

Information Sheet for Adult Participants in Research Studies

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET

Title of project: Spotting lies and reading minds

Department: UCL Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience

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This project has been approved by the UCL Research Ethics Committee as Project ID 14807/002. Parts of this project contribute to the researchers' PhD.

We would like to invite you to participate in this research project. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or you would like more information.

Our research: Our research focuses on understanding how the autistic mind works and how this differs from typical development. We're also interested in how the workings of the mind relate to behaviours that can be seen in everyday life, and the ways in which people deal with, compensate for or mask the difficulties they encounter, and how these develop from childhood, through adolescence, into adulthood. Parts of this project contribute to the researchers' PhD.

What is the purpose of this study: Individuals with autism may have difficulties in understanding other people, especially in social situations. This could be a reason to the possible social-communicative difficulties faced by individuals with autism. In this particular study, we are interested in how persons with and without autism process social information in an interaction with another person, and how this relates to other cognitive processes.

Why have I been chosen: You have been chosen because we are looking for individuals with or without autism, who are at least 18 years old, and have normal or corrected hearing and vision.

Do I have to take part: It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you choose not to participate, this will not disadvantage you in any way. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. Even after agreeing to take part, you can still withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. If you would like to withdraw your data, please contact us at ishita.chowdhury.16@ucl.ac.uk within 7 days of participation

What will happen to me if I take part: If you choose to participate in this research project, the whole test session will take approximately 2 hours and will take place online. You may be invited to return to participate again, in which case you can decide whether to continue. If you do wish to take part again, you will also have to give consent again.

During the experiment, you may be asked to complete some questionnaires about your abilities and

preferences, verbal and non-verbal reasoning tasks, story tasks and picture description tasks. We may ask you to watch a series of short videos and ask some simple questions about them at the end or rate them in some way, and play some interactive games.

Your responses will be coded by an identifying code, and stored separately from your identity. All data will be secured in our laboratory and accessed only by our research staff. Data resulting from these experiments will be composite data from multiple participants. You will not be identified in any report or publication.

Benefits and risks: There are no known risks or benefits associated with participation in this experiment. As compensation for your time and effort, you will be entered into a prize draw where one in every ten participants will win gift vouchers worth £20 for participation, and there will also be an opportunity to win additional prizes based on performance. It is hoped that this work will increase understanding of autism and inform the provision of appropriate support.

Some topics discussed during the study and some questions asked deal with sensitive issues such as mental health, bullying and vulnerability. If you become upset by this, please speak to a trusted family member, friend or colleague. We will also provide you with contacts of some charities and support groups who offer help and advice regarding mental health, bullying and vulnerability, and would encourage you to reach out to these societies. Additionally, you can find these contacts on our project webpage <https://devdivlab.org.uk/SpottingLies>.

If you become distressed at any point, you are welcome to suspend the session until a later time or withdraw from the study.

What if something goes wrong: If you have concerns, comments, or would like to make a complaint about this research project, please contact Dr. Sarah White – s.white@ucl.ac.uk. If you feel that your concerns have not been met, you are welcome to contact the Chair of the UCL Research Ethics Committee – ethics@ucl.ac.uk.

Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential: All the information that we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. Your responses will be coded by an identifying code, and data will be confidentially secured in our laboratory and accessed only by our research staff. All data will be collected and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. The results of this study will be seen only by other professional researchers and for teaching purposes. If suitable, results may be published in scientific journals or be presented at scientific meetings. Your name will not be identified in any public forum, and you will not be able to be identified in any ensuing reports or publications.

Limits to confidentiality: Please note that assurances on confidentiality will be strictly adhered to unless evidence of wrongdoing or potential harm is uncovered. In such cases the University may be obliged to contact relevant statutory bodies/agencies.

What will happen to the results of the research project: You are invited to stay in touch concerning the outcome of this project, including any results that may be published. You will not be identified in any report, publication, nor presentation wherein the project is discussed. We may continue to use your anonymised data for future research.

This project is conducted as part of students' PhD and the research would be written up in PhD theses. It is expected that this research will be published in a scientific journal within the next 3 years; please contact us if you would like a copy.

The data controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Office provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data, and can be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk. UCL's Data Protection Officer can also be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk

This 'local' privacy notice sets out the information that applies to this particular study. Further information on how UCL uses participant information can be found in our 'general' privacy notice, which can be found at:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/ucl-general-research-participant-privacy-notice>

The information that is required to be provided to participants under data protection legislation (GDPR and DPA 2018) is provided across both the 'local' and 'general' privacy notices.

Your personal data will be processed for the purposes outlined in this notice. The lawful basis that will be used to process your personal data are: 'Public task' for personal data and 'Research purposes' for special category data.

Your personal data will be processed so long as it is required for the research project. If we are able to anonymise or pseudonymise the personal data you provide we will undertake this, and will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, please contact UCL in the first instance at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk. If you remain unsatisfied, you may wish to contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Contact details, and details of data subject rights, are available on the ICO website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/individuals-rights/>

After the study: Following your participation in the study, we will give you a chance to discuss the study and to ask any further questions you may have, and you may contact the experimenters if you desire more information at any time (contact details at the top of this sheet). You will receive a copy of this information sheet for your records.

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering participating in this research.