
Privacy notice for parents of pupils taking part in performance research for NFER assessments

1 Who are we and why are we collecting this data?

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is undertaking a project to evaluate the performance of NFER optional tests developed for primary schools. This privacy notice relates to pupils whose data will be processed as part of this optional NFER research trial.

NFER will use this data to:

- obtain data on the functioning of the test
- understand different approaches to producing standardised and age-standardised scores
- investigate comparability of NFER assessment products.

NFER is the data controller for the personal data processed as part of the development of its assessments.

2 What is the legal basis for processing activities?

The legal basis for processing the personal data is:

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Article 6 (1) (f) Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party, unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests.

Our legitimate interest for this processing is the development of assessments, one of NFER's core business purposes. Continuous research and trials involving staff and pupils is an important part of improving and delivering this assessment and support for users. We have carried out a legitimate interest assessment; confirming that we cannot carry out this work without processing personal data, but the processing does not override the data subject's interests.

3 How will personal and special data be obtained?

Upon agreement that your school will participate in the trial, your school's staff will provide pupil data to NFER via the NFER school portal.

4 What data is being collected by this project?

We will collect and hold the following data for participating pupils:

- name
- date of birth
- gender
- class name
- results from the assessment

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

The participant information we collect from pupils will be treated in confidence and will be used to evaluate methods of standardisation and help NFER ensure tests and outcomes are fair and consistent. It will not be shared outside of NFER. No pupil will be identifiable in any outputs based on this research.

6 Is personal data being transferred outside of the UK?

All personal data collected by NFER is stored in the UK.

7 How long will personal data be retained?

We will only keep your personal data for as long as we need it for the purpose of this piece of work, after which point it will be securely destroyed.

NFER will hold the participant data for 1 year, before it is anonymised. To allow for further performance research of the assessment material, the anonymised data will be retained indefinitely.

8 Your rights

NFER handles personal data in accordance with the rights given to individuals under data protection legislation.

You have the right:

- to request access to information that we hold about you (subject access request)
- to have your personal data rectified, if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
- to restrict our processing of your personal data (for example, permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to our processing
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you

To find out how you can exercise these rights please contact compliance@nfer.ac.uk

9 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of this project. Contact the project team at NOAtrials@nfer.ac.uk with any queries.

If you have any concern about the way this project processes personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance (see the details above). If you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to raise any concerns with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), via the [ICO website](#).

10 Updates

We keep this privacy notice under review to make sure it is up to date and accurate. Any changes will be noted. The date when this privacy notice was last updated is shown in the footer at the bottom of this document.