
Renfrew Action Picture Test and LanguageScreen Pilot 2025

Setting Information Sheet

About the Pilot

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to carry out a pilot which will trial the processes for administering the Renfrew Action Picture Test (RAPT) together with LanguageScreen to children aged three to four years old. The pilot will also test the process for capturing and scoring children's responses to the RAPT.

Both the RAPT and LanguageScreen have been designed to help assess children's language skills in a fun and engaging way although please note the focus of this pilot is on trialling processes rather than assessing the language skills of individual children

What is the RAPT?

The RAPT is a language assessment tool that measures the speech and language development of children between the ages of three and eight years old. It is a paper-based assessment that involves showing children a series of ten pictures depicting everyday events and asking them a question about each one.

What is LanguageScreen?

LanguageScreen is a digital language assessment tool which has been developed to test the oral language skills of children aged three to eleven. The LanguageScreen app includes four subtests that assess key aspects of language development. The assessment is delivered using a tablet.

What will happen during the pilot?

The pilot will involve visits by two NFER Test Administrators to up to three nurseries. They will administer both the RAPT and LanguageScreen to eight to ten children aged three to four years old in each nursery setting. The pilot will provide valuable insights into the administration process of both assessments together and the process of scoring the RAPT consistently and reliably for larger numbers of children.

Two NFER Test Administrators will visit your nursery on an agreed date in March. One will carry out the testing of children while the other observes. During the visit, the lead Test Administrator will assess participating children's language skills using both LanguageScreen and the RAPT. In order to administer LanguageScreen, the Test Administrator will need you to provide all WiFi

information including network details and the password **upon arrival**.

No personal details for children such as their name or date of birth will be collected during the assessments. Assessments will be carried out on an individual basis rather than for a whole class and will take a maximum of 30 minutes per child. A member of the nursery staff should be available during the assessments to provide support and reassurance, if needed, but they will not be directly involved in administering the tests.

What data will we collect?

The privacy notice (shared along with this information sheet) summarises what personal data will be collected, how it will be used and protected, and with whom it will be shared. When administering the RAPT, we will make a voice recording of each child's answers to the assessment questions. We will use this voice recording to create a written record (transcript) of each response. The recording helps us to ensure that we have accurately captured each child's answers, which helps scoring of the RAPT. Once we have created the transcript and all scoring of responses is complete, the voice recordings will be deleted. For LanguageScreen, children's responses to the assessment will be scored within the app, and their scores will be stored securely in the LanguageScreen portal. Scores will be stored anonymously.

How will we use data collected?

Findings from the pilot will inform recommendations on how to effectively scale up the use of LanguageScreen and RAPT in a larger trial involving more nursery settings and Test Administrators. We will share a summary of lessons learned from conducting the pilot with the funders EEF.

No children or nurseries will be identified in the report. We have robust procedures in place to make sure that we comply with the requirements of GDPR and keep data safe and secure.

What is the benefit of my setting participating in the pilot?

Your setting's participation in the pilot will help NFER to understand how best to administer the RAPT and LanguageScreen together and to finalise an approach to scoring the RAPT. The findings will be used to inform a larger scale programme of language screening with nursery settings which will take place later in the year.

Your setting will also receive £100 in recognition of your contribution to the pilot.

Who can take part in this trial?

- Participating settings can be **state-maintained or PVI nurseries**.
- All 3 to 4-year-old children (as on 31st August 2024) who are in the pre-school classroom are eligible to take part in the pilot.

Who should I contact for more information?

For further information about the pilot please contact NFER at NELIPreschool@nfer.ac.uk. Further information about the main evaluation can be found [here](#).

Who controls what data is shared?

NFER is the data controller for this pilot and will make decisions about how and what personal data is used in accordance with the objectives of the pilot set by the EEF.

Privacy Information

Privacy notices for the pilot have been shared along with this information sheet.

Timeline for key activities February – April 2025

Week commencing 24 February	Parent information letter and withdrawal notice shared with parents. Date for Test Administrator visits confirmed.
Week Commencing 3 March	NFER Test Administrators visit setting for one day to administer RAPT and LanguageScreen Bank details collected from all participating nurseries
March – April	NFER marks the RAPT assessments and determines scoring criteria NFER draft a summary report of the pilot (sent to EEF)
April	Payments of £100 will be made to nurseries where data collection has been completed.