

TIMSS Information for Parents/Carers

Wales Field Trial, March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you that your child's class has been selected to participate in the Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) Field Trial.

What is TIMSS?

TIMSS is an international comparative study that assesses and compares the performance in maths and science of pupils at ages 10, or Year 5 in Wales, every four years across about 60 countries. The results are used by the Welsh Government, and governments from around the world, to improve their education systems, so it's vitally important that schools and pupils participate. Further information on the study is available from the Pearson website linked at the end of this letter and accessible via the QR Code.

What is involved?

For your child, taking part in TIMSS means:

Completing an interactive online assessment in maths and science.

Filling out a short questionnaire about their life, school and learning experiences (their responses are anonymous and will not identify them in any reporting).

For you or your spouse/partner:

You will be asked to complete a short online questionnaire about your family, your child's learning environment, and some background information (responses are anonymous and cannot be used to identify individual parents/carers or children)

The TIMSS assessment will take place on [TEST DATE]. There is no need for your child to prepare or revise before the assessment and your child's performance in TIMSS will not affect their results or progress in school. If there are any questions they do not wish to answer, they may leave them blank. Please be assured that your child's results will also not be identified in any reporting. This is because it is the education system, not your child, that is being reviewed.

The privacy and data security of the parents/carers, pupils and schools is very important, and no individual or school will be identified or identifiable in any reporting. A full privacy notice, which sets out how the information collected in this study will be used, is available in the 'Data Protection' section of the Pearson website.

We would like to thank you and your child for their participation in TIMSS, their contribution is highly valued. If you have any concerns about your child's participation or queries about the logistics of the day, please contact the TIMSS School Coordinator: [Name] via email [email address]. If you have any questions about PIRLS that the school is unable to answer, feel free to contact TIMSSWales@pearson.com.

Yours sincerely, [HEADTEACHER'S NAME/SIGNATURE]

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Your child is a member of a class which has been selected to take part in the Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) Field Trial.



TIMSS is an international educational assessment study which takes place in over 60 countries. Your child will participate alongside other schools around the world. This is a fantastic opportunity to help improve Mathematics and Science education in Wales and beyond.



TIMSS is all about understanding how pupils learn and enjoy Mathematics and Science. There's no need for any revision-just encourage your child to do their best and have a go at the questions.



Your child will complete a computer-based assessment and a pupil questionnaire. Parents/Carers are asked to fill out an online home questionnaire to understand your views on aspects of your child's education.



The assessment is designed to be a positive experience and a great way to practise problem-solving and logic skills.



Pearson's experienced TIMSS Test Administrators (DBS Checked) will deliver the test in the school on the agreed date.



All TIMSS results are pseudonymised, meaning individual pupils and the school will not be identifiable in published findings. Parent/carer Home Questionnaire responses will be anonymous. Read more about data privacy on our website.



As a thank you for participating, pupils will receive a special TIMSS certificate to celebrate their involvement.

If you have any questions, we're here to help!

Email: TIMSScymru @pearson.com

Phone: 020 7010 2023 (8am-4pm)

Scan the QR code with your smart phone camera to access our TIMSS website: <https://www.pearson.com/timss27cymru>

