Privacy notice for reception baseline assessment national pilot – pupil data

Who are we and why are we collecting this data?

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) are contracted by the Department for Education (DfE) to develop and pilot the reception baseline assessment. Development began in May 2018 and it is intended that the assessment will become statutory from September 2020 for all state funded schools in England, excluding pupil referral units, who have a reception class. This privacy notice relates to the NFER’s collection of your child’s personal data from the reception baseline assessment national pilot in the academic year 2019/20.

Who is this project sponsored and funded by?

This project is being carried out by the NFER, on behalf of the Standards and Testing Agency (STA), which is an executive agency of the DfE.

For the purpose of data protection legislation, DfE is the data controller for the personal data processed as part of the reception baseline project as a whole. NFER is the data processor.

What is the legal basis for processing activities?

Under GDPR legislation, we are able to process your child’s personal data as part of the reception baseline assessment pilot. This assessment is DfE policy and it is intended that it will become statutory in September 2020. The pilot is an important part of the development of the assessment.

The legal basis for processing your child’s personal data is covered by: GDPR Article 6 (1) (e) Public task in that processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the public interest.

How will personal data be obtained?

Your child’s data will be uploaded by the school onto our online ‘Baseline eAssessment system’ (BeP) so we can analyse pupil performance on the assessment to ensure that it meets all necessary requirements.

More information about the reception baseline assessment is available on GOV.UK.
What personal data is being collected?

We will collect the following categories of personal data about your child:

- unique pupil number (UPN)
- forename
- surname
- date of birth
- gender
- results from the assessment

Who will the personal data be shared with?

NFER may need to make personal data available to other organisations. This includes Amazon Web Services as they are hosting our online system, BeP.

Data will also be shared with STA to analyse the effectiveness of the reception baseline assessment.

Where we need to share your child’s personal data with others, we will ensure this complies with data protection legislation.

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

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

How long will personal data be retained?

We will only keep your child’s personal data for as long as we need it for the purpose of this project, after which point it will be securely destroyed.

All pupil data relating to the pilot phase of reception baseline will be retained by NFER until January 2021.

The DfE will hold the data in the National Pupil Database (NPD) where it will be retained according to the DfE’s data policy. The NPD is owned and managed by the DfE and contains information about pupils in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department. More information on how this data is shared can be found here.

Please note that, under Article 5 (1)(e) GDPR 2018 and in compliance with the relevant conditions, we can lawfully keep personal data processed purely for research purposes indefinitely.
Are any decisions made about my child based on the automated processing of my data?

No decisions are made about your child based on the processing of this data.

Can I stop my child’s personal data being used?

NFER handles personal data in accordance with the rights given to individuals under data protection legislation.

Under certain circumstances, you have the right:

- to ask us for access to information about you that we hold (Subject Access Request – SAR)
- 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 (i.e. permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to direct marketing (including profiling) and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you

NFER will cooperate fully when a subject access request (SAR) is made of a data controller.
To exercise any of these rights, please contact our compliance officer by email at compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of this project.

If you have any queries, please contact the reception baseline helpline on 0330 088 4171.

The DfE determines the purposes and means of processing personal data as part of this project. To contact their Data Protection Officer please go to this page and mark your correspondence ‘FAO the DPO’.

If you have a concern about the way this project processes your child’s personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us or the DfE in the first instance.

Alternatively, you have the right to raise any concerns with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) via their website at https://ico.org.uk/concerns/.
Updates

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so 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.