

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR HEAD TEACHER**

**Numer8ED: Cross-format number integration and its relationship to mathematics performance**

**Researchers:** Dr Francina Clayton, Clare Copper, Marta Wesierska, Rebecca Reed and Christina Roberts  
(**Supervisor:** Dr Silke Göbel)

We would like to invite your school to confirm continued participation in the second time-point of our three-year research study. This document explains why we are doing this research and sets out what will be involved for the school. Please ask us if you would like further information.

**What is the purpose of the study?**

This research project is investigating whether the ease with which children translate spoken number words (e.g. 'four') to Arabic digits (e.g. 4) is foundational for mathematical development in primary school.

**Who will take part?**

As part of this research, we are hoping to complete a second assessment with as many children as possible that took part in the first assessment in 2017. These children are now aged between 6 and 7 years (from Year 2).

**Who will give consent for a child to take part?**

We ask that the head teacher of your school provide consent for all children eligible to take part in the study. As before, parents will have the option to opt-out of the study if they would not like their child to take part. It will be made clear that the study is entirely voluntary and that even having given consent the parent/carer is free to withdraw their child at any time without giving a reason. Similarly you can withdraw your school from the project at any time.

**What will be in the study involve?**

Children will be assessed at three time-points, with the first assessment already completed at the end of Year 1 and the second scheduled to take place at the end of Year 2. The final time-point will take place approximately 12 months later, in accordance with your school's timetable. For example, testing could take place in June 2017, June 2018 and June 2019.

At the second time-point children will complete one individual assessment session and two classroom assessment sessions. An audio voice recording will be taken during the individual assessment session. By completing the majority of assessments in a large group setting we will be able to complete the project in a timely and efficient manner, and therefore reduce the level of disruption to the school schedule. In addition, we hope that children may benefit from completing practice group assessments in advance of their Key Stage 1 tests.

Individual activities: Will include short individual measures looking at children's number knowledge, reading and attention.

- Number and single word/non-word reading
- Computer based number task measuring quick recognition of number words
- Computer based reaction time game measuring response speed and attention

Classroom activities: Will include measures of numeracy and number sense.

- Numeracy (timed and non-timed maths problems e.g.  $2 + 7 =$  )
- Number writing (translating number words to Arabic digits)
- Comparison tasks (e.g., which is the larger number 5 or 9?)

As before, our authorised researchers would need access to a quiet area to complete individual testing sessions. We will provide our own equipment for the children to complete the tasks, but will require access to a classroom for the group testing, ideally with a Smart-Board.

The total testing time for individual sessions should not exceed 30 minutes. Classroom based sessions will take around 90 minutes in total. Children will be able to take a short break during each session and will be rewarded with a sticker for their participation.

We will take every care to keep disruption to the school routine to a minimum. Every effort will be made to ensure that the research sessions are as enjoyable and relaxed as possible for the children.

### **Who will run the research sessions?**

Our researchers have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance for working with children. Dr Francina Clayton, Clare Copper, Marta Wesierska, Rebecca Reed and Christina Roberts will meet the children taking part and run the sessions.

### **Confidentiality**

We would like to assure you that information from the study will be kept strictly confidential. Children's results will be identified by code number only. Audio voice recordings will only be used by researchers to verify the information taken on the individual measures. Audio data will be deleted to guarantee the anonymity of the children's identity and will not be used in future research. All data will be collected and stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. This study has been approved by the University of York Psychology Research Ethics Committee (Project ID Number: 559).

We will not provide data about individual children to their parent/carer. We can provide data to you if you request it. However, you should be aware that this information has been obtained for research purposes and would not therefore inform education or other therapeutic needs.

Please do not hesitate to contact the researchers if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Clare Copper  
Department of Psychology  
University of York  
Heslington  
York YO10 5DD  
Tel: 01904 322872  
Email: [numer8ed@york.ac.uk](mailto:numer8ed@york.ac.uk)

***Thank you for reading this information and considering whether or not you would like your school to take part in this study.***

**Numer8ED: Cross-format number integration and its relationship to mathematics performance**

**Head Teacher Consent Form: Second Assessment**

Researchers from the University of York are conducting a project that aims to understand the development of children's mathematical knowledge. I have read and understood the information given to me about the study and give my permission for ..... (School) to take part. I understand that the project will involve the following:

1. Children will be individually assessed on an experimental tasks designed to measure number format translation and on tests of numerical and reading ability over the course of the project (May 2017 to July 2019).
2. Children will be withdrawn from the classroom to receive individual tests and will also complete classroom-based assessments.
3. Testing will take place at three time points across Year 1, 2 and 3 (approximately every 12 months)
4. The school will be asked to provide some personal information (their child's date of birth and gender) for the purposes of this research.
5. The Numerical Cognition Lab may invite the school to take part in optional follow-up studies in the future.

I have been informed about the aims and procedures involved in this research. I reserve the right to withdraw any child at any stage in the proceedings, and also to terminate the project altogether if I think it is necessary. I understand that the information gained will be anonymous and that the children's names and the school's name will be removed from any materials used in this research. I ensure that any individual feedback requested by the school will remain confidential. Individual results cannot be divulged to the children themselves or the parents.

Signed ..... (Head teacher)

Print Name.....

Signed ..... (Researcher)

Print name.....

Date.....