Effectiveness Trial of 1stClass@Number 1 2023 - 2024
School Information Sheet

About the evaluation

Edge Hill University (EHU) is partnering with the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to evaluate the impact of its 1stClass@Number 1 (1CN1) intervention on mathematics outcomes/attainment for Year 2 pupils and especially those in receipt of Free school Meals (FSM).

This is a randomised controlled trial where eligible pupils within each school will be randomly assigned to either the intervention group (receives the 1CN1 programme in addition to normal mathematics lessons) or the control group (receives only normal mathematics lessons). The Quantitative Reasoning Test (QRT) will be used as the primary outcome for this project. All participating pupils will complete the assessment at baseline (prior to randomisation) and at endpoint (after the intervention delivery is complete).

This EEF project is part of a wider DfE-funded programme called the Accelerator Fund. The Accelerator Fund aims to increase access to evidence-informed programmes.

About the programme

Developed by Edge Hill University, 1CN1 provides training to teaching assistants (TAs) to deliver the intervention to a group of 4 pupils in need of maths catch up over a period of 10 weeks. The lessons focus on number and calculation, developing children's numeracy and number talk skills alongside their mathematical thinking and comes 'readymade' with detailed plans and extensive resources. The intervention comprises 30 lessons of approximately 30 minutes which are delivered 3 times a week outside of normal mathematics lessons.

What is the benefit to my school participating in this trial?

Your school will contribute to the evidence relating to the impact of 1CN1 on mathematics outcomes for Year 2 pupils, especially for disadvantaged pupils. It will also help us understand how best to implement the programme in the future.

In addition to high quality training that TAs will receive as part of this trial, all schools will also receive the following:
-   an essential visit by the trainer to support delivery and management of 1CN1
-   email and telephone support
-   online guidance and downloadable consumable resources, this will enable the delivery of 1CN1 to subsequent cohorts in your school.

What does the programme cost?

•   As it will be subsidised by the EEF, on this occasion, schools will pay **£200** (usual cost £1,100).
•   This payment will include training, teaching resources and the Sandwell Early Numeracy Test (this will be used in the pupil selection process and has a usual cost of approx. £250).
•   All schools will receive a thank you payment of **£500** once all required data has been provided to NFER following the prgramme delivery.

Can my school take part in this trial?

In order to take part in this trial, schools must:
-   be an Infant or Primary school with children in Year 2, as at 1st September 2023.
-   NOT be taking part in the following EEF-funded programmes in the academic years 2023-24
        ARK Mathematics Mastery or Mathematical Reasoning
-   NOT have a TA currently working in the school who has already completed any 1CN1 training

- NOT have delivered 1CN1 1 after 1st September 2019
- nominate a TA and a Link teacher who are able to access face-to-face training in one of the 16 training venues
- pay the subsidised training cost of £200 (usual cost is £1,100).

What does the training look like?

Face to face training is delivered by an Every Child Counts (ECC) Trainer accredited by Edge Hill University. It includes training for a

Teaching Assistant 6 x ½ days, focusing on
- how the intervention works
- delivering it to children who struggle with mathematics
- developing the Teaching Assistants own understanding of Mathematics

School Link Teacher* 2 x ½ days, focusing on
- managing and supporting 1stClass@Number 1
- sharing the lessons learned from it with colleagues

*ideally a member of the school leadership team

16 training groups will be set up at venues across the UK** and will include some of the 55 Education Investment Areas (EIA). At least 50% of successful schools will be based in the EIA and, in the event applications exceed demand, applications from EIA based schools will be prioritised particularly those with a high FSM percentage. All schools with a high number of FSM pupils in Year 1 during 2022-23 are encouraged to apply.

** venues will be confirmed in March 2023

When will the training take place?

November 2023 – March 2024

Which pupils can take part in the trial?

Schools will be asked to nominate 12 – 16 pupils in Spring/Summer 2023 who meet the following criteria:

- be achieving at around **12 months below age related expectations** towards the end of Year 1
- not be participating in other mathematics interventions at the same time.

The trial has a focus on how 1CN1 supports disadvantaged pupils, so **schools are encouraged to nominate FSM-eligible pupils** who meet the above criteria.

All pupils nominated by the school will be screened using the Sandwell test in September 2023 to objectively confirm that they are achieving below age-related expectations. Eight pupils who are confirmed to be eligible by this test will be entered by schools into the trial. These pupils will then be randomly assigned to either the intervention or control groups.

Upon completion of endpoint testing, the trained TA can deliver the intervention to the control pupils and/or other pupils who could benefit based on the eligibility criteria. This means that whilst the timing might not be optimal, no child misses out.

How should my school sign up for this trial?

Expressions of interest are currently being collected, please complete the short form **here.** If your school is eligible for the trial, Edge Hill University will send the Memorandum of Understanding for your school's Headteacher to sign.

Who should I contact for more information?

For further information about:
- this trial, please contact NFER at 1CN1trial@nfer.ac.uk.
- 1stClass@Number 1, please contact Edge Hill University on 01695 657 133 or ecc@edgehill.ac.uk.

Who controls what data is shared?

NFER is the data controller for the trial and will make decisions about how and what personal data is used in accordance with the objectives of the study set by EEF. At the end of the trial, once the data is archived at EEF, they will become the data controllers. Edge Hill University are the data controllers for the intervention delivery.

Privacy

The ECC team at EHU use the information supplied by the school to record and manage the school's participation in this EEF subsidised RCT and to communicate with it about 1CN1 training. All personal data is held and processed by ECC in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Act (the GDPR). Please see the privacy notice **here**
The details of the Headteacher signing the MOU and the key contact (name and work email) will be shared with the EEF and NFER.
Details of the NFER trial and privacy notice can be found **here**
For more information on how EEF processes and uses your data lease see **EEF's privacy notice**.

Timeline for key activities 2023-2024

Time	Event
February – June 2023	• Head teacher commits to taking part in the project and signs MoU.
April - July 2023	• Share parent letter with parents of all pupils that schools intend to nominate for screening and process any withdrawal requests. • Nominate 12 – 16 pupils for screening (NFER to provide guidance on nomination) and share pupil data with NFER - pupil name, DOB, UPN, FSM eligibility.
September 2023	• Complete Sandwell and baseline QRT tests and return assessments back to NFER. (All test resources to be provided by NFER.) • Confirm 8 participating pupils based on Sandwell test scores provided by NFER. (NFER to provide guidance on selecting pupils.) • Confirm link teacher and TA details with NFER.
October 2023	• NFER complete randomisation and notify schools of their pupils' assignment to control or intervention group. • EHU invoices schools for the subsidised training cost of £200 (usual cost is £1,100).
November 2023 – March 2024	• Facilitate attendance of TA and link teacher at training sessions (6 x ½ day sessions for TAs and 2 x ½ day sessions for link teachers). • Facilitate delivery of 1CN1 by TAs in school. • TAs to maintain pupil attendance record at each session. • Host lesson observation sessions by NFER researchers, if required.
March 2024	• Liaise with NFER test administrator to complete endpoint QRT testing. • Complete surveys sent to TA and link teacher. • Share pupil attendance record with NFER. • Facilitate case study visits by NFER researchers to conduct interviews with TAs and link teachers and focus groups with pupils. • Return maths intervention record for all 8 participating pupils to NFER.

Please also note that schools may be contacted during the trial with an invitation to participate in Edge Hill University research after 1CN1 delivery has taken place. The research will relate to the Teaching Assistant role and is not part of the evaluation.