



2025 key stage 1 phonics screening check technical pre-test key dates

Date	Activity
27 January	NFER informs local authorities and MATs (with more than 5 schools) which of their schools have been selected to participate in the KS1 phonics screening check technical pre-test (TPT).
30 January	NFER writes to schools to inform them of selection for the TPT. The letter contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• log-in details for the NFER school portal• letter from STA confirming the statutory nature of trialling.
30 January to 07 February	The school portal opens enabling schools to log-in to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• access additional information regarding the trialling process• confirm receipt of their notification letter• provide a school contact name and email address• enter dates unsuitable for testing, including school holiday dates
14 March	School receives an email confirmation from the school portal containing a request and instructions to log in and check their Year 1 pupil data. <i>The school will also receive an email with a new password.</i>
14 March to 04 April	School contact is required to log on to the school portal to <ul style="list-style-type: none">• confirm the pupil data for Year 1• add details of any new pupils in Year 1
16 May	NFER sends confirmation of testing date, test administrator name and request to check the selected pupil data. The school is required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• check that the testing date is convenient• check the pupil details are correct• note test administrator name• Inform NFER of any enlarged or coloured copies of the check materials that are needed

16 to 30 May	<p>Schools can expect test administrators to contact them to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • testing arrangements for the day • role of the school contact in the administration • requirements to keep test materials safe and secure • modifications to checks that have been requested • access arrangements
16 to 27 June	<p>Test administration window</p> <p>The trialling period will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a member of school staff will administer the check on the agreed day supported by the test administrator as agreed • the test administrator will collect feedback from school staff • the test materials will be checked and sealed in the school to ensure the security of the checks • the test administrator will hand out stickers to all children

The team at NFER are here to help you at any time.

Email: TPTtrials@nfer.ac.uk

Telephone: 01753 637136 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and during test administration window (16 June - 27 June 2025), 8am to 6pm)