



Unlock the potential of your Reception children with proven strategies that transform teaching and boost outcomes!

WHITE ROSE MATHS
RECEPTION
JIGSAW TRIAL
2025-26

School Information Sheet

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

Research suggests that high quality early maths education can have long-lasting effects and can be a major predictor of later success in school and in work.

In 2021 an independent evaluation of the White Rose Education's (WRE), White Rose Maths (WRM) Reception Jigsaw, across Yorkshire and Essex, found the Reception Jigsaw to be the only EEF evaluated Reception maths programme to show progress.

White Rose Education, in conjunction with the Education Endowment Foundation are looking to recruit schools to participate in a brand new trial of our Reception Jigsaw package recruiting from selected regions nationwide. The trial aims to measure the impact of the Reception Jigsaw on pupils' early mathematical understanding. The trial will be independently evaluated by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) and the results used to inform future guidance for school leaders.



WHAT IS THE WHITE ROSE MATHS RECEPTION JIGSAW?

- ▶ High quality professional development and school support for Reception staff delivered by White Rose specialists. This consists of five in-depth PD sessions (two hour twilights) which build up over the year to provide a coherent picture of effective teaching and learning in early maths. These sessions will be based in your school. The training comes to you.
- ▶ Based on extensive research, these sessions will provide early years practitioners with a thorough understanding of the pedagogy and subject knowledge required to support children's early mathematical development. The sessions are:
 1. Developing Early Number Sense
 2. Creating a Mathematical Classroom
 3. Mathematical Talk and Questioning
 4. Reasoning and Problem Solving in the Early Years
 5. Exploring Pattern, Shape and Spatial Reasoning
- ▶ Five half-day visits from the same specialist to support Reception teachers in developing effective practice in their own setting.
- ▶ Gap tasks for the practitioners and maths lead to complete.
- ▶ Journal to record reflections and progress.
- ▶ Exclusive WRM resources to use in the classroom.



WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Schools which meet **all** of the following criteria are invited to register their interest in taking part in the trial:

- ▶ Schools across England.
- ▶ Schools who have not had the Reception Jigsaw training in the last two years or received the training as part of the last Reception Jigsaw trial.
- ▶ Schools who are not participating in any other EEF Reception/EY trials in 2025-26.
- ▶ Schools from selected regions nationwide.

HOW WILL THE TRIAL WORK?

Schools who agree to participate in the trial will be asked to provide WRE with a key contact in their school for the duration of the project. At the end of the summer term 2025, schools will be asked to provide a list of all children who will be starting in Reception in September 2025 along with the names and email addresses of all Reception teachers. NFER will then sample 12 children (10 plus 2 reserves) from this list who will then take part in the trial (please note the intervention will involve all children in the cohort, but NFER will randomly select only 10 reception plus 2 reserved children to be measured).

In autumn 2025, all school key contacts (e.g. maths or EY lead) will complete a short survey about usual and current maths provision in their Reception settings. Reception teachers will complete a short observational baseline measure for the 10 (+2) sampled reception children allocated to be part of either the **Intervention group** or the **Control group**.

Intervention schools will be asked to pay a heavily subsidised rate of £1,437 + VAT to access the training of which £250 will be refunded on completion of all testing and data requirements.

Control schools will not receive the WRM Reception Jigsaw during the trial period, however these schools are essential for us to understand the impact of the Intervention and will receive £250 on completion of the testing and data requirements. They will also have the opportunity to access the training package after the trial at a discounted rate.

White Rose is also providing schools with the following additional resources to acknowledge their efforts: All participating schools will also receive £250 of White Rose credit that can be spent on any White Rose subscription, resource or CPD.

All participating schools will also receive 12 months access to any WRE webinar in any phase or topic after the trial.



WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS FOR MY SCHOOL?

Intervention schools

- ▶ Specialist training and support in teaching early mathematics at a heavily subsidised rate.
- ▶ Exclusive WRM practical resources to use in the classroom.
- ▶ Improved early years practitioners' subject knowledge and confidence in teaching early years mathematics.
- ▶ Improved learning outcomes for pupils in Reception and beyond.
- ▶ Opportunity to contribute to educational research and become a certified EEF Project Partner School.
- ▶ A refund of £250 on completion of data, testing and trial.
- ▶ White Rose is also providing schools with the following additional resources to acknowledge their efforts: £250 of White Rose credit that can be spent on any White Rose subscription, resource or CPD.
- ▶ 12 months free access to any WRE webinars in any phase or topic after the trial.

Control schools

- ▶ Opportunity to contribute to educational research to help inform future guidance for school leaders.
- ▶ Become a certified EEF Project Partner School.
- ▶ Receive £250 on completion of all testing and data requirements.
- ▶ Opportunity for discounted access to the WRM Reception Jigsaw training once the data collection is complete (June 2026).
- ▶ White Rose is also providing schools with the following additional resources to acknowledge their efforts: £250 of White Rose credit that can be spent on any White Rose subscription, resource or CPD.
- ▶ 12 months free access to any WRE webinars in any phase or topic after the trial.

[Click here for information of the benefits of the previous trial.](#)



WHAT DOES TAKING PART INVOLVE?

