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National Foundation for Educational Research
The Mere, Upton Park, Slough. SL1 2DQ
www.nfer.ac.uk

1st February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Trialling key stage 1 Phonics screening check materials

We are writing to let you know that your child's school has been selected to trial phonics screening check materials for key stage 1. The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is doing this work for the Standards and Testing Agency, which is part of the Department for Education. This trial plays a critical role in developing these check materials.

Schools selected to take part in the trialling of these key stage 1 check materials have a statutory responsibility to participate. Further information is available at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/introduction-of-statutory-participation-in-trialling-of-national-curriculum-tests-from-2016>

Pupils in your child's year group will be asked to complete the check on a set date during the period 13-24 June 2022. They will be selected through a random sample by the Standards and Testing Agency (STA), in advance of the testing. They will be given a certificate and a pencil as a thank you for their help.

Pupils' background data, as collected in the autumn school census and confirmed with the school, will be used to inform the analysis of the trial. The privacy notice https://www.nfer.ac.uk/media/4768/stct_test_administration_privacy_notice.pdf sets out how we comply with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). **This project is confidential and no school or child will be named in any report of this work.** The aim of this exercise is to trial the check materials, not the pupils. As these materials are in the development stage, schools will not receive any results from this trial.

If you have any questions about this project, please telephone NFER on 01753 637136 or email us at STCT@nfer.ac.uk and we will be happy to answer any queries you might have.

Yours faithfully



Robert Weeks
Project Leader KS1 Phonics
Research and Product Operations