

---

# ChatGPT in lesson preparation - A Teacher Choices Trial

## School and Teacher Privacy Notice

---

Can using ChatGPT for lesson and resource preparation in Key Stage 3 science reduce teacher workload?

### 1 Why are we collecting this data?

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to undertake a randomised controlled trial (RCT) as part of their 'Teacher Choices' programme. The aim of Teacher Choices research is to investigate the impact of different day-to-day pedagogical practices on pupil learning and to generate evidence that can be readily applied by teachers in the classroom. This is a new and developing strand of EEF projects.

This project is being co-funded by the Hg Foundation, who help under-represented groups to access high quality jobs in tech by supporting education- and employment- based programmes. Supporting achievement in STEM is an important part of their mission.

This 'Teacher Choices' project is exploring different approaches to lesson and resource preparation in Years 7 and 8 science classes. The project aims to help understand the impact of the use of Generative AI (GenAI) (specifically ChatGPT) on teaching practice via two distinct routes: (i) by improving the variety of lessons and maintaining the quality/standard of lessons and (ii) by freeing teacher time which can be utilised elsewhere to improve pupil outcomes.

This document outlines how the personal data of school staff will be collected and processed during this trial. For a subsample of schools who are selected for case study visits, a small number of pupils will be asked to join group discussions.

NFER decides what happens to personal data as part of the trial, as outlined in this document, and 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 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 NFER ensures that your rights (see section 9 for further information) are protected at all times.

### 3 How will personal data be obtained?

Personal data will be collected directly from staff at participating schools.

NFER will use their secure online school portal to share the memorandum of understanding (MoU) for schools to sign-up to the trial.

Further personal data about teachers will be collected throughout the trial, including through a teacher data form template, weekly diary entries, online surveys (using Questback), interviews and case study focus groups (see section 4 for full details). Some of these activities will be carried out in person by NFER researchers visiting schools.

### 4 What personal data is being collected by this project?

During the project, we will collect the following personal data for teachers involved in the trial.

As part of the sign-up process, NFER will collect the following data from headteachers and the nominated trial lead:

- name
- contact details
- job role

NFER will collect the following personal data for teachers participating in the trial:

- name
- contact details
- job role
- length of time teaching
- subject specialism
- prior use and confidence in GenAI
- confidence in science lesson preparations
- their knowledge, skills, confidence and attitudes to technology and pedagogical beliefs
- perceptions of facilitators, barriers and challenges as well as perceived costs in using GenAI and teacher perceptions of pupil experiences.

## 5 Who will personal data be shared with?

**No individual will be named in any report arising from this work.**

NFER uses Questback to provide online surveys.

See [https://www.questback.com/assets/uploads/Survey\\_Privacy\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.questback.com/assets/uploads/Survey_Privacy_Policy.pdf) for further information.

Microsoft Teams or Zoom may be used for interviews which cannot be undertaken in person.

Privacy notices for both online communication tools are available:

Microsoft Teams – <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/teams-privacy>

Zoom - <https://explore.zoom.us/en/privacy/>

After the report is published (currently planned for December 2024), teacher responses from the diaries, quiz and teacher surveys may be transferred and stored in the EEF archive for future research. The EEF archive is managed by FFT on behalf of EEF and hosted by the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The teacher data may also be shared with the Department for Education (DfE) and linked with information about teachers from the ONS.

Names and other meaningful identifiers are removed before the data is added to the EEF archive. At this point EEF becomes the data controller for the teacher data. The EEF will keep information in the EEF archive for as long as it is needed for research purposes. Please see EEF's archive guidance [here](#) and EEF's privacy notice [here](#) for more information on how EEF processes and will use your data.

EEF and other research teams will be able to access the data as part of subsequent research through the ONS Approved Researcher Scheme. The Approved Researcher Scheme is used by the ONS to grant secure access to data that cannot be published openly, for statistical research purposes, as permitted by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (SRSA).

## 6 Is personal data being transferred outside of the UK?

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

If communications between schools are conducted by video conference software (Microsoft Teams or Zoom), the software provider may transfer data outside the UK. However, this is safeguarded by use of the appropriate standard contractual safeguards.

## 7 How long will personal data be retained?

Audio recordings from teacher interviews will be transcribed and deleted within one month of the interview date.

All other personal data held by NFER will be deleted within one year of publication of the final report, currently expected to be December 2025.

## 8 Can I stop my personal data being used?

Schools and school staff can withdraw from the project and/or from their data being used in the project at any time. However, the NFER appreciates schools' and participants' support in collecting the data since it is very important for the validity of the results. If your school/you withdraw from the research, unless otherwise instructed, we will use any data we have collected up to that point in our analysis.

Under certain circumstances, you have the right:

- to request access to information that we hold about you (subject access request)
- to have your personal data rectified, if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
- to restrict our processing of your personal data (for example, permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to our processing
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you.

To exercise these rights, please contact our Compliance Officer, [compliance@nfer.ac.uk](mailto: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 the NFER Team at [GenAI@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:GenAI@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. 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.