 **Aston Literacy Project**



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been working with 16 primary schools, including \_\_\_\_\_ School, to find out about the skills that are important for learning to read, and why some children might struggle with reading. We visited your child’s class in \_\_\_ to look at children’s reading and we would like to work with the same children again to see how their reading has progressed. One of our researchers will work with your child during the school day. Your child will be asked to do some reading, and some similar activities (e.g., word and sound games; spelling games). The activities are designed to be fun and at the right level for your child. The activities are split into three sessions of about 20 mins, and the class teacher lets us know when it is a good time to do each session. Most children really enjoy doing these activities; however, we regularly check whether they want to continue and they can stop at any time. When we have finished, your child’s class teacher will be given information about how the class *as a whole* has performed in the activities. We will not tell anyone your child’s individual scores. At the end of the project, our final data file will be available on the UK data archive, which is a resource for researchers and teachers. No names of children or schools will be included in this file.

If you **do NOT** want your child to join in with these activities, could you please sign the slip below and return it to the school before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank-you very much for your help with our important project. Our results will tell us why some children learn to read sooner than others. The next step will be to develop accurate ways to identify young children who might struggle with reading and decide how best to help these children, early in primary school. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Alternatively, more information can be found on our website: [www.aston.ac.uk/alp](https://mail.aston.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=ef5ffc1651ec4d75b06feacaafd7e87f&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.aston.ac.uk%2falp)

Best wishes,

Dr Laura Shapiro

Senior Lecturer in Psychology, School of Life and Health Sciences, Aston University

Email: [L.R.Shapiro@aston.ac.uk](mailto:L.R.Shapiro@aston.ac.uk), Tel: 0121 204 4052

Aston Literacy Project

I am the parent/carer of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I **do NOT** want my child to participate in the Aston Literacy Project.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date