# UK to pilot app delivering GCSE results digitally to 95,000 students this summer



In a significant move towards modernising the education system, the UK government has announced plans to introduce a mobile application that will allow pupils to receive their GCSE results digitally. This initiative is set to be piloted this summer, with 95,000 students in Greater Manchester and the West Midlands participating. The full rollout of the app could begin as early as 2026.

The Department for Education (DfE) aims to streamline the process of receiving exam results, making it more efficient for both students and schools. While pupils will still receive hard copies of their results and are expected to attend school to meet teachers and receive guidance on their next steps, the app is designed to provide quick access to their grades digitally. This is particularly beneficial for applications to jobs or further education, as students will have their results readily available on their mobile devices.

Education Minister Stephen Morgan commented on the initiative, stating, “It is high time exam records were brought into the 21st century,” highlighting that the pilot will enable educators to focus more on teaching rather than being burdened by bureaucratic processes. The new app, called the “Education Record,” is also part of a broader government commitment to leverage technology to enhance public services.

Financially, the DfE anticipates that once implemented, the app could save schools approximately £30 million annually by reducing bureaucratic overheads associated with managing paper documents. The app is also expected to integrate with the forthcoming ‘gov.uk wallet,’ which will serve as a secure digital repository for various official documents.

Mark Giles, the principal of Hathershaw College in Oldham, which has already been trialling the app, affirmed its effectiveness: “The Education Record was accurate, verifiable and could be presented to providers without delay.” He further suggested that the app could support parents during their children’s transition from primary to secondary education in the future.

Commenting on the initiative, James Bowen, assistant general secretary at NAHT, a union for school leaders, expressed approval for efforts to modernise exam processes, stating that any attempts to cut bureaucracy and associated costs are valuable. However, he emphasised the need for any changes to be beneficial for both educational institutions and students, acknowledging the high-pressure environment of results day.

Pepe Di’Iasio, General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders, characterised the app as a forward-thinking development in educational technology. He pointed out that past advancements in education technology have often been sporadic and market-driven rather than part of a cohesive national strategy. Di’Iasio called for a more comprehensive vision, particularly concerning the examination process, which still largely relies on traditional pen-and-paper methods. He urged the government to invest in the necessary infrastructure to facilitate a digital examination approach.

As the pilot programme unfolds, the potential for the Education Record app to transform how students interact with their exam results indicates a shift towards a more digitally integrated education system in the UK.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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