

Comparison School Research Champions: Information Sheet for secondary schools National Tutoring Programme – Tuition Partners

1. Why are you receiving this Information Sheet?

You are receiving this Information Sheet because your secondary school has been identified as a potential Comparison School Research Champion to support the independent evaluation of The National Tutoring Programme – Tuition Partners (TP Programme).

Your school has been approached because you may fit into one of the following groups:

- Your school is not planning to participate in the TP Programme in the 2020/21 academic year and your school has been identified as being similar to the schools already taking part, or;
- Your school is planning to start tuition as part of the TP Programme late in the summer 2021 term.

Either way, schools are eligible to be a comparison group if they have not received any tuition before June 2021, are similar to schools already taking part in TP and are able to take part in assessments (see below). If you are not sure if your school qualifies, please complete the link we sent you and we will advise your eligibility.

Schools that help us in this way will specifically contribute to the evidence base about the impact of tuition by providing a way for us to compare schools participating in NTP tuition before June 2021 with similar schools that are supporting their pupils in other ways. Participating schools will receive a payment of up to £1150 as a thank you for their contribution.

2. What does being a Comparison School Research Champion involve?

Research Champion Comparison secondary schools will commit to conducting a standardised assessment with year 8, 9 and 10 pupils during the Summer term (or may have already conducted assessments). They will also commit to allow the Evaluator to access the teacher assessed grades (in place of GCSEs) for Year 11 pupils from the National Pupil Database (NPD) - see further details below. For schools who are planning on starting tuition, we will work with you to find a suitable time to schedule the assessment before the tuition commences.

Originally for this project we intended to use GCSE data accessed from NPD. Now that it has been announced that Year 11 pupils will have teacher assessments instead, we intend to

use this information. Ideally, if the data is available, we would still like to securely access it from the NPD to reduce the burden on participating schools. It is not yet clear if this will be possible and in the event that it is not available, we would ask schools with Year 11 pupils to share the teacher assessment data for the whole year group with us directly (we would provide a secure means to do this).

In summary, Research Champions Comparison secondary Schools will:

- Agree to complete a standardised assessment with your pupils in the Summer term (or may have already completed one) and agree to share the teacher assessment data (in place of GCSEs) for all Year 11 pupils
- Agree to share the data from the standardised tests used in 2020/21
 - If your school conducted any of these tests in the Autumn term, particularly with Year 7, we will also request this data
- Agree to share information about all pupils in year groups participating in testing, including:
 - name, date of birth and Unique Pupil Number (UPN) so we can match the data to the National Pupil Database and to the standardised assessment datasets

Which tests are we using?

We want, where possible, to use data from standardised tests that secondary schools are using anyway this year. We know schools will have their own preferences about which tests they prefer to use.

If your school has used or has plans to use assessments from Renaissance Learning or GL assessment this term then we would really like to hear from you. We have arrangements in place with these providers to – with schools' permission – facilitate the secure sharing of the assessment data of schools using their online tools. Schools that don't use their online tool can still take part by submitting the assessment scores directly to the Evaluation team using the template and secure portal that we will provide.

3. What would my school need to do?

With this information sheet we have sent you a link to the **Sign-up Form**. By completing this form you can sign up to the opportunity of becoming a Comparison Research Champion and tell us about your school's use of standardised tests this year.