All schools will agree to:

- ▶ Provide NFER with pupil data in summer term of academic year 2024-25 for those children who will be in Reception for the 2025-26 academic year. (Pupil's first name, surname, date of birth, FSM status.) Along with the names and email addresses of all Reception teachers. Nominate and provide names and email addresses for 1 key contact from senior leadership, Maths lead and/or Early Years Lead and Headteacher.
- ▶ Complete a short observational based measure within two weeks in September 2025 for the sampled children (NFER will sample 12 children -10 plus 2 reserves, per school) before school randomisation.
- ▶ Complete a short practitioner survey in September 2025 and again in June 2026. Some schools will be invited to take part in interviews.
- ▶ Allow NFER administrators to come into school and carry out short games-based assessment on the 10 sampled children in June 2026.

Intervention groups will agree to:

- ▶ Pay a subsidised rate of £1,437 + VAT (in three installments) to access the training of which £250 will be returned on completion of all testing and data requirements.
- ▶ Organise for all Reception staff (including support staff) and the maths Lead to attend the five twilight training sessions at their school. Other year groups are also welcome to attend the early maths training if they choose.
- ▶ Release a lead person/Reception teacher to work with the trainer during the five half-day coaching visits.
- ▶ Complete gap tasks between the training sessions.
- ▶ Complete the journal to record reflections and progress.

It is important that you only agree to participate if you are committed to taking part in either of the two groups and are prepared to undertake all of the related evaluation activities.

HOW WILL OUR DATA BE USED AND WILL IT BE SAFE?

The data collected by the NFER will be stored confidentially and securely on password protected computers and will be held in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) guidelines. NFER, the data controller, has identified the legal basis for processing the general (legitimate interests) and special (research purposes) data. NFER's legitimate interest for processing personal data is to administer the research. Further information is available in our privacy notices (details below). The data will be treated in the strictest confidence by NFER and named data will only be used for the purposes of this research. No school, teacher or pupil will be named in any report arising from this work.

The data collected will only be used for the purposes of this trial. The overall findings from this research will be included in a report published by the EEF and used to influence practice nationally. For the purpose of research, the responses will be linked with information about the pupils from the National Pupil Database (NPD) and shared with the Department for Education, the EEF's archive manager and, in an anonymised form, with the Office for National Statistics and potentially other research teams. Further matching to NPD and other administrative data may take place during subsequent research. For further information see our privacy notices here:

<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/participate-in-research-projects/the-white-rose-education-reception-jigsaw-trial-2025-26/>

TIMELINE OF KEY ACTIVITIES:



February 2025–June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Schools register interest, attend an information event and, if they choose to go ahead, sign a memorandum of understanding to commit to the trial. ▶ WRE will collect details for a key contact and headteacher's details.
June–July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pupil information is collected from schools by the NFER. ▶ Schools send out letter to parents informing them of the trial and data sharing. Reception teacher, EYFS Lead and Maths Lead names and email address are collected by NFER. Schools will be contacted by WRE to arrange possible dates for training.
September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ NFER sample 12 children per school (10 and 2 reserves) and inform schools of selection. ▶ A short observational measure is collected for the sampled Reception pupils that will be provided by NFER through the secure school portal. ▶ Reception teachers have approximately two weeks to complete a short observational measure of 12 sampled children ▶ Maths lead or Early years lead completes short survey about usual maths practice/provision.
End September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Schools are randomly allocated to control or Intervention group by NFER. ▶ NFER informs schools of their group allocation.
October–May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Schools allocated to the Intervention group start participating in the White Rose Maths Reception Jigsaw. ▶ Schools allocated to the Control group continue with business as usual.
June–July 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ NFER Test Administrators visit schools to complete End point testing. ▶ In intervention schools: Reception teachers including maths/EY lead complete endpoint practitioner survey. Headteacher completes school-level survey. ▶ In control schools, contact completes maths provision survey.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

To find out more and register your interest, please contact:

eeftrial@whiterosemaths.com or give us a call on **01422 433323**

There is no obligation to commit at this time and our team will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



White Rose Education

White Rose Education is a company based in Halifax, Yorkshire.

Influenced, inspired and informed by the work of leading researchers and practitioners across the world, White Rose Education brings together a team of highly experienced and passionate maths and science teaching experts dedicated to developing education for everyone.



EEF

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) is an independent charity dedicated to breaking the link between family income and education achievement. We work to transform outcomes by supporting schools, colleges, and early years settings to improve teaching and learning through better use of evidence.

We were set up in 2011 by the Sutton Trust and Impetus and kickstarted with a £125m founding grant from the Department for Education. Since then, we've gone on to help revolutionise the use of research evidence in education in schools in England, as well as proving a valuable influence internationally.



NFER

NFER's widely respected evaluations have informed education policy and practice for over 70 years, providing sound evidence in education debates and national reviews. This includes delivering many high-profile evaluations of government initiatives and practice Interventions for the Department for Education (DfE) and the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). Our researchers, economists, statisticians, assessment specialists, psychometricians and operations specialists have extensive knowledge of the education system.

Contact us via email or keep in touch on social media

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