Guide: Determine Your Approach

There are multiple ways to conduct a RCE in your school or district. Before you can begin working through your evaluation, we'll help you find the approach that works best for you. The decision tree provided here will help you understand which pathway suits your unique context. Please note that by answering the questions in this step of the RCE Coach, the Coach will be able to determine this for you.

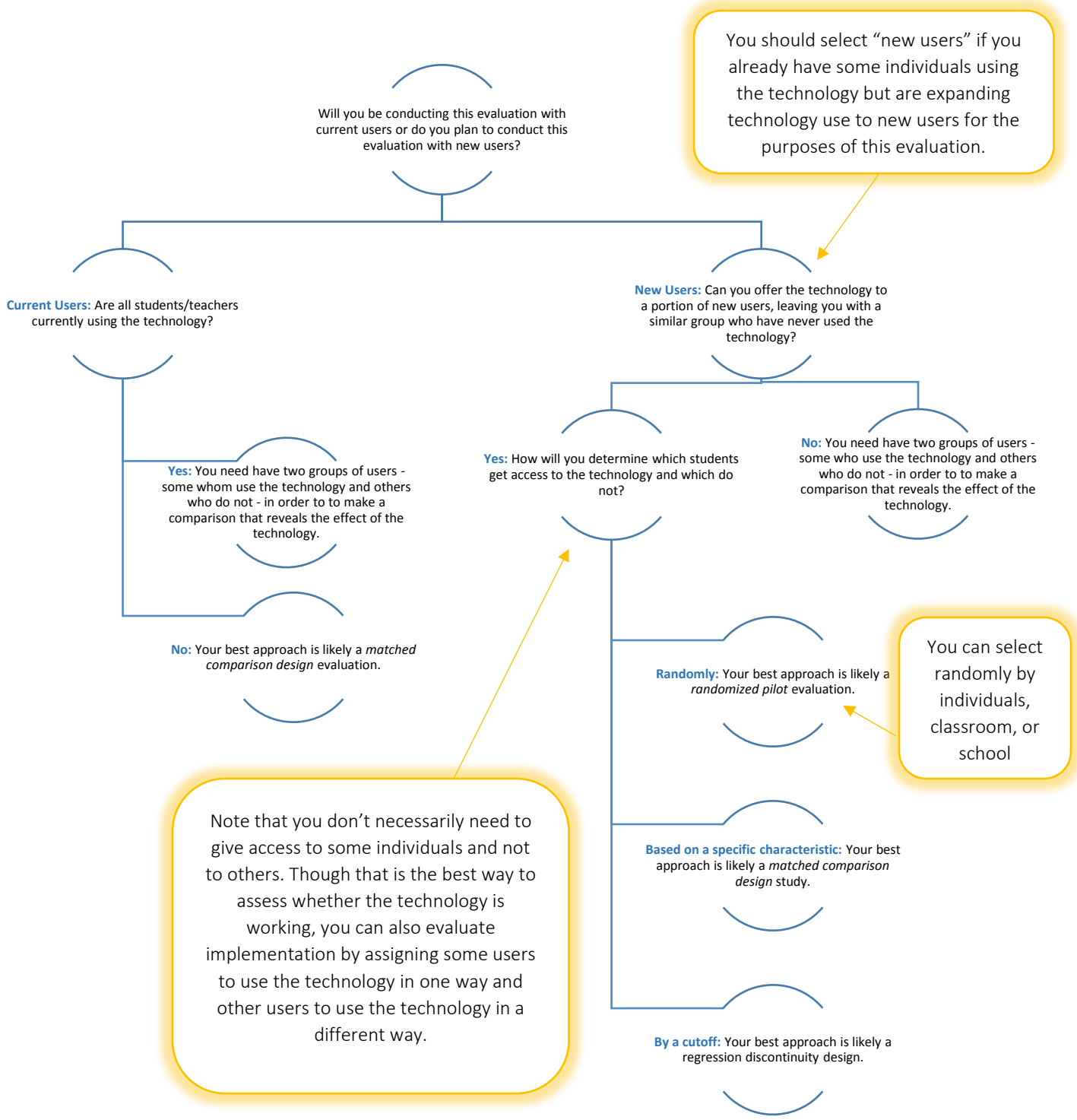
The RCE Coach is a powerful tool that helps you move quickly to make tech decisions based on rigorous evidence – but you'll need to gather some data to get there. It is never too early to start thinking about how you will do that, how the approach you choose will impact those efforts, and whether or not you'll need to bring in any additional team members to help with that process.

Note that there are four potential approaches (two of which are currently supported):

1. Randomized pilot
2. Matched comparison design
3. Regression discontinuity design
4. Neither

Please follow the decision tree below to figure out what your recommended approach is. The decision tree will also help you to understand what changes you can make to ensure you can continue with either a randomized pilot or matched comparison design.

Ed Tech Rapid Cycle Evaluation Coach



GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
MATCHED COMPARISON	A study design in which outcomes for a group receiving an educational technology are compared to those for a group not receiving an educational technology.
RANDOMIZED PILOT	A small-scale, short-term experiment that will help you to learn how a large scale technology might work in practice. In a randomized pilot, the technology users are selected through a random process, such as a coin flip.
REGRESSION DISCONTINUITY DESIGN	This design compares outcomes for individuals just above and just below the cutoff to determine whether the technology is having an effect. This works because we assume that those around the cutoff are very similar and that any differences are due to using the technology.