

Evaluation of Whizz Education: Maths-Whizz Intelligent Tutoring Programme 2024-25

School Information Sheet

Overview

In 2024-25, [Whizz Education](#) (Whizz) are partnering with the [Education Endowment Foundation](#) (EEF) and the [National Foundation for Educational Research](#) (NFER) to evaluate the efficacy of their learning outcomes focused programme which deploys [Maths-Whizz](#) intelligent tutoring supported by tailored educational expertise and implementation planning for schools.

The programme focuses on addressing gaps pupils have in their maths knowledge with the aim of accelerating their learning.

This efficacy trial will assess the impact of the programme on mathematics outcomes for Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 pupils.

This is an exciting opportunity for up to 64 primary schools in England to contribute to educational research. The findings will help fellow schools like yours make an informed choice when deciding which EdTech programmes improve pupil outcomes based on empirical evidence.

We are now recruiting 64 primary schools to take part in the trial which will run from June 2024 – July 2025.

Who can take part?

To be eligible to participate in the trial, your school must meet the following criteria:

- Be an Infant or Primary school with children in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 as of 1 September 2024.
- Not have mixed age year groups (i.e. children who are from more than one-year group within the same class) in any of Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the 2024-25 academic year.
- Not have implemented Maths-Whizz or any Whizz associated services in the 2023-24 academic year.
- Not be participating in another EEF-funded trial in the 2024-25 academic year.
- Have a suitable level of IT provision including devices such as tablets/laptops/desktops and sufficient wi-fi capacity (0.5 Mbps internet connection per concurrent pupil) (see [Maths-Whizz minimum requirements](#)).
- Agree to contribute **£500** towards the cost of the programme (usual cost £1875 per school plus £25 per pupil per year).

What is the Maths-Whizz Intelligent Tutoring Programme?

Whizz Education was founded on the belief that every child deserves a learning experience that caters to their individual needs and pace of learning. Whizz deploys learning outcomes focused programmes which leverage our adaptive virtual tutoring platform, Maths-Whizz, to address pupil learning gaps effectively and consistently and thereby improve progress in maths.

Implementation Planning

Whizz will partner with your School to develop an implementation plan aligned to your school's goals. During a 45-to-60-minute session with school leadership and maths lead, together we determine the school's vision for success, and long-term and short-term goals.

Training

Two training sessions from one of our Education Success Partners (ESP) will enable leadership and teaching staff to facilitate pupil engagement with the Maths-Whizz platform and empower staff to understand and act upon the associated learning data.

- Session 1: conducted as soon as possible upon programme starting with teachers of all participating classes and at least one member of the leadership team. This session introduces the Maths-Whizz platform.
- Session 2: a 45-minute session with the maths lead (and teachers of participating classes subject to availability) conducted 6 to 8 weeks following completion of initial assessments. The session will explore how teachers can use pupil data and Teacher's resources to support teaching.

Ongoing support and partnership from your ESP throughout implementation to ensure optimised outcomes.

Maths-Whizz Tutor Platform

Pupils engage in individualised learning through the Maths-Whizz Tutor (adaptive virtual tutoring platform). Lessons are automated and differentiated for every individual pupil depending on their unique needs and pace of learning.

- When a pupil first logs in they complete a low-pressure initial assessment to identify individual strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in knowledge.
- Maths-Whizz then provides interactive and engaging lessons, exercises, and tests in sequence appropriate to each individual pupil's ability, constantly adapting at their own pace of learning with a focus on plugging knowledge gaps to accelerate pupil learning outcomes, reduce maths anxiety and build confidence.
- As pupils complete learning objectives, their progress is available for teachers to monitor in a central reporting platform.

The programme consists of engaging pupils with the Maths-Whizz Tutor for about an hour each week. This can be divided into several sessions, such as three times a week, and does not interfere with regular maths lessons.

Teachers Resources

Teachers are provided with a [library of digital resources](#), mapped to the National Curriculum through Maths-Whizz Teachers' Resources.

Using the comprehensive [live learning data](#) (automatically generated as pupils engage with the Tutor) and associated reporting platform, teachers can identify learning gaps and provide further targeted intervention where needed.

Parental Engagement

Parent accounts – parents can engage in their child's learning process by seeing their child's maths progress and needs.

How the trial works

This is a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) where schools will be randomly assigned to one of two study arms.

