**RAISE research project (Rights and Accountability in the Indian System of Education)**

Participant Information Sheet (Parents, community members, teachers and head teachers)

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to go through the following information carefully and ask me 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, and discuss it with others if you wish.

**About the project**

This project is investigating how different people in the education sector help children to learn and do well at school. We would like to know more about how different people who are responsible for children’s education think about their roles and responsibilities for good learning experiences for children. These people include teachers, school management committees, parents, community members and officials. If we find there are any difficulties, we would like this research to explain clearly what they are, so it can help make improvements.

The researchers are working in two states, Rajasthan and Bihar. In each state, we are going to research how the Right to Education Act is being implemented. We will look at what happens in classrooms and talk to children and staff; we will talk to families who use those schools, members of the wider community which the school serves, and members of its governing body and management; and we will talk with officials who are responsible for implementing the Right to Education.

When the interviews and visits are completed, we will write a report of our research findings. We will share this report with decision makers who might include head teachers, government officials with relevant responsibilities, parent-teacher associations, and teacher training institutions. We will also arrange to share our findings with people like yourself who have provided the research team with information from interviews.

*Your role*

We would like to ask you some questions about your views of children’s learning at school. We have some questions on a sheet which we will use to start our conversation. The discussion will take up to one hour. If you agree, we would like to make a recording of our conversation but if you are not comfortable with this, we won’t. If you feel uncomfortable at any time during the conversation you should feel free to ask to stop.

We won’t use your name in anything we write, and we will keep the record of your discussion in a safe place.

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and you will be asked to sign a consent form. You can still withdraw at any time.