

Research into teacher training: School information sheet

What is the purpose of this research?

Teacher recruitment and retention is a significant issue at the current time. At present schools can choose to recruit new teachers from:

- University-based teacher training routes
- School-based teacher training routes such as Schools Direct, or
- Teach First.

The research project aims to understand whether there is a difference in the attainment of pupils taught by Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) in key stage 2, depending on an NQT's route of teacher training.

This research will evaluate the impact of the three routes on pupils' ability in mathematics, as measured by the GL Progress Test in Maths. Analysis will also look at teacher retention by analysing data contained on the School Workforce Census (SWC). The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is carrying out the independent research. The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned and is funding the research.

How will my primary school benefit from taking part?

Upon completion of the research, **participating schools will receive a payment of £750 and the results of their pupils' completed assessments** in September 2021. This will be in recognition of the commitment from the school in taking part. Schools can use the £750 in any way they see as beneficial to the school.

This project aims to provide evidence that will be useful for schools when making decisions about how to recruit and support new teachers. Your school's participation will help to strengthen the existing evidence on teacher recruitment and retention.

The overall findings from this research will be included in a publicly available report published by EEF and used to influence practice nationally.

Is my school eligible?

To take part, you must be a primary school in England planning to have an NQT teaching in either year 3, 4 or 5 in the 2020/21 academic year.

We realise that your school might not be currently in a position to commit to this project as you may not yet know if you will have an NQT teaching year 3, 4 or 5 from September. However, if you are interested in taking part, please register and we will check your eligibility with you in the summer term. Please note that there is no obligation to take part in the research if you register your interest now.

If you are not sure about your eligibility or you would like to find out more, please email teachertraining@nfer.ac.uk to find out.

What will the research involve?

- In the summer of 2020, participating schools will need to provide us with pupil data for the NQT's September 2020 class (once this information is available).
- In September 2020 we will send you a maths assessment (GL Progress Test in Maths) for you to administer to the NQT's class; this will be the baseline assessment.
- Towards the end of the academic year, in the summer term 2021, we will send an NFER administrator to your school who will administer the assessment again, to the same pupils; this will be the end assessment.
- In between the baseline and the end assessments, we will ask the NQT and their mentor to complete a short online survey.
- We will also ask your school a few questions about the costs of teacher recruitment.
- In some schools we will interview mentors and headteachers.

How will data collected be used and protected?

All data collected by NFER will be stored securely. All data gathered during the project will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018, and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). NFER, the data controller, has identified the legal basis for processing personal data as legitimate interests, that is to administer the research. Further information is available in our privacy notices (details below). The data will be treated in the strictest confidence by NFER and named data will only be used for the purposes of this research. **No school, teacher or pupil will be named in any report arising from this work.**

Data collected during the evaluation will be used to inform further research on teacher retention and methods of recruitment. For more information about how we will store and use data collected as part of the project, please see the privacy notices:

<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/etfpteacherprivacynotice>

<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/etfppupilprivacynotice>

Who needs to give agreement for participation in this research?

The headteacher is able to agree to the school's and individuals' participation in the study. We will provide schools with a letter for parents to inform them about the study and their child's participation

In addition, parents/carers should be fully informed of the data that we will be collecting (via a parent information letter provided by NFER). Parents may choose to withdraw their child's data from the study and their child from participation in the assessments. They can do this by returning a withdrawal form to their school. Schools should not share data for these pupils with NFER.

Who can I contact for more information?

If you would like to discuss anything about this research, please contact Victoria Johnson or Kathryn Hurd using the details below:

Telephone: 01753 637441

Email: teachertraining@nfer.ac.uk