

Family information letter

Creating a diagnostic assessment of literacy in Welsh for learners aged 11.0-16.11

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child has been invited to take part in a research study. We have created this information sheet so that you understand the purpose of the research and what your child will be asked to do.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of the study is to create new tests that will help measure reading, spelling and writing in Welsh.

Why has my child been asked to participate?

Your child's school has agreed to take part in the study and has asked your child to be involved too. The study looks at how these tests assess the reading and writing skills of young people.

Does my child have to take part?

Participation in this project is completely voluntary. You or your child have the right to withdraw from the research. If you would like to do this then please use this email address: ESSHethics@cardiffmet.ac.uk

If you withdraw before we collect data or during the data collection period, we will delete any data you and your child have provided. If you withdraw after this, then we will remove any data from which you or your child can be identified.

What will taking part involve?

There are 8 parts to the test

- Spelling test
- Writing speed test
- Reading accuracy test
- Reading speed test
- Recognising alliteration test
- Recognising rhyme
- Sound elision test
- Rapid naming test

Your child will do the tests with a teacher at school. Each part of the test will take between 2-8 minutes, apart from the writing speed test which will take 10 minutes. The teacher will note marks as your child does the tests.

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We will also need to collect information about the home language(s), so the teacher will ask your child to fill in a short questionnaire about this.

What if the tests reveal something about my child that I did not know?

The tests are designed to measure four things:

- How quickly pupils write or read in Welsh compared to other pupils of the same age
- Any patterns for the types of mistakes pupils make when writing in Welsh
- How well a pupil can spell or read in Welsh compared to other pupils of the same age
- Any basic skills that have not developed as well as other pupils of the same age, and which would affect the pupil's literacy development.

If it appears when marking the tests that your child has a difficulty with literacy that has not already been identified by the school we will speak to the school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator about what the tests have shown. The ALN Coordinator will be able to deal with this information in accordance with the school's policies and inform you and your child.

How will my child's data and privacy be protected?

Your child's data will be kept confidential throughout the study. No names will be attached to any reports in the study. All data such as names, date of birth, and test scores will be stored on a secure account, One Drive, Cardiff Met during the project and for ten years afterwards. After this time the data will be deleted.

Who is involved in the project?

Marjorie Thomas, Dr Rhiannon Packer, Dr Katharine Young. The project is funded by the Welsh Government. The school will receive a payment for returning the data, and this will be administered by the research team.

If you would like to speak to someone after your child has taken part in this work, the following may help:

Meic (information, advice and advocacy helpline for children and young people) 080 880 23456 / 07943 114 449

British Dyslexia Association: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexia>

NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/dyslexia/>

If you have any further questions about the project or would like to contact us for any reason, our email addresses are below:

Marjorie Thomas: mthomas@cardiffmet.ac.uk

Dr Rhiannon Packer: rajpacker@cardiffmet.ac.uk

Thank you very much for your support,

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Marjorie Thomas and Rhiannon Packer

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