



Privacy notice: 2021 optional multiplication tables check

Who we are

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) is an executive agency of the Department for Education (DfE). For the purpose of data protection legislation, DfE is the data controller for the personal data processed. STA is responsible for the development and delivery of assessments for children in education between reception up to and including key stage 2.

The aim of the multiplication tables check (MTC) is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided. Further [information about MTC](#)¹ is available on GOV.UK.

The personal data we use

We receive pupils' personal data from schools.

The pupil personal data that will be used are:

- full name
- gender
- date of birth
- unique pupil number (UPN)

How we use your information

We use your pupil information to enable us to deliver an online check to each pupil to determine whether year 4 pupils can fluently recall their times tables. We also provide the results back to schools to help them identify pupils who may require more support to master them.

Why our use of your personal data is lawful

For our use of your personal data to be lawful, we need to meet one (or more) conditions in the data protection legislation. For the purpose of this project, the processing is necessary for the department to exercise its functions of administering national curriculum assessments.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>

The Education (National Curriculum) (Key stage 2 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 2003 SI 2003/1038 specifies the assessment arrangements for pupils who have completed the programme of study for the second key stage as they apply to schools maintained by local authorities in England, and to academies through their funding agreements.

- Article 6(1)(e) GDPR, to perform a public task as part of our function as a department.

The Data Protection Act 2018, Part 2 Chapter 2 Lawfulness of processing Section 8 (d) allows for when (data) processing is necessary for the exercise of a function of the Crown, a Minister of the Crown or a government department.

Who will see your personal data

As 2021 is an optional year for participation it has been agreed that pupils' personal data will only be made available to the school the pupil is registered with who participate in the check.

If we need to share your personal data with others, we ensure that this sharing complies with data protection legislation.

How long we will keep your personal data

We will only keep the personal data for as long as we need it for the purpose(s) of this piece of work (2 years), after which point it will be securely destroyed. Please note that, under the data protection legislation, and in compliance with the relevant conditions, we can lawfully keep personal data processed purely for research purposes indefinitely.

Your data protection rights

You can find more information about how the DfE handles personal information in [DfE's personal information charter](#)².

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, you are entitled to ask if we hold information relating to you and ask for a copy, by making a 'subject access request'.

You can find more information in the 'how to find out what personal information we hold about you' section of the [Personal Information Charter](#)³.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, you can [contact DfE](#)⁴.

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter#how-to-find-out-what-personal-information-we-hold-about-you>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>

Further information about your data protection rights appears on the [Information Commissioner's website](#)⁵.

The right to lodge a complaint

As an executive agency of the DfE, STA determines the purposes and means of processing personal data as part of the administration of the national curriculum assessments. You can find more information about this in DfE's [Personal information charter](#)⁶.

If you have any questions about how we use your personal information, please [contact DfE](#)⁷ and quote 'Use of multiplication tables check personal data' as a reference.

Alternatively, you have the right to raise any concerns with the Information Commissioner's Office. For more information, visit the [ICO website](#)⁸.

Last updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically, so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated on 20 April 2021.

⁵ <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>

⁸ <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>