiarise pupils with the check and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

How will the results be used?

Resources

TimeTables Rockstars

Children should be trying to access TimesTable Rock Stars for 5 minutes every day. They children will benefit more from the short, sharp practise sessions rather than one 20 minute session a week.



Timetables

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

A fantastic website that has a range of games that the children can access, it also has a page that can be used for practising the test so the children can get used to the speed and the types of questions they will be asked.

Home Times tables speed test

Speed test

Choose the table you want to practise

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12

All tables Start

Multiplication tables check

Multiplication tables check

Start

Settings

Number of questions: 25

Time per question: 6 sec

Show score during test: no

You can change the difficulty by using more time or no time limit at all per question. After the test you can print the results.

Maths Frame

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/category/22/most-popular>

Most Popular Free Maths Games



Top Marks

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

Hit The Button – interactive maths game with quick fire questions on number bonds, timestables, doubling and halving, all of these activities will feed into the children's' timestable knowledge.



Speed Tables

Your child can race against a friend or play alone against the clock, ask them to write down a set of tables 1-12 (e.g. $1 \times 8 = 8$, $2 \times 8 = 16$). Write down their time, keep practising that table for the rest of the week and then have another go at writing against the clock.

Timestable Bingo

Best played with two or more children, or the rest of the family! Make simple bingo cards with multiples of, for example, nine on them. Then you, as the caller, call out "nine nines", and whoever has 81 dabs it. The person who gets a full house is the caller on the next round. As the children get quicker and more confident you can mix the tables up on the bingo card!

Memory Games

Buy or make some number cards, and write down the corresponding tables calculations onto cut-out card. Make sure the number cards and the tables calculation cards are different shapes so your child can distinguish a calculation from a potential answer. Lay all cards upside-down on the floor or desk. First your child has to turn over one of the table calculation cards, and then they need to find the number card that is the answer to the calculation. The winner is the player with the most cards once all the overturned cards are gone