# Young people’s friendships, social attitudes and educational experiences

# WHAT IS THE RESEARCH ABOUT?

* We are interested in understanding more about young people’s friendships and how these relate to attitudes and educational experiences for young people of different backgrounds.

**WHO ARE WE?**

* We are a group of researchers who work at the University of Bristol. The lead project researcher is Shelley McKeown Jones.

**WHAT DOES THE RESERCH INVOLVE?**

* We are asking you to complete four questionnaires (15-20 minutes each) during your assembly or PSHE class time in December 2017, January 2018, May 2018 and July 2018.
* The questionnaire will ask you to report on your friendship networks, attitudes towards others and your educational experiences.
* Some young people will also be asked to take part in 4x 20-minute class-based sessions (in tutor time) during April 2018, focusing on understanding difference and promoting positive relations between young people of different backgrounds.

**CAN I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT TAKING PART OR ANSWERING QUESTIONS?**

* Yes, of course. You can change your mind by letting the teacher or research know anytime until 31st July 2018. You can also skip any questions you don’t want to answer.

**DO I NEED TO PROVIDE MY NAME?**

* No, you do not need to include your name. You are asked to report your initials and date of birth so that we can match your responses over time, but these will be removed from the data file once the study is complete and before archiving.

**ARE MY RESPONSES CONFIDENTIAL?**

* Yes, we won’t tell anyone what you have written in your questionnaire. No-one will be able to identify you in the responses that you give. When writing about the project, all responses will be collated together.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTERWARDS?**

* We will analyse your responses and then we’ll write about the educational and social interaction experiences of young people
* It takes a long time to write a report, but once it is ready, you will be able to find it here: [www.diversityeffect.wordpress.com](http://www.diversityeffect.wordpress.com)
* The results of this project will be discussed with people who are interested in improving outcomes for young people. Your opinion will help them to do that.
* We will also make your anonymous responses available for future research use through an online sharing source (archive).

**WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?**

* If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about this research project, please contact Dr Shelley McKeown Jones ([s.mckeownjones@bristol](mailto:s.mckeownjones@bristol).ac.uk).

**HOW DO I TAKE PART?**

It is up to you to decide if you want to take part in the research. Your parents will have already received a letter outlining the project to them.

Please indicate whether you wish to take part in the study by circling a response to the following question:

1. I agree to take part in this study YES NO

If you agree to take part in this project, you can now complete the questionnaire on the next pages. If you do not want to take part in the project, then please inform the class teacher.

This project has been approved by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law Research Ethics Committee at the University of Bristol.