

Family Numeracy Programme Trial FAQs

Please note, this document is updated regularly as we receive questions.

Last updated: 31st March, 2025

The Trial

What does Randomised Control Trial mean?

The Family Numeracy Programme will be part of a Randomised Control Trial (RCT). This means that 50% of the schools will be randomly selected to deliver the programme in Summer 2025 (treatment group), while the other 50% will deliver it in Autumn 2025 (control group). After randomisation, schools will be notified which group they are in.

All randomised schools can continue recruiting Year 2 parents for the trial until 4th April 2025, and must upload the enrolment data onto the Ipsos Data Portal by the 24th April 2025.

Please see this useful short video from Ipsos that explains an RCT: [Introduction to the Multiply Education Research Trials on Vimeo](#)

How long will the whole programme last?

The trial will start in September 2024 and results will be available from the evaluation in 2025. The treatment group will begin delivery of the intervention in Summer 2025 (April-July) and the control group will begin delivery in Autumn 2025 (November-December).

By what date will you be able to announce whether a school is in the control or treatment group?

Randomisation into control and treatment groups will be in March 2025. You must have signed your trial contracts to undergo randomisation.

Who will do the randomisation?

Our evaluators, Ipsos, will perform the randomisation of schools, you will not need to. You will have to recruit/ confirm the schools that are taking in the trial by 4th April, randomisation will take place once all parents/carers have been recruited.

- **For the control group, the parents recruited are from children in year 2 but will be in year 3 in autumn. should they recruit year 1 parents who will be year 2 by autumn?**

No, the parents recruited from the Year 2 group will receive the Family Numeracy Programme next academic year when their children will be in Year 3. Campaign for Learning have adapted their lesson materials to suit the learning level of Year 3 children for the Control group

Funding

● **Multiply funding ends in March 2025, will I still be able to take part in the trial?**

Family Learning activities can be funded through either core Multiply or Community Learning funding (soon to be called Tailored Learning). While core Multiply funding will end in March 2025, providers who wish to participate in the Family Learning trial can use their Tailored Learning allocation, if available.

For providers in devolved areas, they should consult with their MCA about using the devolved Adult Skills Fund, including Tailored Learning. Providers not currently involved in Multiply can still join the trial if they have a Tailored Learning allocation. By participating, providers can claim 12 guided learning hours per learner.

Additional funding details:

Intervention costs will be paid at £7.20 per hour, based on the AEB 24/25 funding rate, plus any area and disadvantaged cost uplifts, where applicable.

A 10% admin premium will be applied based on the total number of learners in the trial for the area.

A one-off £1,000 payment will be made to participating providers.

● **What residency eligibility requirements is Multiply RCT trials subject to?**

Multiply funding follows the same residency rules as the Adult Education Budget (AEB) outlined in the Adult Skills Funding Rules for 2024-2025 (Gov.uk). To be eligible for Multiply funding, individuals must have lived in the UK for at least the last three years on the first day of their learning. It is the responsibility of the local authority or provider to check if someone is eligible for the Multiply programme. We expect providers to use their judgement when deciding if and when to ask learners to show proof of where they've lived.

For Schools

● We work with home schooled children and families; can we work with these groups as well?

Unfortunately, home schooling has not been included as part of the trial design, and it will be hard to accommodate this under the current design.

● Is there a minimum number of learners required?

Schools should aim to recruit eight parents (and their children) onto the trial. If this target cannot be met, we will assess the situation on a case-by-case basis. Please note, however, that schools enrolling fewer than eight parents will not be eligible to receive the incentive payment.

● Do primary school teachers have to be present during the family numeracy sessions?

The Family Numeracy Programme is designed to be delivered by DBS-approved providers, so the presence of primary school teachers is not required. However, there are no objections to teachers being present during the sessions if the school and the provider agree. The decision on teacher attendance is at the discretion of the school and the Family Numeracy provider.

● How do I know who my family learning provider is?

We will contact you with potential learning providers in your area, once we have permission to share their details. But it could be your local council or adult learning provider that are eligible to take part.

● Are the sessions delivered by the teachers who currently work in my school or an external trainer?

The sessions will be delivered by the learning provider, meaning an external trainer will lead the sessions, rather than current school staff.

● What happens if we don't get 8 participants, or they don't all attend the full course?

You would still get the incentive if the participants dropped out after the course began.

● Which year groups are eligible to take part?

We are looking for parents with children currently in Year 2. If your school is randomised into the control group (delivering in Autumn 2025) that child will have started Year 3 but we will not be taking any new year 3 pupils.

For Providers

How flexible are we permitted to be with the delivery of the lesson materials?

We encourage delivering the course as closely aligned to the lesson packs as possible. However, there is some flexibility in how you structure each session, provided that all course materials are fully covered over the intended course duration.

Campaign for Learning recommends a session length of one hour. It is acceptable to extend the session slightly if needed, as we understand that settling the group and allowing time for refreshments may take the first 10-15 minutes. Any additional time at the end can be used to discuss home learning activities with parents.

This approach ensures a balance between maintaining the course's structure and accommodating the needs of your group.

Will the resources be given by you?

Yes, Family Learning tutors will receive the lesson materials from Campaign for Learning. Please refer to the [Tutor Pack](#)

Are we provided with posters to use or do we make our own?

There are posters in the Recruitment Pack which has been emailed and posted to your partnered schools.

Do the Guided learning hours, especially the 6 in session hours, need to be completed on a continuous basis or can we spread them out over a period of time?

We ask that the delivery of the 6 x 1 hour sessions in schools are delivered over one term. For those in the treatment group, this would be delivered in the Summer term (April - July)

2025) and those in the control group, delivery would be in the Autumn term (October 2025 – Dec 2025)

How do I record participation on the ILR?

The ILR is an ongoing collection of data about learners taking part in courses in the Further Education and Skills sector in England. It provides information about the effectiveness of the learning programmes in terms of who they reach, what learning they receive and what outcomes are subsequently achieved. For the purposes of the Family Numeracy trial, providers will register parents/carers who are part of Family Numeracy provision in spring 2025 in the ILR in the current academic year. Those who enrol in the subsequent courses (autumn 2025) should be registered at that point.

Data captured on the Family Learning participants via the Ipsos data portal (also known as Kicktag) can only be used for research purposes only. Data protection laws and ESFA operational guidance does not allow DfE to upload this data directly into the ILR to be used for assurance or funding purposes – and even if it did, the data collected via the Ipsos data portal is much less than that required by the ILR. As such, providers will need to complete the ILR return for the learners on the Family Numeracy course in their usual way.

We ask that all providers participating in the trials include the following LDM code (which will act as a flag for Multiply trial activity): **394 - Multiply Randomised Control Trials**, on ILR returns for participating parents/carers. This should be in addition to any LDM codes you would normally use when completing your ILR returns. Finally, ILR data for those parents/carers participating in the Family Numeracy trial should be returned monthly, rather than bi-monthly or quarterly. This is to help the evaluation team monitor the programme and because more frequent data is better for our reporting purposes, as opposed to periodical data.