

**Professor Kia Nobre**  
Head of Department  
+44 1865 271444  
Supervisor: Prof. Miles Hewstone  
[miles.hewstone@psy.ox.ac.uk](mailto:miles.hewstone@psy.ox.ac.uk)  
+44 1865 271317  
Researcher: Chloe Bracegirdle  
[chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk)



## **Classroom Relationships and Social Attitudes**

### **INFORMATION SHEET FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Ethics Approval Reference: R52944/RE001

We are inviting you to join in a research study. Our names are Miles Hewstone and Chloe Bracegirdle and we work at the University of Oxford. Before you decide if you would like to join in, it's important to understand what the study is about, why we're doing it and what it would involve for you. Please read and think about this leaflet carefully. Please feel free to talk to your family, friends, or the researchers about it if you want. If anything isn't clear or you have more questions you can ask your parents/carer to contact us and we can discuss it with you and your parents/carer.

#### **Why are we doing this research?**

This project is looking at students' relationships with members of different groups within schools and the effects of these relationships on attitudes towards different groups. More information about the project can be obtained by contacting the researchers.

#### **Why have I been invited to take part?**

We are inviting you to take part because you are a young person, aged between 11 and 14 years attending Waterhead Academy or Hathershaw College. We are inviting 1200 young people to take part.

#### **Do I have to take part?**

No - It is up to you. We will ask you to sign a form to say that you agree to take part. We will give you a copy of this information sheet and your signed form to keep. You are free to stop taking part at any time during the research without giving a reason, by telling the researcher. If you decide to stop, we will not use the information we have already collected from you.

#### **What will happen to me if I take part?**

If you take part you will complete one 30-minute questionnaire per half term this academic year. The questionnaire asks about the relationships you have with other students in your school and your attitudes towards members of different groups. You will complete the questionnaire during regular school lessons, along with your classmates.

#### **What happens to the results of the study?**

Results for each young person taking part are kept strictly confidential. Only a number will be used to identify you, and all information and results are kept in a locked filing cabinet in the University. If you agree to participate in this study, the research will be written up as part of a student's work. We also aim to publish our findings in scientific journals, but this may be two to three years from the end of the study. All research data and records will be stored for a minimum retention period of 3 years after publication or

public release of the work of the research. Third parties may be given access to research data for monitoring and/or audit of the study, or for data storage purposes.

**What are the advantages / disadvantages of taking part?**

People who form good relationships with members of different groups tend to be less prejudiced, have better social and emotional skills, and even improved academic performance. While there are no risks involved in participating, the understanding gained from the findings may lead to the development of projects that benefit both your school and wider community.

**Will anyone else know I'm doing this?**

We will keep your information private. This means we will only tell those who have a need or right to know, such as the research team and your parents/carers. Wherever possible, we will only share information that has your name and address removed.

**What if I don't want to take part in the research anymore?**

Just tell your parents/carers and the people carrying out the research that you don't want to take part. You don't have to give a reason and no one will be annoyed with you. It is YOUR choice.

**Who is organising the research?**

The research is organised by Miles Hewstone of Oxford University, who is a Professor of Social Psychology.

**Who has reviewed the study?**

Before any research involving people can start, it has to be checked by a Research Ethics Committee to make sure that it is OK for the research to go ahead. This study has been approved by the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee.

**What if there is a problem or something goes wrong?**

Please tell us if you are worried about any part of this study, by contacting the researcher ([chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk)). You may also talk to your teacher/parent/carer who will let the researcher know. If you are still unhappy or wish to make a complaint, either you or your teacher/parent/carer can contact the chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford (Chair, Medical Sciences Inter-Divisional Research Ethics Committee; Email: [ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk); Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD).

**Contact details**

If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (or if you have questions afterwards), please contact:

Chloe Bracegirdle  
Department of Experimental Psychology  
15 Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PH  
Email: [chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chloe.bracegirdle@some.ox.ac.uk)

*Thank you for reading this – please ask any questions if you need to.*