Overview

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) will use the results of the final 2019 multiplication tables check (MTC) trial and national pilot to:

- collect evidence on the performance of check items and forms to evaluate their comparable difficulty and inform future form construction
- develop and refine the live pilot digital service for implementing MTC as a final live service development

As data processor, STA is responsible for securely storing and handling any personal data required to administer both the final trial and national pilot checks. We will keep data for only as long as it is required for research and operational purposes, and will regularly review retention of the data, in accordance and in line with the requirements of UK data protection legislation and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr). 

What data will be collected and who can access it?

We will collect and hold the following categories of data:

- participating pupils’ names
- participating pupils’ dates of birth
- participating pupils’ unique pupil numbers
names of participating schools

The MTC check will be completed online by all eligible year 4 pupils (age 8-9) who schools agree and decide to enter for the trial or national pilot in 2019.

STA will store the data collected securely within its own system and retain it in line with the agency’s data retention policy. Access within STA will be restricted to those employees who need to see the pupil data. Schools will also see the data for their participating pupils.

How long will we keep your data?

STA will only keep personal data for as long as it is needed for the purpose of the trialling and service development of the live check. STA will retain the data for no longer than necessary, in accordance with the law, and will systematically review and manage retention. The data will be securely destroyed once it is no longer required. Please note, under section 33 of the Data Protection Act 1998, and in compliance with the relevant conditions, we can lawfully keep personal data processed purely for research purposes indefinitely.

What is the legal basis for collecting and processing the data?

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. For the processing of personal data, the relevant condition is Article 6 (1) (e) of GDPR.

Who can I contact about the use of personal data?

As an executive agency of the Department for Education (DfE), STA determines the purposes and means of processing personal data as part of the MTC project. You can find more information about this in DfE’s personal information charter (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter).

If you have any questions about how we use your personal information, please contact DfE (https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe) and quote ‘Use of multiplication tables check data’ as a reference. If you want to get in touch with the Data Protection Officer (DPO),
please contact DfE and mark it ‘for the attention of the DPO’.

You have the right to lodge a complaint about data protection issues with the Information Commissioner’s Office. For more information, visit the [ICO website](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint).

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