



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET for Parent(s)/Carer(s) and Children

Children, young people and disasters: recovery and resilience

We are a team of researchers from Lancaster University conducting this UK Economic and Social Research Council funded project. Professor Maggie Mort leads the research, with Dr Amanda Bingley, Dr Marion Walker and Dr Alison Lloyd Williams. The team is joined by Virginia Howells and Sarah Smith from Save the Children UK who bring their extensive experience with children dealing with the impact of disasters.

What is the study about?

Since the acute storms and floods in December 2013 and February 2014 it has been estimated that 5.2 million properties are now at risk of flooding in England alone. According to the most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change we can expect more severe flooding over the coming years. Children and young people can be particularly vulnerable in emergencies as they have distinct physical, developmental and emotional needs. However they can also display resilience and contribute to informing and preparing themselves, their families and their communities giving us clear insight into their specific needs. It is vital that we understand the impact of emergencies on children and young people so that we can empower children, communities and responders to increase their resilience to emergencies and reduce the impact of future emergencies. In this project we aim to understand children's experiences of the flooding; the impact on their lives, their resilience and the longer-term recovery process; and to discover how children can best be supported in a flood and how to enhance their resilience to future emergencies and better inform local and national government policy in flood events.

Why have I / my child/teenager been approached?

You have been approached because you are a parent / carer of a child/children or teenager at XX Primary School, affected by the flooding in December 2013.

Do I as a parent/carers and/or my child/children or teenager have to take part?

No. It's completely up to you and your child/children or teenager to decide whether to take part or not.

What will I or my child/children or teenager be asked to do if we/they take part?

If you /your child or teenager decide to take part, you and/or they will be invited to take part in workshops with other school age children and young people combining group discussions and practical activities designed to allow children to voice their experiences and thoughts in a safe environment. This method has been successfully used before, for example in the Hull Children's Flood Project. There will be two full-day workshops in the first and second terms and one feedback session early in the Summer Term, followed by a

workshop later in the Summer Term bringing together everyone who took part to share findings from the project with people involved in flood disaster management planning from local and national government.

Will my/our data be confidential?

The information either you or your child/teenager provides is confidential. Neither you nor your child will be disadvantaged in any way in school if you or they choose not to take part. All material (electronic or paper) collected for this study will be stored securely at Lancaster University and only the researchers conducting this study will have access to this:

- Audio and visual recordings will be transferred immediately and stored on a secure encrypted device. Audio recordings will be transcribed and then deleted when the final report is submitted. Visual recordings will be archived for 10 years and then deleted.
- Paper copies of anonymised interview transcripts will be stored in a locked cabinet separate from any personal identifying details.
- Personal identifying details will be deleted when the final report is submitted.
- All files (audio, visual [where possible] and text) on the computer will be encrypted (that is no-one other than the researchers will be able to access them) and the computer itself password protected.
- The typed version of any workshop discussions or interviews will be made anonymous by removing any identifying information including your name. Anonymised direct quotations from workshops or interviews may be used in the reports or publications from the study, so you / your child's name will not be attached to them.
- You will be asked for your permission i) if researchers, or other children in the workshop group take photographs or video involving you or your child/teenager ii) if we wish to archive the images and include these in reports or presentations. You or your child/teenager may request that images of you or your child/teenager are either deleted or anonymised.

There are some limits to confidentiality: as with any project, if what is said in workshops or interviews makes us think that you, your child/teenager, or someone else, are at significant risk of harm, we will have to break confidentiality and speak to the principal investigator of the research team about this. If possible, we will tell you if we have to do this.

What will happen to the results?

Findings will be presented at an end of project workshop to which all participants and local and national policymakers are invited; as a full report; a summary of findings sent and made available to all participants, their school and flood disaster management policymakers. Articles written about the findings may be submitted for publication to peer reviewed academic journals and other specific publications; and as conference presentations.

Are there any benefits to taking part?

Participating in the project gives those involved the opportunity to share their experiences in a safe environment and influence local and national emergency practice and policy. The workshops have been designed to be fun, interactive and enjoyable for those taking part. Also, talking about and sharing experiences can potentially be helpful in the recovery from an emergency. We will ensure children are fully supported to feel safe in workshops and hope they gain positively from taking part.

Are there any risks?

There are no risks anticipated in taking part though sharing and talking about the flooding may remind you or your child of the distress of the experience. The project team will work closely with the schools involved to ensure that there is appropriate support in place for you and your child. Each workshop is designed to ensure that we start and end the workshops positively. Support will be in place with the school if there is a need for any child to be referred elsewhere for support or if the workshop has reminded them of things and they want just want a chance to speak to someone.

Who has reviewed the project?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the University Research Ethics Committee at Lancaster University, UK.

Where can I obtain further information about the study if I need it?

If you have any questions about the study, please contact the lead researcher:

Dr Marion Walker, Email: marion.walker@lancaster.ac.uk Tel: 01524 510290

Complaints

If you wish to make a complaint or raise concerns about any aspect of this study and do not want to speak to the researcher, you can contact:

Professor Ram-Prasad Chakravarthi, Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YT

Resources in the event of distress

Should you or your child feel distressed either as a result of taking part in this project, or in the future, the following resources may be of assistance:

- For your child: the school pastoral service
- Your local GP
- Parents' helpline: http://www.youngminds.org.uk/for_parents/parent_helpline
- Support from MIND services <http://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/helplines/>
or Tel: 0300 123 3393

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.



Expression of Interest Form for Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Project:

Children, young people and disasters: recovery and resilience

I have read and understood the information in the 'Research Outline' sheet.

I have talked with my child/children and they are interested in taking part in this project.

Please return this form in the envelope provided to the school. You will be contacted by the researcher, Dr Marion Walker, who will discuss the research and answer any questions you and your child/children may have about the study and whether they are able to take part.

Please complete the following but only provide contact details that you are happy to share:

Name:

Mobile phone:

Email:

Home phone:

Work phone:

School address:

Consent Form (Parent(s)/carer(s)/child)

Study Title: *Children, young people and disasters: recovery and resilience*

We are asking if you would like to take part in a research project to understand children's experiences of the recent winter flooding. Before you consent or give consent for your child to participate in the study we ask that you read the participant information sheet and mark each box below with your initials if you agree. If you have any questions or queries before signing the consent form please speak to the researcher.

Please initial box after each statement

1. I confirm that I have read the information sheet and fully understand what is expected of me and/or my child within this study.	
2. I confirm that I have had the opportunity to ask any questions and to have them answered.	
3. I understand that workshops will be audio recorded and then made into anonymised written transcripts archived securely for 10 years at Lancaster University after the study is completed. If I or my child are invited to an interview this will also be recorded, transcribed and securely archived for 10 yrs.	
4. I understand that audio recordings will be kept until the research evaluation report is submitted. Visual recordings will be securely archived for 10 years.	
5. I understand that neither I nor my child are obliged to take part in this study and can withdraw participation before, during, or up to 2 weeks after an interview or up to the start of workshop groups.	
6. I understand that the information from the workshops and/or my/ my child's interview will be pooled with other participants' responses, anonymised and may be published.	
7. I consent to information and quotations from workshops and/or my or my child's interview being used in reports, conferences and training events.	
8. I understand that any information I or my child gives will remain strictly confidential and anonymous unless it is thought that there is a risk of harm to myself or others. In this case the researcher may need to share this information with the research team.	
9. I consent to take part/ I give consent for my child to take part in the above study (delete as applicable).	

Name of participant: _____ Signature: _____

Name of child/young person _____

Date: _____

Name of researcher: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____