After the Sign-up Form completion

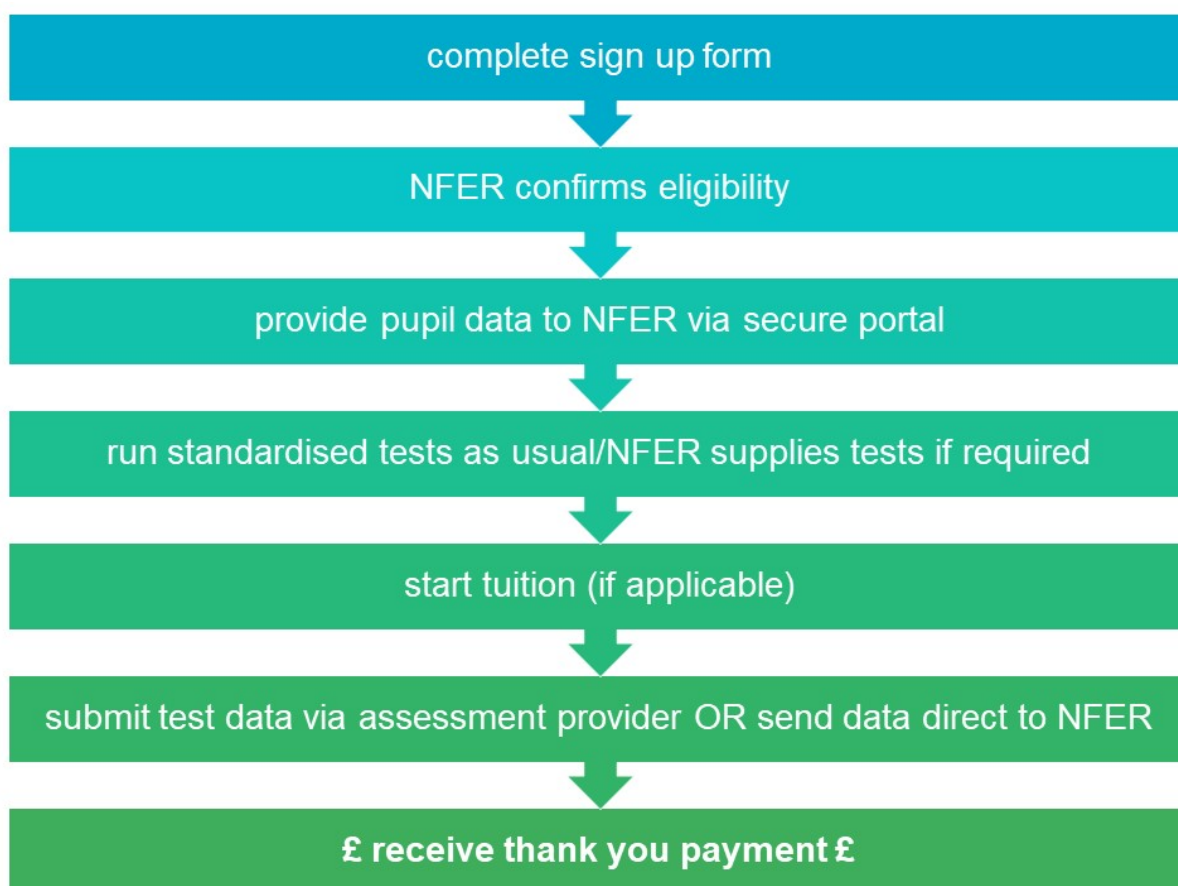
Following your completion of the Sign-up Form, we will be selecting a number of schools to be School Comparison Research Champions so that we have a range of schools in the sample (for example, primary and secondary).

If your school is selected, then we will request the pupil background information outlined in Section 2 from you. We will provide a template, guidance and a secure portal to enable you to share this information with us directly. This process will impose minimal burden, as all the

information requested will be part of the records you will be keeping for the running of the programme.

Attainment data

As outlined above, once we have agreement from your school we will either access the assessment data direct from the assessment provider, or if you are not using their online tool we will provide secure means for you to transfer the assessment scores to us.



4. Who decides what data will be shared?

The school's head teacher will need to give permission for your school to sign up to being a Comparison School Research Champion.

Pupils and/or their guardians have the right to withdraw from data processing. They can do so by using the withdrawal letter provided. For further information on what pupil data will be collected and how data will be used please read the full [Privacy Notice](#). **This should also be shared with all parents/pupils.**

5. What are the benefits for my school?

By becoming a Comparison School Research Champion, **your school will help to strengthen the evidence on the impact tutoring can have on pupils' attainment** and on how to best implement tutoring programmes in the future. Your school will also receive early access to a summary of the evaluation findings.

Schools that are School Comparison Research Champions will receive a thank you payment for the contribution they provide to the evaluation.

- Where the Evaluator is able to access the data directly from the assessment provider, schools will receive £1000.
- If a school is required to share their assessment data directly with the Evaluator, or to administer an assessment to its pupils, the school will receive £1150.

6. How does my school sign up?

To sign up, please complete and submit the Evaluation Online Form that you have received.

Once we have received your completed form we will be in touch with regards to the next steps.

7. Who can I contact for more information?

If you have any queries on the evaluation please contact NFER on:

Researchchampions@nfer.ac.uk

If you require a Data Sharing Agreement to be put in place to enable your school to participate further we can provide you with one upon request.

A link to the privacy notices can also be found [here](#).

8. About the evaluation

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) along with Kantar and the University of Westminster to independently evaluate the TP Programme. We are approaching selected schools, such as yours to support the evaluation by contributing to the comparison data.

Schools' contributions are vital for the successful evaluation of the TP Programme, which in turn will play a pivotal role in strengthening the evidence on how to best implement tutoring programmes in the future, and on the impact tutoring can have on pupils' learning outcomes.