
Privacy Notice for Philosophy for Children

1 Why are we collecting this data?

The Education Trials Unit at the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is collecting personal data to enable the evaluation of Philosophy for Children (P4C) using a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT). Philosophy for Children is an approach to teaching in which students participate in group dialogues focused on philosophical issues (e.g. ‘truth’, ‘fairness’ or ‘bullying’). The main aim of P4C is to improve pupils’ and teachers’ capabilities to think in a caring, collaborative, creative and critical way (‘the 4Cs’) in order to support their personal, social and educational development.

The RCT aims to ascertain the impact of P4C on disadvantaged children’s reading and maths at Key Stage 2, and on their social competencies/skills. The disadvantaged children involved are those who were in Year 4 in 2016/17 who have ever been in receipt of free school meals (known as EverFSM). The RCT will also explore the impact on reading and maths at Key Stage 2 for a cohort of children – those who were in Year 4 in 2016/17. Due to changes related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the trial no longer involves children who were in Year 3 in 2016/17.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has commissioned the Society for the Advancement of Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education (SAPERRE) to develop and deliver the P4C programme. The EEF has commissioned and funded the NFER to undertake the independent evaluation of P4C. NFER is the Data Controller for this evaluation.

2 What is the legal basis for processing activities?

The legal basis for processing personal data is covered by:

- GDPR Article 6 (1) (f) which states that ‘processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party except where such interest are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of the personal data’.

Our legitimate interest for processing personal data for this trial is to administer the RCT and analyse all data in this RCT.

3 How will personal data be obtained?

Personal data will be obtained by NFER in the following ways:

- from the Department for Education’s (DfE) National Pupil Database (NPD) using DfE’s secure data exchange portal and the Office for National Statistics secure access procedures
- on the school memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the trial
- directly from schools, via NFER’s secure school portal
- through pupil paper surveys, administered by schools at baseline and by NFER test administrators at follow-up¹)
- directly from teachers, via an online survey
- through telephone interviews and case study visits with school senior leaders, teachers, pupils and SAPERE staff
- through updates of contact details provided by the P4C lead and other teachers, and shared securely between NFER and SAPERE using NFER’s secure portal.

Note, NFER is also collecting information from SAPERE about programme delivery. This data will capture school names/school IDs only – it will not include personal data.

4 What personal data is being collected by this project?

Personal data for this RCT includes data about pupils and teachers from participating schools as described below:

- NFER is collecting the name, job title and contact details about the nominated P4C lead teacher within participating schools so that we can liaise with them about the evaluation.
- The personal data we will collect about pupils includes pupil name, date of birth, unique pupil number (UPN) and school name for all pupils in Year 4 (in 2016/17). This will be matched to data from the DfE National Pupil Database (NPD), including pupils’ free schools meals status (EverFSM).
- Attitudinal survey responses will be collected on a pupil baseline and follow-up pupil survey. The personal information that pupils provide to us in response to the survey will be used in the RCT.

In addition, NFER will also access and process the following **pseudonymised² pupil data** for this RCT:

- Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 results (Reading and Maths scores) for the 2019 Year 6 cohort (i.e. those who were in Y4 in 2016/17) from the DfE NPD.

¹ NFER will ensure that appropriate contracts are in place for NFER test administrators, and that they obtain personal data in accordance with the GDPR and other applicable legislation.

² Pseudonymisation is a technique that replaces or removes information (like names or other meaningful identifiers) in a data set that identifies an individual. In this example names and dates of birth are replaced with a reference number.

- Background data such as EverFSM status, month of birth/age in months, gender, and EAL status, where needed for the analysis.

Other personal data being collected includes staff attitudes and views as follows:

- Attitudinal survey responses will be collected on a teacher survey. The personal information that teachers provide to us in response to the survey will be used in the RCT.
- Attitudes and views of school staff and of SAPERE staff will be collected through telephone interviews and case studies; contact details will be collected to allow us to organise these.

5 Who will personal data be shared with?

NFER will share the names, job titles and contact details of the P4C leads in each school with SAPERE, so that they can be contacted about the programme. If your P4C contact details change during the evaluation, SAPERE and NFER will share and update your contact information so that we can continue to contact you about the programme and the RCT.

NFER will request the following pupil data from the DfE: pseudonymised Key Stage 2 Reading and Maths assessment results, KS1 attainment data, and background data including EverFSM status, month of birth and EAL status where needed for the analysis.

Three months after the publication of the evaluation report, the pseudonymised matched attainment data will be added to the EEF data archive, which is managed by the Fisher Family Trust (FFT) on behalf of EEF and hosted by the ONS. Pupils' questionnaire responses will also be provided by NFER to the FFT to add to the EEF data archive using the ONS secure service. This data will be pseudonymised (removing name, date of birth and UPN) and archived with a linking reference to the NPD by FFT.

Archiving will enable the EEF and other research teams to use the pseudonymised data as part of subsequent research, including further matching to NPD and other administrative data, through the ONS Approved Researcher Scheme. Further information about the EEF archive is available from:

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/projects-and-evaluation/evaluating-projects/evaluator-resources/archiving-evaluation-data/>

We will not share personal data collected through telephone interviews, case studies or in the teacher survey with other organisations.

All data will be treated with the strictest confidence in line with the GDPR 2016/679 and the Data Protection Act 2018. **No individuals or schools will be named in any report arising from this research.**

6 Is personal data being transferred outside of the European Economic Areas (EEA)?

No personal data for this RCT is being stored or transferred outside of the EEA.

7 How long will personal data be retained?

NFER will delete any personal data within one year from the completion of the project

NFER will send the pupil data it has collected for this RCT to the Fisher Family Trust for archiving within three months of project completion (as set out in Section 5), at which point EEF will take responsibility for data protection compliance. Once data has been archived, it is held in the EEF archive until it is no longer needed for research purposes.

8 Can I stop my personal data being used?

NFER handles your personal data in accordance with the rights given to individuals under data protection legislation. If at any time you wish us to withdraw your data or correct errors in it, please contact Guido Miani at P4C@nfer.ac.uk

In certain circumstances, data subjects have the right to restrict or object to processing. They also have the right to make a subject access request to see all the information held about them. To exercise any of these rights, please contact our [Compliance Officer](#).

9 Who can I contact about this project?

NFER is responsible for the day-to-day management of this project. Contact Guido Miani at P4C@nfer.ac.uk at NFER with any queries.

If you have a concern about the way this project processes personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance (see the details above). Alternatively, 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 Last updated

We keep this privacy notice under review to make sure it is up to date and accurate. This version was last updated in April 2021 to provide additional information and clarity around arrangements for matching and archiving at the end of the trial (see Sections 2, 5 and 7); and changes caused by the Covid-19 pandemic (the trial is no longer collecting data on children in Year 6 in school year 2019/20 – see Section 1).