



Formative evaluation of NELI Preschool

Privacy notice for nursery staff and nurseries

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 NELI Preschool programme delivered by OxEd & Assessment (OxEd). As part of this project, NFER is carrying out a formative evaluation prior to the main effectiveness trial in order to better understand the experience of private, voluntary and independent (PVI) nurseries while using the NELI Preschool programme.

The formative evaluation will focus on the activities and delivery of NELI Preschool between January and April 2024, although the programme will continue to be delivered until July 2024.

This document outlines how staff personal data will be collected from nurseries and nursery staff and processed for the formative evaluation. Staff data will be used to facilitate administration of the trial research activities (e.g. organising interviews, sharing surveys).

There is a separate privacy notice for parents and carers, which covers any children’s personal data we would be collecting for the formative evaluation. Your data will be treated with the strictest confidence and processed in accordance with the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. We will not use your name in any report arising from the research.

This privacy notice only covers the formative evaluation of the NELI programme. OxEd will also use your personal data in delivering the NELI Preschool programme. Their processing is covered by a separate privacy notice, found [here](#).

Following the formative evaluation, some of the data collected by NFER will be shared with OxEd in an anonymised form to further develop the NELI Preschool programme.

NFER is the data controller for the study and will make decisions about how and what personal data is used in accordance with the objectives of the study set by the EEF. OxEd is the data processor for the NELI Preschool programme delivery during the formative evaluation.

2 What is the lawful basis for processing activities?

The lawful 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 the data is protected at all times.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

OxEd will collect staff personal data via the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) when the nurseries sign up to participate in the formative evaluation.

One to two practitioners from 10 nursery settings will participate in additional virtual or in-person interviews. Five of these nurseries will also facilitate a visit from a member of the NFER research team to observe NELI Preschool session delivery. Participation in these additional activities is optional.

4 What personal data is collected for the formative evaluation?

OxEd will collect the name, contact details and job role for the nursery manager, designated contact, participating practitioner and any staff member nominated to participate in an interview.

Interviews and observations will be conducted by NFER staff. Interviews will be recorded and digitally transcribed, with the interviewee’s permission. These interviews will cover practitioner experiences of implementing NELI Preschool in their nurseries and their views and attitudes towards the programme. Notes will be taken during the observation and will not include any personal data.

Nurseries will also be asked to share child data with OxEd and NFER as part of the evaluation – please see the privacy notice for parents and carers for more details.

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

Personal data collected by OxEd 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 OxEd. No interview or observation data will be shared beyond the NFER research team.

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

6 Is personal data being transferred outside of the UK?

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

7 How long will personal data be retained?

NFER will delete any personal data collected as part of their formative evaluation within one year of publication of the final report. This deletion process is currently planned for June 2028.

Interviews recordings and transcriptions will be deleted as soon as the final report has 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 collected during this study or correct errors in it, please contact the Project Leader, Palak Roy, by email at NELIPreschool@nfer.ac.uk NFER will still use the personal data you have provided up to the point you wish to withdraw unless you tell us otherwise.

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 (SAR) to see all the information held about them. NFER will cooperate fully when a SAR is made of the data controller. To exercise these rights, please contact our Compliance Officer: compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

9 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of the project. If you have any queries about this formative evaluation, contact the Project Leader, Palak Roy, by email at NELIPreschool@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). If you remain 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 Last updated

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.