

## Research into teacher training: Information Sheet for teachers

### Why have I received this information sheet?

We have contacted your Headteacher to invite your school to take part in our research study into teacher training routes. Your Headteacher has passed this information sheet on to inform you about what the research will involve.

In order to be eligible to take part in the study, schools must have a NQT teaching either year 3, 4 or 5 during the academic year 2020/21.

### What is the research about?

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

- Teach First, where the organisation places individuals on a two-year leadership development programme within eligible schools, or
- Other school-based teacher training routes such as Schools Direct, or
- University-based teacher training routes.

The purpose of this research is to evaluate the impact of the three routes identified above 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.

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

### What will I have to do as part of the research?

We will need your school to administer a maths test (that we will provide) to your class at the start of the September 2020 term. At the end of the 2020/2021 year, a NFER test administrator will visit your class at a convenient time to run the test again.

In the summer term of 2021 we will also ask you to complete a survey about your teacher training experience and the support you have received as part of your NQT year.

We hope that you will find the experience of participating in the study interesting.

Participation in this study will have no influence or bearing on your training or completion of your NQT year.

### Will you say how I have done, or how my class has done?

We will send the results of your pupils' completed assessments to your school in September 2021.

The overall findings from this research will be included in a publicly available report published by EEF and used to influence practice nationally. **We won't be naming individual teachers or individual schools in any reports based on this data.** When we report the findings, we will be talking about groups of teachers, for example in relation to the teacher training route taken.

As mentioned above, we would also like to interview some staff members in some schools, including NQTs. We might use some quotes from the interviews to illustrate a point in the report, but the name of the teacher and the school would not be included.

**It is important to note that the research is evaluating the teacher training route, not the individual teachers and we want you to feel comfortable that this is the case.** If you have any questions about the design of the study, please contact Victoria or Kathryn using the details at the end of the sheet.

### **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. Administrative data about participating teachers will also be accessed from the SWC using name, Teacher Reference Number (TRN) and date of birth. After three months of the completion of the study, all of the matched data (i.e. to SWC) will be added to the EEF archive and then 'de-identified'<sup>1</sup>. The EEF archive is hosted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and managed by the EEF archive manager. Other research teams may use the de-identified data as part of subsequent research through the Approved Researcher Scheme<sup>2</sup>. The Approved Researcher Scheme is used by the Office for National Statistics (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).

The privacy notice for teachers for the study is here: <https://www.nfer.ac.uk/eftpteacherprivacynotice>

### **Who needs to give agreement for participation in this research?**

The Headteacher is able to agree to the school's and therefore your participation in the study. If you are not sure about being involved, please discuss with your Headteacher.

### **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](mailto:teachertraining@nfer.ac.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> De-identified means that names, dates of birth and teacher reference number (TRN) are removed from data before it is made available to researchers accessing the archive.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/statistics/requestingstatistics/approvedresearcherscheme>