Multiplication Tables Check
Parent Workshop
Background and purpose
Purpose

The Multiplication Tables Check is a new statutory assessment to be undertaken by Year 4 pupils in Summer 2020.

This year, a selection of schools are taking part in a pilot scheme to trial the new online system.

Children will be taking the online assessment in the week commencing Monday 17th June.
The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables. Although the check will help schools to identify pupils who require additional support, it is not intended as a diagnostic tool.
The MTC is focused on the **fluent recall** of multiplication facts from KS1 and KS2.

The MTC will be delivered as an **online**, on-screen **digital** assessment.

Under standard administration, the check will take each pupil **less than 5 minutes** to complete. It will be automatically scored, and results will be available to schools once the assessment window closes.
Purpose of the pilot 2019

The purpose of the pilot is:

- to allow schools to familiarise themselves with the check before it becomes a statutory assessment in 2020
- for the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) to test the digital service with schools on a national scale
- to gather feedback from school staff and pupils about how the check administration process and guidance can be improved
Information video

https://youtu.be/GhAJMJUsAac
Structure of the Multiplication Tables Check
The content domain for the MTC is based on the national curriculum (2014). The national curriculum states, ‘By the end of year 4, pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table and show precision and fluency in their work’.

The year 4 programme of study for mathematics also states, ‘Pupils should be taught to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 × 12’. The MTC only assesses the instant recall of multiplication facts. Multiplication and division in a wider context will continue to be assessed through the KS1 and KS2 mathematics assessments.
Timings

“Recall multiplication facts quickly”
“Requirement to answer at speed”

● A time limit of 6 seconds per question (from when it first appears)
● This allows pupils the time required to demonstrate their recall of multiplication tables, whilst limiting pupils’ ability to work out answers to the questions.
The assessment will consist of multiple, equivalent forms and each pupil will be randomly assigned one of the available forms. If, for any reason, a pupil needs to restart the check, they will be randomly assigned a different form. Each form consists of 25 questions worth one mark each. Items are not ordered according to difficulty. Questions will all follow the same format:

\[ n_1 \times n_2 = \]
Assessment content

“There is an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 multiplication tables because these have been determined to be the most difficult multiplication tables.”
### 5.2.2 Table 2 – KS1 and KS2 item limits in the MTC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Stage</th>
<th>Items available</th>
<th>Minimum number of items in each form</th>
<th>Maximum number of items in each form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KS1</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS2</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shows the upper and lower limits for the number of KS1 items (the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables) and KS2 items to be included in each check form. As a KS2 assessment of multiplication tables mastery, the majority of the items in each form will be drawn from the KS2 curriculum. Multiplication tables taught at KS1 will be minimised, but are included to ensure an appropriate breadth of coverage.
What children need to know
What to expect

- There will be 3 practice questions.
- Then there will be 25 questions.
- Each question will show for 6 seconds.

Next
1 \times 12 = \underline{0}
$10 \times 10 = 100$
Answering questions

● Pupils enter response using the
  - computer keyboard
  - mouse (or equivalent) and the on-screen number pad
  - a touchscreen device and the on-screen number pad
● Once answer is entered, they can press enter to proceed, OR wait until the time expires.
● Once the question is answered, there will be a 3 second pause before next question appears.
● Practice area available prior to the check window opening, for familiarisation
MTC system and pupil ‘try it out’ area

Schools can use the system to ensure their pupil register is correct and apply any necessary pupil accessibility features in advance of the pilot.

Pupils can use the ‘try it out’ area to familiarise themselves with the check, and ensure that any applied pupil accessibility features work effectively. These will be open to use until 28 June 2019.
Results
1.1.1 Use of data

Once the assessment is statutory, the data will be used in the following different ways:

- school-level results and individual pupil results will be made available to schools. This will allow them to provide additional support to pupils who require it.
- as is the case with the Phonics Check, school-level results will be available to selected users including Ofsted via the Analyse School Performance (ASP) data system\(^2\).
- national results will be reported by the Department for Education (DfE) to track standards over time.
- national and local authority results will be reported by the DfE to allow schools to benchmark the performance of their pupils.

School level results will not be published in performance tables.
Results

Pupils will not see their individual results when they complete the check. Results will be available in the ‘Results’ section from Monday 1 July providing:

- all pupils have completed the check or have been marked as ‘not taking the check’
- the HDF has been submitted

Schools participating in the MTC pilot will receive overall scores for each pupil, their school’s average score and the national average. Results from the pilot will not be published in Analyse School Performance (ASP)⁹, and there will be no statistical publication. When the check becomes statutory in the 2019/20 academic year all results will be provisional until the statistical release in ASP.
Any questions?