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Title of Study: Database of developmental speech and language disorder profiles

Information Sheet

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We would be grateful to you if you could assist us by allowing your child to participate in our study.

The aim is to explore how children with speech and language problems in childhood have different clinical profiles and how they respond to speech and language therapy. We will do this by carrying out the same assessments for each child with a similar profile that attends the University of Reading Speech and Language Therapy Clinic.

Assessments will be carried out by qualified speech and language therapists or speech and language therapy students (under the supervision of a qualified speech and language therapist) who have undergone an enhanced DBS check and suitable training.

Your child will receive 2-4 assessment sessions. During the sessions, your child will be asked to point to toys/pictures after a verbal instruction, name or describe pictures, or repeat words/sentences. You as parents will also be asked to complete a few questionnaires: two about your child's communication, one about your child's quality of life and one about how you are feeling. If your child goes on to attend the clinic for therapy some of the assessments will be repeated again after a few months to measure the progress that has been made.

Some of the assessments may be audio or video-recorded for the purposes of scoring the assessments only.

Participation in the project will not make any difference to the therapy that is offered to you by the speech and language therapy clinic.

Your data will be held in confidence and securely stored, only accessed by the investigators, other qualified members of the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences and speech and language therapy students (supervised by the investigators or other qualified members of the School). Your responses will be assigned with a number while we are conducting the study to ensure that you are not directly identifiable to others with only an anonymous number identifying it. Information linking that number to your name will be stored securely and separately from the data you provide us.

Audio/video recordings will be kept on a secure server that can only be accessed by the investigators, other qualified members of the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences and speech and language therapy students (supervised by the investigators or other qualified members of the School). At no point will the recording be made available to the general public. At no point will the recording be put on the internet or be accessible by the internet.

Personal information collected for the project will be kept on record for future projects and will be destroyed 5 years after the end of the project. Written information may be made publicly available in anonymised form. Data from the study that does not identify you (is anonymous) may be kept for longer periods of time.

If you have any questions or concerns about data protection, you can contact the research team or the University Data Protection Officer at imps@reading.ac.uk.

Taking part in this study is completely voluntary; you may withdraw at any time without having to give any reason. Please feel free to ask any questions that you may have about this study at any point.

This application has been reviewed by the University Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct.

All investigators on this project have had criminal record checks and have been approved to work with children.

Thank you for your help and your time. Please get in touch with us if you have further questions or require further information.

Dr Emma Pagnamenta, Allie Biddle, Katherine Pritchard and Dr Vesna Stojanovik