

Information Sheet for Parents of Participants under the age of 18 years

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 and your child to participate in this research project. Before you decide whether to volunteer your child 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. Please do also discuss the study with your child in whatever way you feel is most appropriate. 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/ has my child been chosen: You/your child have been chosen because we are looking for individuals with or without autism, who are at least 11 years old, and have normal or corrected hearing and vision.

Please only take part in this project if you have received information about this study from a school or charity. We can only include you in the study (and give you vouchers) if you heard about it from one of our partner schools or charities. Please write the name of the school or charity when prompted. Please contact the researcher if you are unsure and/or require more information.

Do I/my child have to take part: It is up to you to decide whether or not your child should take part. If you

choose not to let your child participate, this will not disadvantage you or your child in any way. If you do decide to let your child take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form on behalf your child. Even after agreeing to take part, you can still withdraw your child's 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 your child be asked to do: If you choose to have your child participate in this research project, the whole test session will take approximately 90 minutes (except breaks) and will take place online.

During the experiment, your child may be asked to complete some questionnaires about their abilities and preferences, verbal and non-verbal reasoning tasks, story tasks and picture description tasks. We may ask them 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 child's responses will be coded by an identifying code, and stored separately from their 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 or your child will not be identified in any report or publication.

Exclusion criteria: We will be employing data quality checks throughout the study and you may not be able to continue with the study if you perform below a minimum expected level.

Will your child be recorded and how will the recorded media be used: Some of the activities may be audio and video recorded, recordings of any activities made during this research will be used for analysis and for illustration in conference presentations and lectures. No one outside the project will be allowed access to the original recordings. We also have protocols in place for storing recordings confidentially. In particular, recordings will be stored by participant code without the name or address of the participant. It will be processed by researchers specifically linked to this project, will not be shared outside the lab.

Benefits and risks: There are no known risks or benefits associated with participation in this experiment. We expect that this work will increase understanding of autism and inform the provision of appropriate support. We hope that your child will enjoy taking part in the activities we provide. Your child will receive compensation for their time and effort in the form of an Amazon gift voucher worth £10. These will be emailed to the email ID you provide within [4 weeks] of your child completing the study. If you consent, your child will also have the opportunity to win an additional prize gift voucher based on performance. Please read Amazon's voucher Terms and Conditions once you have received them. We are not able to negotiate with Amazon on your behalf regarding revoked Amazon vouchers.

Some topics discussed during the study and some questions asked deal with sensitive issues such as mental health, bullying and vulnerability. As such, there is a chance that your child might become upset by answering these questions if they identify as someone who has been in a bullying situation, have felt vulnerable to harassment or experience mental health related difficulties. We would encourage you to engage with your child when they have finished the activities to ensure that they are not in any way distressed, or give them an opportunity to speak to you regarding any concerns they might have. We will encourage your child to come and speak to you or another trusted adult should they feel upset by any of the activities or questions. Attached to this sheet is a document, which has resources on how to talk to your child about sensitive topics like mental health and bullying, and contact details for some charities and societies, which can offer additional help and support. We will similarly provide your child with links to resources about mental health and bullying, and some charities and societies they can contact for more information after they take part in the study. You can also find these resources on our project webpage www.devdivlab.org.uk/SpottingLiesParents

If your child becomes distressed at any point, you or they 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 child's taking part in this project be kept confidential: All the information that we collect about you and your child during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. Your child's 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 and your child's name will not be identified in any public forum, and you or your child 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 or your child will not be identified in any report, publication, nor presentation wherein the project is discussed. We may continue to use your child's 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/>

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