
School privacy notice for the effectiveness trial of Mathematical Reasoning in Year 2

1 Why are we collecting this data?

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to carry out an evaluation of the Mathematical Reasoning programme, developed and delivered by the University of Oxford. The purpose of this evaluation is to understand whether the Mathematical Reasoning (MR) programme can help to improve pupils' mathematical attainment when rolled out using an online professional development programme for teachers. Please refer to the School Information Sheet (available [here](#)) for more details about what the MR programme and evaluation will involve.

The trial will take place over the course of the 2024-25 academic year, with the programme delivered between November 2024 and April 2025.

This document outlines how **staff personal data** will be collected from schools and processed for the purposes of the evaluation. There is a **separate privacy notice for parents and carers** (available [here](#)), which covers the pupils' personal data collected as part of the evaluation.

NFER is the data controller for evaluation and will make decisions about how and what personal data is used in accordance with the objectives of the study set by EEF. The University of Oxford is the data processor for the evaluation and data controller for the programme delivery. There is a separate privacy notice, produced by University of Oxford, which covers how data is processed for programme delivery and some of their own research programme about programme implementation. This is available on NFER's [project webpage](#).

2 What is the legal basis for processing activities?

The legal basis for processing personal data is covered by GDPR Article 6 (1) (f):

Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your (or a third party's) legitimate interests unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests.

A legitimate interest assessment has been undertaken. The evaluation fulfils one of NFER's core business purposes (undertaking research, evaluation, and information activities). It has broader societal benefits and will contribute to improving the lives of learners by providing evidence about the impact of teaching techniques used in the classroom. Research cannot be done without processing personal data, but NFER will ensure your rights are respected at all times.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

All personal data will be collected directly from participating schools.

The University of Oxford will collect staff personal data via the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) when the schools sign up to participate in the project. This data will be shared with NFER via NFER's secure portal.

NFER will collect participating teacher and Teaching Assistant (TA) details via a Teacher and Pupil data template during the set-up phase of the project. This data will be shared via NFER's secure school portal. Schools will also share pupil data with NFER in the same Teacher and Pupil data template; further details about the pupil data being collected for the evaluation can be found in the parent and carer privacy notice [here](#).

Responses to questions asked as part of the online training course will be collected by Oxford University through the online training course website, which are saved on the University's safe Canvas space, and will be shared with NFER in pseudonymised form using NFER's secure portal.

A member of the NFER research team will observe a number of the support webinars offered by the programme Teacher Leaders, in which teachers and TAs will participate, to better understand the nature of the support being offered. Webinar participants will be notified of this observation in advance. Oxford University will also provide NFER with a list of which schools were represented at each of the webinars.

All teachers will be asked to respond to two online surveys. TAs in intervention schools will be asked to respond to one online survey at the end of delivery.

A small number of schools will be invited to participate in anonymised case studies. These will involve interviews with the participating class teacher and TA, as well as the Maths Lead, and observations of programme session delivery. Participation in these additional activities is optional.

4 What personal data is being collected by this project?

The full name and contact details of the Headteacher will be collected when a school signs up to participate in the project.

As part of the MoU, the full name, contact details and job role will be collected for the key contact on the project, who will facilitate communications between the school and the University of Oxford, and the school and NFER. The full name and the contact details for the school bursar will also be collected as part of the MoU.

The full name, role and contact details for the class teacher and TA in each participating class, will be collected for the evaluation to facilitate contact with participants.

Oxford University will share pseudonymised Teacher and TA responses to questions asked as part of the online training course with NFER so that NFER can analyse rates of training completion.

The surveys and interviews will ask about staff experiences of delivering the programme, challenges, and facilitators relevant to their school context and self-reported knowledge about and attitudes towards mathematical reasoning.

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

Personal data collected by the University of Oxford will be shared with NFER using NFER's secure online portal.

No personal data will be shared with anyone beyond the project team at NFER and the project team at the University of Oxford.

After the evaluation report has been published, NFER will share anonymised pupil data with the team from the University of Oxford. The University of Oxford team will then match this data with pseudonymised teacher data and school IDs that they will collect and hold. Further details about the research by the University of Oxford team can be found in their Privacy Notice, which is available on NFER's [project webpage](#).

No individual will be named in any report for this project.

The online survey data is collected via Tivian which stores survey responses in Azure and AWS data centre infrastructure in the European Union. Tivian's privacy notice is available [here](#).

6 Is personal data being transferred outside of the UK?

NFER only stores personal data in the UK. When we use Tivian to administer online surveys, data is stored in the EU.

7 How long will personal data be retained?

NFER will delete any personal data collected as part of the evaluation within one year of publication of the final report. This deletion process is currently planned for March 2027.

Interviews recordings will be deleted as soon as the interview notes/transcripts have been finalised.

8 Can I stop my personal data being used?

NFER handles personal data in accordance with the rights given to individuals under data protection legislation. If at any time you wish us to withdraw your data or correct errors in it, please contact the project team, by email at MR-Y2@nfer.ac.uk.

In certain circumstances, data subjects have the right to restrict or object to processing. They also have the right to make a subject access request to see all the information held about them. NFER will cooperate fully when a subject access request (SAR) is made of them as a data controller. To exercise these rights, please contact NFER's Compliance Officer at compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

Requests for access, withdrawal or corrections are not possible after the data have been anonymised.

9 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of the evaluation. If you have any queries about the project, please contact the NFER project team by email at MR-Y2@nfer.ac.uk.

If you have a concern about the way this evaluation processes personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance (see details above). Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office, the body responsible for enforcing data protection legislation in the UK, at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

10 Updates

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

January 2025: This change updates the name and privacy notice of the online survey provider.