

Headteacher: Mr S Payne  
Acting Head of School: Mrs M Clark  
Telephone: 01474 833177

Email: [irpoffice@swale.at](mailto:irpoffice@swale.at)  
Website: [www.isteadrise.org.uk](http://www.isteadrise.org.uk)

Downs Road  
Istead Rise  
Northfleet  
Kent  
DA13 9HG

19th January 2026

## Re: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Year 4,

Schools in England are required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to all Year 4 pupils. The [national curriculum](#) specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12 x 12, by the end of Year 4.

### When?

Tests are scheduled to take place between **Monday 1st June and Friday 12th June 2026**.

### Why?

The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help staff at Istead Rise to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

### How?

We will have the flexibility to administer the check to individual pupils, small groups or a whole class at the same time. This will enable us to cater to the needs of individual children. There will be opportunities to practise before the live test takes place, so that they are familiar with the format.

### How will the test be presented to the children?

The MTC will be delivered as an online, on-screen digital assessment. Under administration (by the class teacher), the check will take each pupil less than 5 minutes to complete. Each test consists of 25 questions - each worth one mark. Questions are not ordered according to difficulty and all questions will follow the same format e.g.  $6 \times 7 =$  ,  $12 \times 4 =$  ,  $9 \times 8 =$  . Pupils will have 6 seconds to enter a response to the question. The 6 seconds starts as soon as the question appears.

### How can I help my child at home?

At school we follow the national curriculum with an emphasis on the essential mathematical skills needed to support future mathematical learning. For example, we will focus on one mathematical operation at a time so children become confident and fluent in that area. We use Times Table Rockstars as an additional resource to support multiplication learning. Once a week we also complete pages from a CGP multiplication activity booklet which comprises of a short 10 minute weekly multiplication 'test'. At home you could use the following resources:

- **Mathletics** - this is a great way of helping your child improve their fluency, especially when playing 'Live'.
- **EMILE** - The children have full subscription access to Emile. Emile are the providers of the MTC World Cup and their site has a range of different games and challenges for multiplication tables. In school, we use the battles on Emile.

- Children can also access free resources which are similar to the live test in June. One resource can be found by clicking on the link [Test Simulator](#) or by searching 'Collins times table test simulator'. When on the page, you can click on settings and adjust the tables to be tested. A similar resource can also be found at:  
<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>
- **Topmarks** - timed challenges are a great way to focus on a particular times table, the timings can be adjusted. <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10> and <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Additional information from the DFE can be found [here](#).

We hope you and your child find the resources useful and would like to thank you for the continued support you provide your child with their learning to ensure that they are as successful as they can be.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr S Meredith  
Year 4 Class Teacher