

Privacy Notice for Academisation Research Study

1 Why are we collecting this data?

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is undertaking research to investigate the current structure of the school system, and explore plans for all schools to be in a 'strong' multi-academy trust (MAT) by 2030 as outlined in the recent [Schools White Paper](#). The research will take place between September and December 2022.

A survey of LA staff will help us explore where school trust capacity needs to grow. As part of this, a key aim is to understand Local Authorities' (LA) views on the Government's plans for all schools to be in a strong multi-academy trust serving at least 7,500 pupils by 2030, and LA plans to establish their own MATs.

For the purpose of data protection legislation, NFER is the data controller and decides what data will be collected and how it will be used.

2 What is the legal basis for processing activities?

The legal basis for processing personal data is :

- Article 6 (f) Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party, unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests.

A legitimate interest assessment has been undertaken. It demonstrates that this research fulfils one of NFER's core business purposes (undertaking research, evaluation and information activities). In addition, it has wider social benefit and will lead to evidence which will inform the ongoing evidence base on the structure of the school system, particularly in the context of Government plans to academise all schools by 2030. The research cannot be done without processing personal data but processing does not override the data subject's interests.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

NFER will gather the local authority name and contact details of Directors of Children's Services in local authorities in England which are listed on the ADCS website. NFER will use this data to invite individuals to participate. Survey links will also be circulated to relevant staff at LAs via third-party organisations.

Participation in all research activities is entirely voluntary. If participants consent to be contacted again for follow up research, contact details will be retained for up to 18 months and would only be used for this purpose.

4 What personal data is being collected by this project?

The personal data to be collected by this project is:

- the contact information for LA staff working in education service delivery in England, such as Directors of Education and Children’s services, Assistant Directors, and Service Directors including: email address, names, job title/role, local authority name.
- the views of research participants regarding local authorities views on and plans for all schools being academised by 2030.

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

NFER will not share the names and contact details of research participants with anyone.

NFER will produce a publishable report. No individual or organisation will be identifiable in NFER’s report, unless permission has explicitly been given by the data subject.

The NFER will administer the sign-up form and survey online via Questback. Questback’s privacy statement can be found at <https://www.questback.com/data-privacy/>

6 Is personal data being transferred to a third country?

NFER will not transfer any data outside of the UK/EEA.

When we, or our permitted third parties, transfer your information outside the EEA, we or they will impose contractual obligations on the recipients of that data to protect your information to the standard required in the EEA.

7 How long will personal data be retained?

NFER will delete any personal data within 18 months of publication of the final report, which is scheduled for December 2022. At the latest, all personal data will be deleted by July 2024.

8 Can I stop my personal data being used?

NFER handles personal data in accordance with the rights given to individual under data protection legislation. Under certain circumstances data subjects have the right:

- to request access to information that is held about them (a data subject access request).
- to have 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 processing of personal data (for example, permitting its storage but no further processing).
- to object to processing
- to data portability
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect.

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access the information (or to exercise any of your other rights). This helps us ensure that personal information is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it.

9 Who can I contact about this project?

Any queries about the day-to-day management of the data processing outlined in this privacy notice, please contact Megan Lucas at NFER on 01904 567196 or at academisationresearchstudy@nfer.ac.uk.

If you have concerns about the way this project processes personal data, please raise your concern by contacting the Compliance Officer: compliance@nfer.ac.uk.

If you remain 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. The date when this privacy notice was last updated is shown in the footer at the bottom of this document.