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You are being invited to take part in a research project investigating the skills that are involved when adults solve maths problems. Before you decide whether to take part it is important to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Please ask the experimenter if there is anything you do not understand or if you would like further information.

What is the study about?

When solving maths problems not only do we need to know how to add, subtract, multiply and divide, but we also need to be able to focus on the problem, store answers in our head and ignore unnecessary extra information. These general skills are important for lots of tasks but seem to be particularly important in maths. This study is looking at how the ability to hold information in your memory is linked to the ability to do maths. Doing maths involves the use of verbal, numerical and spatial information and we are interested in discovering how different groups of people perform on each of these elements.

Practicalities

You will be asked to carry out a game on the computer. This will involve responding to some pictures of faces shown on screen, whilst remembering, in turn, a series of words, numbers and positions of red dots. You will also be asked to complete some standard tests and questionnaires. This will take approximately 60 minutes.

Participation in this study is totally voluntary and you are under no obligation to take part. You are free to withdraw at any point before or during the study. All data will be kept confidential and used for research purposes only. Your data will be anonymised using a code number.

We hope that you feel able to help us with this study. If at any time you decide that you do not want to continue to take part in the study, you are free to withdraw. If you would like to discuss anything further, before or after the study, please contact me at the above phone number or email address.

Yours Sincerely,

Paula Hubber