
The Story Time Trial: A Teacher Choices Trial Privacy Notice

1 Why are we collecting this data?

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to explore the feasibility of running robust evaluations of teachers' everyday choices in the classroom. In every lesson, teachers choose how to approach topics, engage pupils, manage behaviour, and start the lesson, among others. This project aims to explore how these everyday choices are implemented and might impact the classroom and pupil attainment, and what is the best way to report the results for policy-makers and teachers.

The Story Time Trial is the second randomised controlled trial (RCT) in the Teacher Choices project. The trial examines the feasibility of running these type of trials and to understand more about the best designs and methods to use as well as how teacher choices impact pupils' learning and attitudes in primary reading practices using a RCT. The study will compare two popular ways that teachers are likely to read in their classroom: a sustained reading (GO! approach); and reading with pauses to ask questions (a STOP! approach).

NFER decides what happens to pupil and teacher data as part of the trial, as outlined in this document, and is the Data Controller. EEF is the data processor.

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 RCT fulfils one of the NFER's core business purposes (undertaking research, evaluation and information activities). It has broader societal benefits and will contribute to improving classroom practice. The trial cannot be done without processing personal data but processing does not override the data subject's interests.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

Most personal data will be collected directly from participating schools.

NFER will use an online survey via Questback to collect expressions of interest to take part in the trial. NFER will use a secure online portal to share the memorandum of understanding for schools to sign-up to the trial. This will include the names, job title and contact details of

the staff member who expresses an interest in taking part in the trial, the nominated trial lead, Year 4 and Year 5 class teachers as well as the headteacher details.

During the trial, schools will also provide details of their Year 4 and Year 5 pupils.

Further personal data about both teachers and pupils will be collected throughout the trial, including through observations, interviews and focus groups (see section 4 for full details). These activities will be carried out in person by NFER researchers visiting schools or remotely (using video conferencing tools), depending on Covid-19 safety measures in place at the time.

Personal data about teachers/literacy leads involved in a consultation on the guidance documents will be collected via telephone calls, face-to-face discussions and a pro-forma.

Where schools agree, we will collect English reading assessment outcomes for pupils directly from the commercial test (or assessment) providers used by schools.

4 What personal data is being collected by this project?

NFER are collecting expressions of interest; schools who express their interest to participate in the trial send the names and details of a key contact to NFER.

For teachers (including the key contact person, Year 4 and Year 5 classroom teachers), the personal data collected is:

- names
- contact details
- job role (including if they are the literacy lead)
- number of years' teaching experience
- any specialism
- their activity records (for example, recording how many times and when they used GO! and STOP! reading approaches)
- attitudes and views about the reading approach and about the trial
- views about how to make Teacher Choices trial reports accessible and appropriate for practitioners.

For each participating Year 4 and Year 5 pupil, the following personal data will be collected:

- name
- date of birth
- gender
- Free School Meal eligibility (FSM)
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- assessment data for English reading from summer term 2021. If schools use commercial test providers, NFER will request permission from schools to access this data from them
- NFER test score at the end of the intervention
- attitudes towards reading via a pupil survey, and experiences of the selected text and whole-class reading sessions via interviews with a sample of pupils.

For teachers/literacy leads involved in the consultation on the guidance documents, the following personal data will be collected: name, contact details, job role, and their views on the guidance documents.

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

No pupil or teacher will be named in any report arising from this work.

NFER will not share any pupil data with EEF or the commercial test providers.

Feedback from teachers/literacy leads involved in the consultation on the guidance documents will only be shared with EEF in anonymised form.

Explicit permission will be gained from each school for NFER to approach Assessment Providers for this information.

NFER will share names and contact details of all school staff involved in the trial with EEF. EEF will use this data to provide support on the reading approaches.

NFER uses Questback to provide online surveys. See <https://www.questback.com/data-privacy/> for further information.

If Covid safety measures mean that video conferencing technology is used to carry out interviews, some personal data may be shared with the video conference supplier.

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

NFER and EEF will not transfer data outside of the EEA.

If communications between schools are conducted by video conference software (Zoom, GoTo Meeting or similar), the software provider may transfer data outside the EEA. However, this is safeguarded by use of the Commission's Standard Contractual Clauses.

Assessment Providers may use third party processors located outside the UK / EEA. Any transfer is safeguarded using the European Commission Standard Contractual Clauses and should be covered in privacy material provided by your child's school.

7 How long will personal data be retained?

The Story Time Trial is one of a number of teacher choices trials commissioned by EEF. All personal data will be deleted within one year of publication of the final report in the Teacher Choices suite, currently expected to be summer 2022.

8 Can I stop my personal data being used?

A school, teacher or pupil can withdraw from the trial and/or from their data being used in the trial at any time. Parents will be provided with a parent letter about the project and explaining how their child's data will be collected, used and how they can withdraw from data collection. However, NFER appreciates schools' and participants' support in collecting the data since it

is very important for the validity of the results. If a school/teacher/pupil withdraws from the intervention, unless otherwise instructed, we will use any data we have collected in our analysis.

NFER handles personal data in accordance with the rights given to individuals under the data protection legislation. If at any time you wish us to withdraw your data or correct errors in it, please contact Keren Beddow by email at storytimeRCT@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. To exercise these rights, please contact our Compliance Officer by email at compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

9 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of the trial. If you have any queries about the trial, please contact Tom Kirkup by email at storytimeRCT@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). If you are still dissatisfied, 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.

This privacy notice was last updated on 26 November 2021. The changes clarify what personal data is shared with EEF, replace the collection of key stage 1 assessment data with requesting pupil assessment data from Assessment Providers, and how long personal data will be retained.