

Education Endowment Foundation: privacy notice for the Education Data Service project

Introduction

This privacy notice will inform you as to how we look after your personal data when it is used for the production of reports estimating the impact of teaching and learning programmes in the EEF Education Data Service (EDS) project. This page should be read in conjunction with the information on the [main EEF privacy notice page](#) which covers information relevant to anyone whose data is used by EEF including your rights.

In order to generate high-quality evidence of what works in improving teaching and learning, the EEF funds high-potential and promising programmes (providing grants to delivery and developer teams) and in parallel, independent evaluations of these programmes (making grants to evaluation teams). More about the EEF's approach to data protection for its evaluations, can be read [here](#). Users of the EDS are organisations working in educational settings, such as schools, local authorities and education charities, and wanting to demonstrate promising evidence of impact on teaching and learning outcomes, possibly to inform an application for an EEF grant. EEF is funding a feasibility pilot of the EDS in order to understand how to maximize the quality of evidence generated by the service.

Purpose and lawful basis for processing

The legal basis for processing your personal data is 'legitimate interests' (GDPR, Article 6, paragraph 1f). These legitimate interests include the generation of quick and cost-effective estimates of the impact of educational programmes that you have participated in on teaching and learning outcomes. These impact reports are used to inform EEF's grant-making decisions in order to better generate high-quality evidence of what works in improving teaching and learning, and may be published on EEF's website to inform practitioners and policy-makers' decision-making. These legitimate interests have been carefully balanced with your interests and should be in line with the purposes communicated to you (or your parents/guardians) by the EDS User.

The legal basis for processing special categories of personal data is 'research exemption' (GDPR, Article 9, paragraph 2) which specifies that processing is necessary for 'archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes'. This processing is carried out with appropriate safeguards for protecting the rights and freedoms of the data subjects, according to the GDPR, [Article 89](#).

What we need and why we need it

EDS users collect data directly from the educational settings, pupils, teachers and parents that they work with. This data includes background information (such as socio-demographics), prior educational attainment and information on the education programme being delivered to these participants. We need this data in

order to link to outcomes data in the National Pupil Database (NPD) held by the Department for Education (DfE), or other outcomes data sources. These data are linked either by EEF's EDS data processor, FFT Education, or by DfE, and matched with similar education settings and pupils who did not receive the programme.

What we do with it

This linked dataset is used to estimate the impact of the programme on its participants' educational outcomes. These impact reports are used to inform EEF's grant-making decisions in order to better generate high-quality evidence of what works in improving teaching and learning, may be published on EEF's website to inform practitioners and policy-makers' decision-making, and will inform our understanding of how best to generate evidence to tackle educational disadvantage. It should be noted that only the aggregate outcomes of a large group of participants will ever be reported and no individual will ever be identifiable.

How long we keep it

It should be noted that only the minimum amount of your data is processed in order to test the feasibility of different statistical approaches and provide a high-quality impact estimate. Once the report has been generated, your data will be securely deleted within two years.

What are your rights?

For more information on your rights, please see the [main EEF privacy notice page](#).

Do we use any data processors?

It should be noted that EEF does not itself process any data used in the EDS project. EEF's data processor for the EDS is FFT Education. FFT Education has been appointed during an open tendering process and is an organization with expertise in linking and analyzing education data. FFT Education has strict procedures for protecting the integrity and confidentiality of the data processed on behalf of the EEF, as outlined in their [privacy notice](#). Roles and responsibilities related to the EDS are specified in an agreement between FFT and the EEF.

Your data will be stored by FFT education in a UK environment compliant with the Government's 14 Cloud Security Principles. Full password protection, anti-virus and back-up functionality protect your data against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss or damage.

EDS Users are also processing your data for the EDS project. EEF will only accept data to be submitted to FFT Education from a prospective user if they can provide evidence that their programme participants have been given information in line with these data processing purposes, as well as the right to withdraw from the data processing at any time.