

Questa: Frequently Asked Questions

KEY TOPICS



These frequently asked questions are in five key sections to make it easier for you to find the answers to your questions.

1. Why Questa?
2. The actual data
3. Technical
4. Pricing
5. The Questa modules

Questa is brought to you by [Novatia](#), experts in IT in UK Education. Questa offers clarity by displaying complex data from across your MAT in user-friendly dashboards.

Why Questa?

1. What is Questa?

Questa is a Trust level Management tool which gives you oversight and control of all your data and supports you to fulfil your data needs. It is brought to you by [Novatia](#), experts in solving ICT challenges in UK Education. Questa has been designed by senior education leaders and teachers who have first-hand understanding of Trust and school data.

2. What can our MAT/school gain from Questa?

Questa brings together key data about your schools in a highly visual format, which allows you to quickly see what is happening and manage your Trust business with accurate and timely insights. Depending on which modules you take across your whole Trust, you will be able to analyse, compare, forecast and report on a multitude of key focus areas including: attendance, behaviour, progress, attainment, finance and HR; as well as key groups such as pupil premium, FSM and SEN.

Read more on how [Questa](#) can help with your data needs.

3. Why is Questa better than, say, a spreadsheet?

Maintaining a good spreadsheet takes time. Questa removes the need to maintain complex spreadsheets and manual data imports by pulling your data sources together. It turns your data into insightful information that is displayed visually at the touch of a button. The data is updated directly from its original source regularly, so the integrity of the data is maintained.

4. How can Questa make my life easier?

Questa uses timely data meaning that any time lag in collating, analysing and reporting is minimised. The dashboards adopt a common layout, use of colours and chart style to reduce the cognitive effort of consuming a new layout for each module dashboard. This results in a freeing up of valuable time, so rather than using your time to crunch the numbers, you have more time to interpret the data and make evidence-based decisions.



5. Can we have a demonstration of Questa?

Absolutely, and we actively encourage you to have a demonstration. We have two levels of demonstrations:

1. We carry out a live demonstration, using example data, at a time convenient for you, and answer any questions you have.
2. If you are still not sure, you can opt for a 4-week free trial using your own data on the Attendance element of our standard module of 'Attendance and Behaviour'. This gives you the opportunity to really play around with Questa and see for yourself what it can tell you about your Trust.

[Book your free live demonstration](#)

The actual data

1. How is the data displayed on Questa?

Looking at rows and rows of data is certainly not easy on the eye and can often leave you unsure as to what the data is telling you. Questa takes these rows and pulls them into easy to read charts that allow you to draw conclusions more easily.

Different users need to see different data. Therefore, Questa comes with dashboards for different types of users. These include: Trust Management Boards, Senior Leadership Teams, School Middle Leaders, Classroom Teachers and Governors.

2. You talk about having one single view – what does this mean?

We know that having to move from one screen to another to view Trust, school or pupil information is frustrating. We have designed the Questa dashboards so that they display all the information of a focus area on a single screen. For example, a Trust level dashboard shows all your schools on one screen rather than a screen per school, this allows you to easily compare and contrast each school. At a pupil level, the dashboard will show the attendance, behaviour and progress and attainment for an individual pupil on one screen.

3. We use different management information systems – is this an issue?

Not at all. A huge benefit of Questa is that it can bring together data from different sources making it much easier to manage and compare and contrast between the schools in your Trust.

Data can be uploaded into each module from multiple MIS systems and numerous other sources, such as: behaviour management systems, assessment tracking systems, lesson observation systems, individual school data bases or Excel spreadsheets. You are really then comparing 'apples with apples'.

4. I'm drowning in data; how can Questa help me make more sense of my data?

Questa has been designed to take you on a journey through your data, with data

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organised into reports with easy-to-understand charts. With timely visual insights, it's straight forward to understand the school context, spot patterns and identify causal relationships that may be impacting on the students. The journey starts with high-level, context-rich **Report** pages that provide headlines and an overview for the Trust, school leaders and governors.

Deeper insight is provided through the **Explore** pages, then you can dive into the student-level **Detail** pages. These provide your data in a format that can be easily navigated, understood and used to take actions from day to day by staff who work directly with students. With Questa's unique **Analysis** pages, you are able to easily make connections, understand the statistical context of your data and identify high-impact actions that can be taken to improve Trust performance.

[Read about how Questa](#) can help you make sense of your MATs data.

5. Can I compare my MATs data with those of other schools and MATs?

Alongside your specific attainment and attendance levels, you are able to view national performance data within your reports, including data for specific pupil groups.

Technical

1. How does Questa work?

Questa uses Wonde to integrate with your school MIS and give you full control over your data sharing. It then brings your data into a series of reports that have been designed to provide meaningful insight.

Learn more about our [Questa partnerships](#).

2. What technical resources do we need for Questa to work?

There are no special technical resources required for Questa to work. Once the Wonde interface is set up, all you need is the access to the internet and a browser.

3. More than one person uses our data – can we have multiple users?

Yes. You can have multiple users each with their own log in details and permissions. Questa comes with dashboards for different types of users. These include: Trust Management Boards, Senior Leadership Teams, School Middle Leaders, Classroom Teachers and Governors. Everyone can have access to the data they need to look at and analyse - knowing it is timely, relevant to their role, and in a safe and secure environment.

You will be asked to designate a Questa Administrator for the portal, who will be able to add and remove users whenever someone leaves or joins your organisation. Your Questa Administrator will also be able to manage which reports each user can access.

4. Do the reports automatically update?

Yes. Attendance and Behaviour reports are updated automatically every night. Other reports, such as Progress, HR and Finance are updated at a frequency to suit your specific requirements.

5. Is Questa secure?

Absolutely. We value the safe storage and usage of your data. We are fully compliant with UK data privacy legislation and follow best practice, with our servers based in the UK and using Azure security features. Only data that is needed for your reports is stored and used within Questa systems.

6. Do you offer on-going support?

Yes. Our dedicated Questa Helpdesk is available 9am – 4pm during term time, and support queries can be logged outside of these hours via e-mail or directly on the support portal.

Pricing

1. How much does Questa cost?

Questa is priced on a per pupil basis per module per annum. To understand the pricing for your School or MAT, [contact us](#) to discuss this in more detail.

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Modules

1. What are the different Qesta modules?

Qesta has one core module of 'Attendance and Behaviour' and add-on modules including:

- Assessment
- Finance
- HR.

These add-on modules help you build a data-based, evidence driven picture of your schools which helps you make insightful decisions and so run your schools even more efficiently.

[Find out more about our modules.](#)

2. When would I need add-on modules?

When you need to have a whole view of your MAT and its financial and HR performance and not just pupil attainment, then we recommend the add-on modules.

Add-on modules can be added at a later date or the whole system can be designed for you straightaway.

If you still have any questions, please do [get in touch](#), we will be happy to talk to you about Qesta and how it can help your Trust and schools.



Get in touch

Find out how Qesta and its modules make managing data easier as you have relevant data and information in a timely, easily available format.

Call us on **01962 832632** or email **info@novatia.com**

[Book a Demo](#)