

Participate in user research to help shape the future of digital services

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) is asking for primary schools to volunteer to be part of ongoing user research into how pupils and staff interact with digital services, devices and assessments.

What is user research?

User research is crucial in our development of assessments and digital services. It is vital in ensuring that we are steered by our users and gives us opportunities to measure and test our services and assessments before they go out to schools as statutory.

User research would involve a researcher from the STA working with a school user to answer some questions or test some new functionality. These sessions are designed to be flexible to fit around what time you can commit.

The sessions can include:

- Short conversations
- Testing out new functionality or designs
- School visits to test new functionality in a school environment

This research is separate from statutory trialling requirements and to emphasise, it is completely voluntary to participate. The visits are not inspections, and we are not looking to assess school staff or pupils in any way, we are just looking to further understand user needs, both of pupils using devices and staff using our services.

When are we conducting this research?

Our research sessions will initially be in March and April and can range from a one-off session, to continued engagement depending on the teacher or schools' availability. Our research sessions are designed to be flexible and fit around you so we're offering sessions both remotely and in person.

For any school visits we're conscious of any time this might take away from classroom responsibilities so we will be able to provide payment for supply cover for a day when we visit but this is likely to not take a full day.

We would like as many schools as possible to volunteer so we can get representative views across school type, school size and location and we would like to work with them on an ongoing basis.

How to participate

If you are interested in participating, or want to know more, then please complete the short survey below and a member of the research team will be in touch with you shortly.

<https://forms.office.com/r/c3jB6Y6rs2>

Regards,

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