

Dear parent/carer,

As you may remember, your child's school is taking part in a research project called Fit to Study this year. The project aims to find out whether changing the nature of PE lessons can improve pupils' academic performance.

NatCen, an independent research organisation, has been funded by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) to carry out the independent evaluation of Fit to Study. As part of the evaluation, we would like to use the results of a maths test that your child's class will be sitting this summer. The test results will be used us to compare the progress in maths made by children who have attended Fit to Study PE lessons and normal Year 8 PE.

We need to link the test results with your child's data that is held by the Department for Education in the National Pupil Database (NPD). All of this data will be analysed for the evaluation and then will be anonymised and stored in the EEF's data archive. Your child's data will be treated with the strictest confidence. We will not use your child's name or the name of their school in any reports we write.

If you are happy for your child's test results to be linked to data from the NPD, used in the evaluation and archived, you do not need to do anything.

If you **do not** want your child's data to be linked to data from the NPD, used in the evaluation and archived, please sign and return the slip below to your child's school.

We hope you will agree to this important part of the Fit to Study project. If you have a question about the maths test or any other aspect of the evaluation, you can contact the NatCen research team on Freephone 0808 281 9513 or at FitToStudy@natcen.ac.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lydia Marshall'.

Dr Lydia Marshall
Senior Researcher, NatCen
Direct line: 0207 549 8509

OPT-OUT SLIP

I **do not** want my child's test data to be linked to data from the National Pupil Database, analysed or archived as part of the Fit to Study project.

Child's name:

Your name:

Your signature:.....

Please return this slip to your school within **ONE WEEK** of receiving this letter.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is NatCen?

NatCen is an independent social research organisation and a registered charity that carries out research on a wide range of social issues. To find out more about NatCen go to www.natcen.ac.uk.

NatCen has been funded by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) to carry out an independent evaluation of the Fit to Study programme.

What is Fit to Study?

Your child's school is taking part in a programme to find out whether changing the nature of PE lessons can improve pupils' academic performance. Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University are running the PE programme. NatCen are carrying out the independent evaluation.

What will happen to my child's test results?

Only the research teams at NatCen, Oxford University and Oxford Brookes will have access to the test results. Data from the tests will be held securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act. As detailed in the letters you have received from the Fit to Study team, data from the project will be linked to information from the National Pupil Database (NPD), anonymised and stored in the Education Endowment Foundation's archive, and the UK Data Archive.

We will never use your child's name or the name of their school in any reports we write.

How can I find out more?

You can find out more about the independent evaluation of Fit to Study at www.natcen.ac.uk/fittostudy.

You can contact the NatCen research team on 0808 281 9513 or email fittostudy@natcen.ac.uk.