

**Participant Information Leaflet for Young People**

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| **Study Title:** | Educational Pathways and Work Outcomes of Disabled Young People in England |
| **Investigator(s):** | Dr Stella Chatzitheochari and Dr Angharad Butler-Rees |

**Introduction**

You are invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take the time to read the following information carefully. You can also find more information about the project by visiting our website <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research/currentresearch/educationalpathways/>.

Please ask us 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.

**Who is organising and funding the study?**

The study is led by Dr Stella Chatzitheochari and is funded by The Leverhulme Trust.

**What is the study about?**

This study seeks to better understand the factors that influence educational and work transitions of young people with dyslexia, autism, and cerebral palsy after the end of compulsory schooling. In order to achieve this, we will interview approximately 60 young people with dyslexia, autism, and cerebral palsy in the West Midlands twice: the first interview will take place prior to their GCSE exams (or equivalent) and the second interview approximately one year later. Our aim is to gather evidence that can be used to tackle inequalities faced by young people with varying disabilities and learning difficulties.

**What would taking part involve?**

You will be asked to take part in two interviews approximately one year apart. Each interview will take around an hour. The interview will take place online (e.g., Microsoft Teams or Skype) or face-to-face. Face-to-face interviews will only happen if coronavirus restrictions allow and you feel comfortable. When conducting the interview face-to-face we will allow you to choose a location in which you feel safe and comfortable.

In the interviews, you will be asked about your experiences of disability and school. You will also be asked about any plans you may have for after completing Year 11.

In your follow-up interview which will happen after you’ve completed Year 11, we will ask you about the choices that you made.

We will send you a participant information pack before each interview with a list of questions that you may be asked so that you know what to expect. All interviews will be audio recorded, written up and pseudonymised (removing any identifiable details). You will have the opportunity to view your written-up interview.

**Do I have to take part?**

No, you do not have to take part.

If you decide that you don’t want to take part in this research, that’s ok. You can decide you don’t want to take part at any time – before the interview, during the interview or afterwards. You don’t need to give a reason, and no one will be upset or annoyed. You can do this by contacting anyone from our research team. This study is entirely separate from your school so if you decide not to take part, your education, grades or support will not be affected in any way.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Taking part in research can be an enjoyable experience, as it’s an opportunity for you to share your own opinions and experiences. By taking part you will be involved in research which will help to understand the education and work outcomes of disabled young people. It is hoped that the findings might lead to a greater understanding of the barriers facing disabled young people in education and contribute to policy change.

**Could anything negative happen as a result of taking part?**

No foreseen disadvantages or risks will be brought about through taking part in this research. The researcher has previous experience of interviewing and working with disabled young people and will ensure that the interview is adapted to cater for your needs.

You may however feel some discomfort when sharing your experiences of disability, family and school. We will always do our best to put you at ease and will remind you that you do not have to share any experiences that make you feel unsafe or uncomfortable. We will give you a list of support organisations that you can contact if you feel upset, anxious or require any further support.

**Will I be given any expenses or payments for taking part?**

Any travel costs will be reimbursed, and you will be given a £20 ‘Love to Shop’ voucher after each interview to thank-you for your time and participation.

**Who else will know that I am taking part?**

We will contact your parents to get their consent for you to take part in the study. Beyond your parents, no one else except the research team will know that you are taking part in this study.

What you say during the interview is private and confidential. That means that I would not tell your parents, guardian, teacher or support worker what you said during the interview. The only time I would break our confidentiality is if I was if I was worried that you – or someone else was at risk of harm. If that happens, I will talk with you about it so that we could get you the help and support you need. Even though what you say during the interview is private and will not be shared with other people outside of our research team, we encourage you to talk through your experience of this study with someone you trust (e.g. a parent, friend, support worker or teacher).

Data will be collected about you through two interviews. Only Dr Stella Chatzitheochari, Dr Angharad Butler-Rees and a research assistant will have access to your data.

All your data will be pseudonymised (replaced with a fake name) to protect your identity. Your name, family members and friends’ names, school and/or any other organisations which you may be involved in will be pseudonymised. No data will be included in the research report or publications that could make you personally identifiable.

At the end of the study, we will ask for permission to archive your data. You do not have to consent to data archival. However, this is likely to be of value for future research in this area. If you do not give us consent to archive your data, all data will be destroyed 10 years after the end of the study.

**What will happen if I don’t want to carry on being part of the study?**

Participation in this study is voluntary. You are able to withdraw from the study without giving any reason. If you no longer want to take part in the study, you should contact Dr Angharad Butler-Rees on XXX or by emailing [disabled.transitions@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:disabled.transitions@warwick.ac.uk).

You can withdraw your data up until 1 month after your interview date. Please let Dr Angharad Butler-Rees know in person, by telephone or email if you want to withdraw your data from the study - all data collected up to this point will be destroyed.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

The results of this study will be published in academic journals and as a report. We will also write the findings into blog posts and share them with local and national disability organisations. In addition to this, we will also be sharing and discussing the research findings at academic conferences.

We will share results from the first wave of the study with you through a participant newsletter, around 6 months after your interview. You will be able to choose what format you would like to receive the newsletter. You will also be sent you the second wave of findings in November 2023 along with a copy of all other research outputs.

**Has anyone checked that the study is safe?**

This study has been reviewed by the University of Warwick’s Humanities and Social Science Research Ethics Committee (HSSREC): Insert your HSSREC reference number here (given to you during the course of the review process).

**Who should I contact if I want to make a complaint?**

If you are unhappy with the way you have been treated during this research and want to make a complaint, please get in contact with the Head of Research Governance who’s contact details are listed below.

Head of Research Governance

Research & Impact Services

University House

University of Warwick

Coventry

CV4 8UW

Email: [researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk)

Tel: 02476 575733

**Who should I contact if I want further information?**

Please contact Dr Angharad Butler-Rees via telephone on XXXX or email disabled.transitions@warwick.ac.uk.

**Thank you for taking the time to read this Participant Information Leaflet**