
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 how teacher choices impact pupils' learning and attitudes in primary reading practices using a Randomised Controlled Trial. 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 part of the trial, as outlined in this document, and is the Data Controller. EEF Research School may help with recruitment activities and are a 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.

The evaluation fulfils one of NFER's core business purposes (undertaking research, evaluation and information activities) and it has broader societal benefits. It is therefore in our legitimate interest to process and analyse personal data for the administration of the RCT.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

Personal data will be collected directly from participating schools.

NFER will use a secure online survey to collect expressions of interest and memorandums of understanding for schools wishing to take part in 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 (where parents have not opted out of their child's data being provided).

NFER uses a secure online portal to collect personal data about pupils and teachers electronically. Pupil surveys and assessments (completed on paper) will be returned to NFER using a secure courier. A teacher survey will be completed online via Questback.

Further personal data about both teachers and pupils will be collected throughout the trial, including through observations and interviews (see section 4 for full details).

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.

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 their 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),
- no. of years teaching experience
- any specialism
- their activity records (for example, recording how many times and when they used the approaches);
- attitudes and views about the reading approach and about the trial

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

- names,
- date of birth,
- gender,
- Free School Meal eligibility (FSM),
- English as an Additional Language (EAL),
- Key Stage 1 Reading score,
- NFER test score at the end of the intervention and
- attitudes towards reading via a pupil survey.

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?

NFER will not share any teacher or pupil data with EEF.

Feedback from teachers/literacy leads involved in the consultation on the guidance documents will only be shared with EEF in anonymised form. No names or contact details will be shared.

School contact details will be shared with EEF Research School to enable them to support the schools during the trial period and help with recruitment.

NFER will be using online survey via questback to collect expression of interests from schools and for the teacher surveys. Questback's privacy statement can be found at <https://www.questback.com/data-privacy/>

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

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

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

7 How long will personal data be retained?

All personal data will be deleted within one year of publication of the final report currently expected to be Spring 2021.

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 data protection legislation. If at any time you wish us to withdraw your data or correct errors in it, please contact Jishi Jose on 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 of a data controller. To exercise these rights, please contact our Compliance Officer on 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 Jishi Jose at NFER on 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). 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 Updates

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 January 31, 2020.