



Ready or Not: Connecting Viewpoints on Child and Family Wellbeing

Parent Participant Information Sheet

Understanding how children's social and emotional wellbeing contributes to academic success has never been more important. In a new study, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, we aim to investigate links between different aspects of school readiness as well as between parents', teachers' and children's viewpoints. We'd like to invite your family to join the study - but please do read all the information below before you decide to take part. We hope our findings will help future children making the transition to school. If you have any questions, we'd love to hear from you – you can contact us at any of the email addresses given at the end of this document.

What is the goal of the study?

From October 2021-February 2022 we will complete Zoom visits with approximately 125 children in Reception and 125 children in Year 1 (with a parent/carer present). We will also gather questionnaire responses from parents and from teachers (if possible) in order to: (a) gather a rich picture of children's social relationships, cognitive skills and well-being, and (b) investigate similarities and contrasts in how children, parents and teachers view the transition to school. We hope that this work will prove valuable in informing future Early Years education policies.

What does the study involve for children?

Study activities are facilitated and filmed by trained researchers with experience of working with children. The sessions comprise of a 45-minute zoom-based set of simple games and stories, designed to test children's developmental skills (e.g., memory, language, self-control) and gather their views about school. Tasks will be delivered in bite-size pieces and children and their parents can take breaks at any point during the session, and refuse any activities they do not wish to complete. We will also send two short paper-based tasks to be completed at home by the child, at the family's convenience.

What does the study involve for parents and teachers?

Family support is key to children's success at school, but little is known about how this transition affects families; how families can help children progress from Reception to Year 1 and the role of parent-school communication in supporting children's school readiness. As well as playing the simple games we will send you for the zoom session, we will ask one parent to complete a 10-minute online or postal

questionnaire about wellbeing, family characteristics and relationships, and children’s strengths and difficulties, as well as background family characteristics. To supplement the measures in our child sessions, we will ask teachers to complete brief ratings of child skills and social relationships.

Below is a summary of the parts of the study:

Participant	Setting	Description
Child + Parent	Zoom call at home	Memory games, stories (social understanding), language check and child-parent play
Parent	Questionnaire	Online or postal survey on parent wellbeing, family relationships, parent-school communication and child adjustment
Teacher	Questionnaire	Online or postal survey on school environment, classroom characteristics, parent-school communication and child adjustment

What should I do if I’d like my child to take part?

If you are happy for your child to be included in the activities outlined above, please complete a consent form by following this link:

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Ts43Ny5YJTkY62. Please make sure you have read the information in this sheet, and you are happy to proceed. If you would like more information to help you decide please visit our website at www.readyornotstudy.uk.

How does the study address potential ethical concerns?

This study has been reviewed by the University of Cambridge Psychology Ethics Committee and the University of Birmingham STEM Research Committee. While we do not anticipate any distress during the zoom session, we will ask the children at regular intervals whether they are happy to continue and offer short breaks as needed. You can also request a break on behalf of your child at any point or end the session if you want. You may also withdraw your child from the study without giving a reason by contacting us using the details at the end of this document.

In accordance with General Data Protection Regulation guidelines and the 2018 Data Protection Act, all survey and task data will be kept anonymous. Zoom recordings have end-to-end encryption and complies with GDPR. For more information, see: <https://explore.zoom.us/en-us/trust/security.html>; <https://explore.zoom.us/en-us/trust/privacy.html>).

We will use the University Information Services (UIS) and Research File Share (RFS) to provide safe storage of electronic records collected by members of the University of Cambridge team. Only the

research team and the University System Administrator at Cambridge and will have access to the data. Please follow this link for information about how the University of Cambridge use personal data:

<https://www.information-compliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/data-protection/research-participant-data>. All electronic data collected by members of the University of Birmingham team will be password protected and stored on secure servers at the University of Birmingham. Hard copies of data will be securely stored in locked cabinets and will only be accessible to the Ready or Not research team.

What if we identify a problem?

The assessments we do are not clinical or diagnostic tests, however if you are experiencing difficulties related to your mental health or your child's wellbeing, please contact your General Practitioner (GP). If you are unable to wait to see a doctor, you can also contact one of the following organisations:

- Samaritans 116 123 (free call)
- NHS Advice Line 111(non-emergency advice)
- Shout Text "SHOUT" to 85258 (24/7 crisis text support)

What will happen to the study results?

They will be kept securely for a minimum of 10 years by the study team in accordance with good research practice. At the beginning of the study your child will be given a unique study number. Your child's unique study number, instead of their name, will be used to identify your child amongst the study team. All electronic data from the visit will be password protected. Individual sessions will only be identifiable by using a unique study number. Research outcomes from this study may be presented at conferences and written up in academic papers for journal publication. Non-identifiable participant data may also be shared with other researchers or the public as part of collaborations, joint projects or open access provisions. Your family's confidentiality will be maintained throughout. No identifying details about your child will be presented or published without prior consent.

Once the study has ended (March 2023), completely anonymised numeric data from the study will be shared with other researchers, in accordance with best practice. That is, study data will become "open data", stored in an online database so that it is publicly available. This data will be thoroughly anonymised by removing any personal information that could identify you, such as names and addresses, before submission. This process is integral to the research process as it allows other researchers to verify results and avoid duplicating research. Data are made available on a website, free of charge to academic researchers who wish to conduct their own analysis of the data. We would therefore have no control over how these data are used.

How can I contact the study team if I have questions?

Professor Claire Hughes at the University of Cambridge Centre for Family Research (ch288@cam.ac.uk) has overall responsibility for the study. Dr Rory T. Devine has responsibility for the study at the University of Birmingham School of Psychology (R.T.Devine@bham.ac.uk). Other study Principal Investigators include Dr Hana D'Souza at the University of Cambridge Department of Psychology, and Dr Elian Fink at the University of Sussex School of Psychology. The study is being conducted in partnership with Cambridgeshire Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) and the LonDownS Consortium.

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To find out more, visit www.readyornotstudy.uk



Or you can
Click or Scan
this QR code!

