

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

Seeking social information

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. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

What is the purpose of the study?

We are interested in how children learn about different social groups. We are investigating whether children will seek out positive information about their own group and more negative information about other groups.

Why has my child been chosen?

As part of this research we are looking for typically developing children aged 5 or 6. We are looking for an equal number of boys and girls all of whom speak English fluently.

Does my child have to take part?

No. This is an entirely voluntary project. If you choose not to participate it will not affect your treatment in any way. Even if you give consent, you will still be free to withdraw your child at any time and without giving a reason.

What will my child be asked to do if we agree to take part?

At the start of this study, we will ask your child to join one of two groups, for example the Yellow group or the Green group. After that, we will ask your child which of two stories they would like to hear – one told by someone who likes the Yellow group or one told by someone who likes the Green group. We will read your child the story he or she chooses. These stories describe children in the two groups performing mildly positive actions (such as sharing a cookie) and mildly negative actions (such as taking a building block without asking). We will also measure how much your child likes these two groups before and after they have heard the story. At the end of the procedure, we will tell your child that the groups don't matter any more and show them some more examples of children doing nice things.

In order for your child's descriptions to be coded accurately, their testing session will be video recorded.

Where will the research sessions take place?

The session will take place at your child's school. Every effort will be made to ensure that the research sessions are as enjoyable and relaxed as possible for the children. The total testing time should not exceed 15 minutes.

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. Our researcher will meet the children taking part and run the sessions.

Will all my child's details and the assessment results be kept confidential?

Yes. All the information (including audio-visual recordings) about participants in this study will be kept confidential and data will be anonymous and stored securely.

Contact:

If you require any further information or have any questions about this study, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Harriet Over. **Address:** Dr. Harriet Over Department of Psychology, The University of York, York, YO10 5DD. **Phone:** 01904 32 2906 **E-mail:** harriet.over@york.ac.uk

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

OPT OUT FORM FOR PARENTS

Title of project: *Seeking social information*

We are interested in how children learn about different social groups. We are investigating whether children will seek out positive information about their own group and more negative information about other groups.

Study Description

At the start of this study, we will ask your child to join one of two groups, for example the Yellow group or the Green group. After that, we will ask your child which of two stories they would like to hear – one told by someone who likes the Yellow group or one told by someone who likes the Green group. We will read your child the story he or she chooses. These stories describe children in the two groups performing mildly positive actions (such as sharing a cookie) and mildly negative actions (such as taking a building block without asking). We will also measure how much your child likes these two groups before and after they have heard the story. At the end of the procedure, we will tell your child that the groups don't matter any more and show them some more examples of children doing nice things.

NOTE: In order for your child's descriptions to be coded accurately, their testing session will be video recorded. Only the researchers involved in the study will have access to the original video material. However, video recordings may be edited to include in future presentations and teaching materials.

Therefore, by allowing my child to take part in this study I understand that:

1. My child's session will be video recorded

AND

2. My child's recording and photograph may be used in future presentations and teaching materials.

To be completed by parent/carer

Please complete and return this form to your child's class teacher if you **DO NOT** want your child to take part in this study

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

☐

Name of Child: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

Class: _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Please return this form to your child's class teacher **NO LATER THAN**

If you would like more information please contact:

Dr. Harriet Over

Department of Psychology

University of York

YO10 5DD

Email: harriet.over@york.ac.uk

Tel: 01904 32 2906