

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

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We are writing to let you know that your child's school has agreed to take part in a research trial evaluating the efficacy of Whizz Education's [Maths-Whizz](#) intelligent tutoring programme, in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Whizz Education partners with schools to deploy Maths-Whizz to address pupil learning gaps effectively and consistently. The [Education Endowment Foundation](#) (EEF) has commissioned the study, and The [National Foundation for Educational Research](#) (NFER) is conducting the independent evaluation.

This letter tells you more about the research trial so that you can understand why we are conducting it and what it will involve.

What does the research involve?

The research will consist of a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) to test the added impact of Maths-Whizz on learning, compared with normal maths lessons (alone). Your child's school has nominated the current Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 to participate in the trial which will start in Summer 2024.

To contribute to the trial, we will ask your child to complete a 20-minute maths assessment and a maths survey at both the start and end of the trial (summer 2024 and summer 2025). In summer 2024, your child's school will be randomly assigned to one of two study arms.

- In arm 1, pupils in Year 2 and 4 will receive the programme in addition to normal teaching. Children in Year 3 and 5 will not receive the programme.
- In arm 2, pupils in Year 3 and 5 will receive the programme in addition to normal teaching. Children in Year 2 and 4 will not receive the programme.

They will use the assigned approach across the academic year 2024-25.

If your child's year group is assigned to use Maths-Whizz:

- Your child will receive access to an online virtual maths tutor that adapts to their unique needs and pace of learning, with interactive content and continuous assessment so you always know if your child is on track. It is expected that children will engage with the Tutor for 60 minutes a week outside of normal maths lessons.
- As a parent/caregiver you can also engage in your child's learning process by logging in and viewing their maths progress and needs.

Other features of the Maths-Whizz Intelligent Tutoring Programme include: (1) access to a digital library of award-winning resources that will support children's learning and (2) live reporting to empower teachers to understand each child's unique learning needs, monitor their progress and act on insights at the point of need. The Whizz Education team will also offer implementation support to your child's school to help them meet the needs and goals of the school and pupils.

Data Protection and Privacy

Some basic data about your child will be collected from your child's school (e.g., name, gender, date of birth, eligibility for free school meals, unique pupil number) to benefit from the programme and to participate in the trial. No pupils or schools will be identified in the research reports, all data for each child will be kept strictly confidential and only used for research, evaluation, and Maths-Whizz usage purposes. All parties comply with GDPR requirements.

Further information about this trial can be found at <https://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/efficacy-trial-of-maths-whizz-intelligent-tutoring>.

Further details on Whizz's Data Protection and Privacy policies can be found at <https://whizz.com/privacy-policy/>.

We have summarised how we will collect, use and protect personal data collected during this study in the study privacy notices, which are available [here](#). This document also includes details about the type of personal data and who it will be shared with. NFER have robust procedures in place to make sure that we comply with GDPR requirements. No school, teacher or pupil will be named in any report arising from this work.

How can I withdraw my child from the trial?

If you are happy for your child's data to be used for this research, **you do not need to do anything**. However, please inform your child's teacher if you would like to withdraw your child's data from the evaluation at any stage. You can withdraw your child/children from the data collection of the trial at any time until 1 August 2025, at which point the data will have been pseudonymised. However, the NFER appreciates schools' and participants' support in collecting the data since it is very important for the validity of the results. If you withdraw your child/children from the project, unless otherwise instructed, we will use any data we have collected up to that point in our analysis. Note that withdrawing your child's data from the evaluation will not impact their involvement in classroom activities around the project.

If you would prefer your child's data not to be shared, stored and used for this research, please complete the form below and return it to your child's school.

Who can I contact for further information?

If you have any queries, please contact us via email at mwtrial@nfer.ac.uk

Yours sincerely,
Kathryn Hurd
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