
Research project: What works at Key Stage 4, two or three years of study? A School Choices project

Privacy notice for teachers and schools

1 Why are we collecting this data?

The aim of the study is to find out if the length of key stage 4 (KS4) has an impact on pupil attainment. The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is collecting personal data to enable us to conduct the research project.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) have funded this research. NFER is the data controller.

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.

We have carried out a legitimate interest assessment, which demonstrates that 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 the length of KS4 on pupil attainment, and the perceived impacts on pupils' wellbeing.

3 What personal data is being collected by this project and how is it being obtained?

The online survey will be hosted in the Questback survey tool and it will be sent to schools using their publically available contact details. Respondents' role and length of time working at the school will be collected in the survey to aid the validation process.

If a school would like to take part in a case study, the survey will collect personal data from teachers/senior leaders in order to arrange the visit, i.e. name, role and contact details. The contact person's name and contact details will only be used to arrange the case study visits (by a researcher) in a sample of responding schools.

None of this personal data will be shared with the EEF archive at the end of the project.

We will not be collecting any personal data about pupils; the project will only use de-identified data from the National Pupil Database (NPD).

4 Who will personal data be shared with?

No personal data will be shared with EEF at the end of the trial. School-level information about how schools organise their KS4 provision will be uploaded to the EEF archive at the end of the trial to allow for further secondary analysis.

We will not share personal data collected through case studies with other organisations.

We will not use pupil or teacher names or the name of any school in any report arising from the research.

Questback

The survey is hosted and delivered by our third party provider, Questback. You can find their privacy notice here: <https://www.questback.com/data-privacy/privacy-policy/>

5 Is personal data being transferred outside of the European Economic Areas (EEA)?

No personal data is stored or transferred outside of the EEA.

6 How long will personal data be retained?

Data is not kept longer than is necessary and is deleted in accordance with NFER's internal policy.

NFER will delete any personal data within 2 months of publication of the final report (which is due to take place in November 2021).

7 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 ks4length@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 a data controller. To exercise these rights, please contact our Compliance Officer: compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

8 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of the trial. If you have any queries please contact Dan Finn or Kathryn Hurd on 01753 637096 or ks4length@nfer.ac.uk

If you have a 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). 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 Last updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated on 18th December 2020.