



THE UNIVERSITY *of York*

Department of Psychology, University of York INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Your child is being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether your child would like to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve.

TITLE OF STUDY: *Understanding group membership*

AIM OF STUDY: Our research is interested in how children think about members of their own group and other groups. We hope that this research will further our understanding of children's social interactions.

WHY HAS MY CHILD BEEN CHOSEN?

As part of this research we are looking for five- and six-year-old children to take part in our study. Your child has been chosen to take part because they fit this criterion.

DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO TAKE PART?

No, this is an entirely voluntary project. **If you would like your child to take part, you do not need to do anything further.** If you would prefer your child did **NOT** take part, please sign the attached opt out form and send it back to school before Friday the 20th of November.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD BE ASKED TO DO?

We will ask your child to look at a series of faces that were generated by a computer to be morphed between a human and a doll face. We are interested in what social factors influence how animate or "lifelike" children think the faces are. So for example, some of these faces will be male and some will be female. Children will also be told that some faces will be similar to themselves (i.e., from York, UK) and some come from a distant location (i.e., somewhere "far away"). Your child will get a sticker and a certificate for participating!

WHO WILL RUN THE RESEARCH SESSIONS?

All our researchers have Disclosure and Barring Service clearance (previously referred to as Criminal Record Bureau clearance) for working with children. Niamh McLoughlin (PhD research student) from the University will meet the children taking part and run the sessions.

WHERE WILL THE RESEARCH SESSIONS TAKE PLACE?

The research sessions will take place in the school. Every effort will be made to ensure that the research sessions are as enjoyable and relaxed as possible for the children. **The total study time for each child should not exceed 10 minutes.**

WILL ALL THE CHILDREN'S DETAILS AND RESULTS BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes, all the information about participants in this study will be kept strictly confidential and data will be anonymous and stored securely. For coding purposes, children's behaviour during the session will be video recorded and these videos may be shown in academic settings such as conferences. In this case, your child may be identifiable from their video recording.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION OR IF I HAVE FURTHER CONCERNS?

If you would like more information or have any questions about our work, please do contact us!

Researcher: Niamh McLoughlin **Email:** ncm513@york.ac.uk

Supervisor(s): Dr. Harriet Over **Email:** harriet.over@york.ac.uk

Prof. Steven Tipper **Email:** steven.tipper@york.ac.uk

Thank you for reading this information and considering whether or not you would like to take part in our study!

OPT OUT CONSENT FORM FOR PARENTS/CARERS

By allowing my child to take part in this study I understand that my child's session will be video recorded and my child's recording and photograph may be shown in future academic settings.

To be completed by parent/carer

Please complete and return to the experimenter if you **DO NOT** want your child to take part in the study '*Understanding group membership*'.

I DO NOT want my child to take part in the above study

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Name of Child (BLOCK LETTERS):

DOB of Child:

Signature of Parent: Date: