



Parent and Guardian Information Sheet: Counting Collections

We are inviting all children in your child's class to take part in research into an early mathematics programme called Counting Collections. The study will help schools know if Counting Collections is a good way to help children learn about numbers. This sheet tells you about the study. Please read it carefully and discuss it with others, if you wish.

Why are we doing the study?

Learning about numbers is important for all children. It helps them do well in maths at school. We want to know more about the approaches which help children learn about numbers.

How does the study work?

Around 180 Reception classes in primary schools in the North East, East Midlands/South Yorkshire and South West regions of England are taking part. We are checking children's understanding of numbers so we can compare this with children who have been taught in a different way.

In your child's class all children's understanding of numbers will be checked twice (in Sept/Oct and in May/June). This takes up to 15 minutes per child where they will be asked to do a few number tasks such as counting objects and recognising numbers. Trained researchers will ensure this is done with care for your child's needs.

What information is being collected about my child?

You may withdraw your child from the study at any time and no further information will be collected about them. However, we need to manage information in specific ways for the research to be reliable and accurate so if your child is withdrawn from the study, we will keep the anonymised information that we have already obtained but delete all personal data such as their name and pupil number.

What happens to the information collected for the study?

Data protection regulation requires that we state the legal basis for processing the information we collect. In this study, the purpose of processing the personal data of pupils is defined as a 'Public Task' under GDPR (Article 6 (1e)). Sheffield Hallam University are the data controllers for the study information and are responsible for looking after the data and using it properly. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally identifiable information possible. The study team may use your child's name, date of birth and unique pupil number so they know which children have been in the Counting Collections lessons and how they did on the two number tasks. This data will be stored securely at Sheffield Hallam University and shared with the University of Nottingham, when needed for the study. It will be treated in the strictest confidence. For further details please see:

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/-/media/home/research/sioe-rke/privacy-notice/eef-counting-collections-privacy-notice.docx>

At the end of the project, study data will be submitted to the EEF's Data Archive. At this point, EEF and DfE will be data controllers and contractors appointed to manage the Data Archive will be data processors. The evaluation data will also be linked with information about the students from the National Pupil Database (NPD), Department for Education, the



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EEF's archive manager and, in an anonymised form, with the Office for National Statistics, the UK Data Archive, and potentially other approved researchers. As is standard for research studies, Sheffield Hallam University will store the data for up to 25 years and for a period of no less than 7 years after the research project finishes. Data will be securely stored in a password-protected folder which is accessible to authorised persons only. For a full copy of the University privacy notice please visit: <https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-this-website/privacy-policy/privacy-notices/privacy-notice-for-research>

We will not use a child, teacher or school name in any report about this research.

Who is evaluating the study?

Dr Martin Culliney and a team of researchers at Sheffield Hallam University. They are conducting a randomized controlled trial (RCT) to compare the impact of different ways of teaching number.



Who is running the Counting Collections programme?

Dr Catherine Gripton and a team of researchers at the University of Nottingham are running the programme.

Who is funding the study?

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). All schools will be compensated for helping with the study with a small financial payment.

Where will the research be published?

The research will be published in a report on the Education Endowment Foundation website. It will also be reported on the Counting Collections website and in academic journals and presentations. No child, teacher or school names will be published.

Where can I find out more information?

Project website: countingcollections.org

Project email: countingcollections@nottingham.ac.uk

Who can I contact if I have a question?

About how information is collected: Counting-Collections@SHU.ac.uk

What do I need to do?



If you are comfortable with your child's data being used for this evaluation, you **do not need to return this form.**



If you **do not** want your child's data to be used for this evaluation then complete this form and **return it to your child's teacher by 18 September 2023.** If you would like to withdraw your child's data from the evaluation after this, then email: Counting-Collections@SHU.ac.uk



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Withdrawal from data processing for parents/guardians

You only need to complete this form if you DO NOT wish your child's data to be shared, stored and used for this evaluation.

I DO NOT give permission for Sheffield Hallam University to collect data my child. I DO NOT want it to be collected, stored or used for research purposes.

Your child's name.....

Child's class.....

Your name.....

Your signature.....

Date.....