

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS/CARERS

### 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)

Your child is being invited to take part in the second stage of our three-year research study. You may remember receiving similar information about our project last year, however due to the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) **WE NOW REQUIRE OPT-IN CONSENT** for your child to take part in the final two stages of this important longitudinal research project. **If you do not provide consent, your child will not be able to take part in the project.** Before you decide whether your child would like to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please ask if you would like more 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. Results from the first stage of our project show that learning the links between verbal number words and written digits is really strongly associated with maths performance, and so we believe our study will have very important implications for teaching and educational practice. It is therefore vital that we follow up performance in order to make these important recommendations to improve the teaching of maths.

#### Why has my child been chosen?

As part of this research, we are hoping to complete a second (follow-up) assessment with as many children as possible that were invited to take part in the first assessment in 2017. These children are now aged between 6 and 7 years (from Year 2). Your child has been chosen to take part because they fit these criteria. The head teacher of your child's school has provided consent for the Year 2 children to be invited to take part again.

#### Does my child have to take part?

No. This is an entirely voluntary project. If you choose not to participate it will not affect you or your child in any way. Even if you consent to your child taking part in the study, you will still be able to withdraw your child at any time and without giving a reason.

#### What will my child be asked to do if we agree to take part?

Children will be assessed at three time-points, with the first assessment already completed at the end of Year 1, the second scheduled to take place at the end of Year 2 and the final time-point 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.

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 digits)
- Comparison tasks (e.g., which is the larger number 5 or 9?)

These activities will also be used at the third and final stage of the project in summer 2019, at this time we will also assess spelling performance and children's thoughts and feelings towards maths.

#### **Where will the research sessions take place?**

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

#### **Will all my child's details and the assessment results be kept confidential?**

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 line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). 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 feedback to schools if they request it. The schools are aware that this information has been obtained for research purposes and would not therefore inform education or therapeutic needs. Thus, any individual feedback requested by the school must remain confidential. Individual results cannot be given to the children themselves or to parents.

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

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

***Remember: your child can only participate in the study if you give consent.***

**PARENT CONSENT FORM**

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

***Supervisor: Dr Silke Göbel***

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***Email: numer8ed@york.ac.uk***

Please circle either  
YES or NO

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. I have been fully informed about the aims and objectives of the research | YES / NO |
| 2. I understand why my child is to be tested and what the testing involves  | YES / NO |
| <b>3. I consent to allow my child to take part in this study</b>            | YES / NO |

If your answer to any of the above is a NO please answer by checking either 4 or 5

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 4. I would prefer not to be contacted further about this research                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. I have further concerns, questions or issues that I need addressing before I can provide my consent | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name of Child (BLOCK LETTERS): .....

Signature of Parent: ..... Date: .....

Name of Parent (BLOCK LETTERS): .....

**Please return this form by XXX or email this information to us by the same date at  
[numer8ED@york.ac.uk](mailto:numer8ED@york.ac.uk)**