
Enrichment Partnership Pilot Evaluation: Parent/carers information sheet and withdrawal form

We are writing to you because your child's school has agreed to take part in an evaluation of the Enrichment Partnership Pilot (EPP). The EPP aims to improve access to enrichment activities (e.g., sport, art, music, volunteering) for secondary school aged pupils.

The EPP was commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS) and the Department for Education (DfE) and is being delivered by the National Citizen Service Trust (NCST) and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE).

The evaluation is being run by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), on behalf of DCMS and DfE, to look at what worked well or less well, what difference the EPP has made, and how it could be improved in the future.

What are the aims of the evaluation?

The evaluation aims to understand:

- What enrichment activities were delivered as part of the EPP.
- How the EPP was delivered and what worked well or less well.
- What it was like to take part in the EPP for local schools, organisations, and pupils.
- What has changed because of the EPP and the extent to which these changes can be sustained.

What will the evaluation involve for my child?

The evaluation aims to understand more about what taking part in the EPP was like for pupils. It will run from March 2024 to March 2025. Your child's school has been selected to take part in the evaluation as a case study school.

This means we will be asking:

- your child's school to provide us with the full name, date of birth, class name, unique pupil number, gender, and free school meals (FSM) status of all pupils in Year 8 and Year 10 in November 2024.
- **all** pupils who were in Years 7 and 9 in the 2023/24 academic year to complete an anonymous baseline survey in June 2024. They will be asked to complete a follow-up survey linked to their names in February to March 2025 (when they will be in Year 8 or Year 10). The survey will include questions about:
 - any enrichment activities they take part in
 - their views on these activities
 - reasons they might be able or unable to take part in enrichment activities
 - their wellbeing

- o how they travel to school/around their local area (e.g., car, bus, train)
- o their ethnicity
- o self-reported learning needs (yes or no)

Participation in the survey is optional as are all of the survey questions.

We will also ask a small number of pupils to take part in a group discussion about their experiences of the EPP. If your child is selected to participate in one of these discussions, we will be in touch to provide you with more information.

What are the benefits and risks of my child taking part?

We do not anticipate any risks or harm to any of the schools, teachers or children taking part in this evaluation. This evaluation has been checked to ensure that it abides by NFER's Code of Practice which outlines our commitment to ethical research, data security and caring for research participants. NFER has robust safeguarding protocols in place to protect children during the evaluation activities.

By participating in this evaluation, your child will be helping us to:

- find out how successful the EPP has been at improving the quality and uptake of enrichment activities.
- understand how the activities can be improved, which will benefit other children in the future.

How will the findings be used?

The findings will be key to informing future funding decisions about enrichment activities for schools. The information we collect will be used to write a report which will be published in Summer 2025. This report will be shared with schools and freely available on the NFER and DCMS websites.

How will NFER use and protect the data collected?

NFER has robust procedures in place to make sure that we comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which sets out how data can be collected and stored securely. All pupil data will be transferred between schools and the NFER using a secure portal or courier and will not be shared outside of the research team.

No schools, teachers or pupils will be named in the reporting, and we will not include any other information that may mean someone else could identify them.

Further information about the use of data can be found in the [Privacy notice for parents and carers](#).

Does my child have to participate?

It is up to you and your child if you wish to take part in the evaluation. You can withdraw your child from the study at any time, without providing a reason. If you withdraw your child from the project, we will use any data we have collected up to that point in our analysis unless you ask us to delete it.

If you choose for your child not to take part in the evaluation this will not affect your child's ability to participate in any of the enrichment activities or any future activities run by NFER.

How can I withdraw my child?

If you **are happy** for your child's data to be used for this research, **you do not need to do anything.**

However, if you would like **to withdraw** your child's data from the study, **please complete the form below** and return it to your child's school.

If you would like to withdraw your child's data from the evaluation at a subsequent stage, please inform your child's school and ask them to let NFER know. For the pupil focus groups it will only be possible to withdraw your child's data up to the point where the data has had the names removed. If your child is selected to participate in a focus group, we will be in touch with more details about this.

The NFER appreciates schools' and participants' support in collecting the data since it is very important for the validity of the results.

How can I find out more information?

If you would like any additional information or have any questions, please contact the research team on EPP@nfer.ac.uk.

Enrichment Partnership Pilot Evaluation

Parent/Carer Withdrawal Form

You only need to complete this form IF YOU DO NOT WISH for your child's data to be shared, stored, and used for this evaluation.

I **DO NOT** give permission for data about my child to be shared, stored, or used for the purpose of evaluating of the **Enrichment Partnership Pilot Evaluation.**

Your child's name.....Child's class:.....

Name of school.....

Your full name.....

Date:.....