



Key dates for 2026 key stage 1 and key stage 2 technical pre-test trial

Date	Activity
Early-Mid January	NFER informs local authorities and multi-academy trusts (MATs) (with more than five schools) which of their schools have been selected to participate in technical pre-tests (TPT).
Mid-January	NFER writes to schools to inform them of selection for the trial. The letter contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• log-in details for the NFER School Portal (portal)• letter from STA confirming the statutory nature of trialling.
Mid-January	The portal opens enabling schools to log-in to the system 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 <u>unsuitable</u> for testing, including school holiday dates• provide NFER with details of their year 2 or year 6 class.
Early February	School receives email confirmation from the portal which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• confirmation of the selected class and number of pupils• request and instructions for the school to log in to the portal to check their pupil data. <p><i>The school will also receive an email with a new password.</i></p>
Mid-February	School contact should log on to the portal to <ul style="list-style-type: none">• confirm the pupil data for the selected class• add details of any new pupils• request enlarged and/or coloured scripts for pupils.
Early March	NFER sends confirmation of testing date, test administrator name and request to check the selected pupil data. The school should: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• check that the testing date is convenient

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> check the pupil details are correct note test administrator name
Mid-late March	<p>Schools can expect test administrators to contact them to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> testing arrangements for the day including room layout role of the school contact in administering the test for KS1 and assisting the administration for KS2 requirements to keep test materials safe and secure modifications to tests that have been requested access arrangements (additional time, test separately, scribes, readers etc.).
Monday 13 April to Friday 24 April	<p>What the trialling period will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for KS1: school contact will administer the tests on the agreed day supported by the TA for KS2: TA will administer the tests on the agreed day supported by school staff as agreed schools to provide appropriate staff to support the TA during the administration of the tests. the TA will collect feedback on the tests from school staff and where appropriate, the pupils the tests will be checked and sealed in the school to ensure the security of the tests the TA will give out stickers to all pupils to thank them for participation.

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

Telephone: 01753 637136 **Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and during test administration window (Monday 13 April to Friday 24 April), 8am to 5.30pm**

Email: TPTtrials@nfer.ac.uk