- In arm 1, pupils in Year 2 and 4 will receive the programme. Pupils in Year 3 and 5 will not receive the programme.
- In arm 2, pupils in Year 3 and 5 will receive the programme. Pupils in Year 2 and 4 will not receive the programme.

Pupils not receiving the programme in each arm will serve as the comparison group for pupils receiving the programme in the other arm.

Renaissance Star Maths assessments will be used as the primary outcome measure for this trial. All participating pupils in Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Spring/Summer 2024 will complete a baseline Renaissance Star Maths assessment and a Maths and Me survey (excluding those in Year 1) prior to randomisation. Once the baseline assessment has been completed, schools will be randomised as described above. Programme year groups (now in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5) will receive the programme from Autumn 2024 to Summer 2025. All participating pupils will then retake the same assessments (after the programme delivery is complete).

What is the benefit to my school participating in this trial?

- **Contribute to evidence** relating to the impact of the Whizz programme on mathematics outcomes for Year 2, 3,4 and 5 pupils including for disadvantaged pupils. It will also help us understand how best to implement it in the future to accelerate learning outcomes for all.
- **Access to Resources:** Participating in the study will provide access to the programme tools and resources at a subsidised rate with price advantages also available for continuation after the trial concludes. These resources can be used to enhance current teaching approaches.
- **Professional Development:** Teachers and school leaders can gain valuable insights and expertise to implement effective strategies to supplement maths instruction.
- **Recognition:** Participating in a study can raise your school's profile and reputation as an institution committed to continuous improvement and effectiveness.
- **Informing Policy and Practice:** The findings from research trials can help inform education policy and practice, leading to systemic changes that benefit pupils.
- **A thank you payment** of £250 is available for schools upon completing all trial related activities. Schools that participate in the case studies will receive an additional £150 worth of Amazon voucher or Book token of their choice.

Timeline for key activities 2024-2025

Time	Event
February – May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head teacher commits to taking part in the trial and signs MoU.
April - May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share parent letters with parents of all pupils in the current Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 that will participate in the trial. • Share pupil data with NFER - pupil name, DOB, UPN, gender, FSM, SEND, year group and class name.
May – June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whizz facilitates implementation planning session with leadership.
June – Mid July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Renaissance Star Maths assessment with all the current pupils in Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 and share the completed assessment register with NFER via secure portal.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Maths and me online survey with current pupils in Year 2, 3 and 4.
July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NFER completes randomisation and notifies schools of which study arm they have been allocated. • Whizz invoices schools for the subsidised initiative cost of £500.
August – October 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whizz facilitates leadership and teacher training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Session 1: in August/September. ○ Session 2: 6 to 8 weeks following completion of initial assessments.
September 2024 – July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whizz deploys Maths-Whizz, and ongoing school support with (the now) Year 2 and 4 or Year 3 and 5 classes. • Facilitate case study visits by NFER researchers to conduct interviews with teachers and focus groups with pupils. • NFER will distribute £150 worth of Amazon voucher or Book token of school's choice to case study schools.
June – Mid July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with NFER test administrator to complete endpoint testing (Renaissance Star Maths assessment with Year 2, 3, 4 & 5 and Maths & me survey with Year 3, 4 & 5). • Complete the surveys sent to the class teachers. • Whizz will pay the trial incentive of £250 to schools completing all research related activities.

Who controls what data is shared?

NFER is the data controller for the trial and will make decisions about how and what personal data is used in accordance with the objectives of the study set by the EEF. At the end of the trial, once the data is archived at EEF, they will become the data controllers. Whizz Education are the data controllers for the programme delivery.

The Whizz Education team uses the information supplied by the school for implementation and delivery and to record and manage the school's participation in this EEF subsidised RCT and to communicate with it about the programme. All personal data is held and processed by Whizz Education in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Act (the GDPR). For more information, please see [Whizz Education's privacy notice](#).

Details of the NFER trial and privacy notice can be found [here](#).

For more information on how EEF processes and uses your data please see [EEF's privacy notice](#).

Recruitment for this trial is now open!

We are now collecting Expressions of Interest to participate in this trial! If you meet the selection criteria (see Who can take part? above), please complete the short form [here](#).

If your school is eligible for the trial, Whizz Education will be in touch before sending the Memorandum of Understanding for your school's Headteacher to sign.

For further information on the Whizz programme, please contact efficacy@whizzeducation.com

For further information on the evaluation, please contact mwtrial@nfer.ac.uk