

Participant Information Sheet (PIS)

Reading, Playing and Talking

Thank you for agreeing to hear about our research study. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read this information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

What is the project about?

We know that spoken language at school entry is important for children's learning. Children learn language in many ways; by talking with adults, reading together, the language they hear people speak around them, playing, and through all their everyday experiences. For whatever reason some children do not learn language as easily as others. They are slow to talk and their own lack of conversation may change the way other people interact with them, which may affect them even more. In this study we want to look at how parents and children interact when playing and reading. We will compare children with language delay and children who have a similar language level but who are younger. Then we will use this information to give better advice and training to families, nurseries, early years teachers and speech and language therapists.

Why have I been invited to take part in this study?

You have been invited to consider taking part because your child talks less than friends their age and may be suitable for this study.

You can take part if your child:

- Is between 2 ½ and 4½ half years of age
- Hears mainly English at home (for at least 6 out of 7 days most weeks)
- Has no known neurological diagnosis
- Has no permanent hearing problems, and has normal vision (with glasses if necessary)
- Was born at or after 37 weeks of pregnancy and weighed more than 5lb 9oz

Do I have to take part?

No, it is completely up to you. And even if you agree to take part you can change your mind later; you are free to leave the study at any time, just let us know. You don't have to give a reason and it won't affect any other care your child is having.

What happens if I take part with my child?

A researcher will visit you in your home. We expect this will last about 80 minutes but if that is too long we can split it and visit you twice. During the visit we will ask you to play with and read to your child (for 10 minutes each). We will video record this session so that we can look at it later. We will then assess your child's language in short activities using games and pictures. These activities should take no longer than 30 minutes. We will also ask you some questions about your child's family and home life, and about story book reading in your home. If you don't want to answer any of the questions, you can leave them blank.

Please note that not all of the activities listed above need your child to be involved and so we are not asking for 80 minutes of attention from your child.

Are there any risks or benefits involved in taking part?

We do not expect any risks to you as a result of taking part. The activities involved in the study should not affect you or your child. Neither are there any direct benefits to your child's language development. However, at the end of the activities we will give your child a small gift to thank you for your time. If you would like, we will also sign you up to our newsletters or updates by email.

What will happen to the information and recordings?

All our information will be labelled with a code number, your names will not appear on any assessment sheets or audio recordings. Information will be kept in locked filing cabinets or on a password-protected

computer for ten years as this is good research practice. If (and only if) you agree, video and audio recordings, language transcripts and results will be kept in a permanent secure archive (UK Data Archive, <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk>) so that other language research studies can make use of them. **No identifiable data will be made public.** Individuals from the University of Manchester, NHS Trust or regulatory authorities may need to look at the data collected to make sure the study is being carried out as planned. With your permission, they may access personal information when they are carrying out their monitoring and auditing visits. Anyone accessing any personal data will have a strict duty of confidentiality to you and your child.

What if there is a problem?

If there is a problem, you can contact one of the researchers (details below). If you do not want to contact us directly or you wish to make a complaint about the study, please contact a University Research Governance Co-ordinator on 0161 275 7583 8093 or email research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk

Other information

The results from this study will be published and made available through reports, conference talks, press releases, websites and newsletters. The project is funded by The Economic and Social Science Research Council (ESRC) and an NHS Research Ethics Committee has approved it.

What happens now?

If you are interested in taking part in the study please

- sign below and return the form to the person who gave it to you. That person will pass on your details so that we can contact you. Filling in the form will not commit you to participate, it is just to consent to us receiving your details.
- alternatively you can contact one of us directly on the email or phone numbers below.

We can answer any questions you have about the study and find out if you are still interested in taking part. We will ask you a few questions to check you and your child fit our needs and then we will arrange our visit to you. At this visit, we will again check that you are happy to take part and ask you to sign a consent form. Then we can begin the activities.

Who can I contact for further information?

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact one of the researchers or the chief investigator:

Dr. Anne Hesketh (Chief Investigator); Email: anne.hesketh@manchester.ac.uk
Tel: 0161 275 3375

Dr. Daphne Barker (Research Associate); Email: daphne.barker@manchester.ac.uk
Tel: 0161 275 3458 or 07774 333215

Dr. Emma Hughes (Research Assistant); Email: emma.hughes-2@manchester.ac.uk
Tel: 0161 275 3405 or 07774 333217

I confirm that I consent for my contact details to be passed to the research team. I understand that my details will only be used for the research team to contact me.

Contact Number:

Email:

Name:

Signature:

Date: