

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Participation in Education Endowment Foundation Research Project

Our school has been selected to take part in a research project, funded by the Education Endowment Foundation. The project will run from September 2017 to July 2019 and will look at the ways in which we can use teaching assistants (TAs) more effectively to improve pupil outcomes. The project is being run nationwide and will involve approximately 100 schools.

As part of the evaluation of the project, our current Year 1 pupils will sit a short reading test in June 2017 and another when they are at the end of Year 3. In addition, some basic data about pupils will be collected from a source called the National Pupil Database¹. Test responses and all pupil data will be treated in the strictest confidence. It will be shared with the project team (RAND Europe², University of Cambridge and UCL Institute of Education). Some data will also be anonymised and shared with the Department for Education, Education Endowment Foundation³, the EEF's data contractor FFT Education⁴, and the UK Data Archive. Pupil names will not be stored in the same files as test results and will be accessible only to the small research team. **Your child's name, or the names of the school and staff, will NOT be used in any report arising from the research.**

It is important that schools participate in this project to help identify areas for improvement and ways of making teaching more effective for pupils. However, if you would prefer your child's information NOT to be included in the research and evaluation, please fill in the reply slip below and return it to the school. If you are happy for your child's information to be included, you **DO NOT** need to return the reply slip.

If you have any questions regarding data collection, please contact Dr Alex Sutherland, Research Leader at RAND Europe, at asutherl@rand.org.

I look forward to keeping you updated on this exciting project.

Yours faithfully,

Gavin Bater

Deputy Headteacher

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I have been informed of the research project and I do **NOT** wish for my son's/daughter's information to be included.

Print name of child: _____ Print name of school: _____

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to your child's school by Monday 8th May

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-pupil-database-apply-for-a-data-extract>

² <http://www.rand.org/randeurope.html>

³ <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/>

⁴ <http://www.fft.org.uk/>