

**Information sheet for Research (Acquired Brain Injury Group)**

**Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Skills in Children who have sustained an Acquired Brain Injury**

My name is Jessica Ingham and I am a Trainee Clinical Psychologist based at the University of East Anglia (UEA). My research supervisors are Dr. Anna Adlam, Clinical Psychologist and Dr. Sian Coker, Clinical Psychologist. I am writing to invite your child to take part in a research project. This information sheet is to help you decide if you are happy for your child to participate. Please take time to read it carefully and discuss it with your child. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

**What is the purpose of the project?**

This project aims to investigate the consequences of acquired brain injury in children aged 8 to 12 years old. I am specifically interested in young children’s ability to identify and make links between thoughts, feelings and behaviours, and whether this is harder for children who have suffered a brain injury. In order to investigate this I am asking children from two groups to complete a range of tasks and puzzles. The groups are healthy school children and children who have sustained an acquired brain injury. It is hoped that the results of the project will help develop psychological treatment for children who have sustained a head injury.

**Why has my child been invited to participate?**

Your child has been asked to participate as they are between the age of 8 and 12 years old, has in the past suffered from a brain injury and because you have stated that it is ok for me to contact you regarding my research.

**Does my child have to take part?**

No your child does not have to take part in this project. If you decide you do not wish your child to participate then this will have no effect upon the health services they receive.

**What will happen if I decide to give consent for my child to take part?**

If you decide that you are happy for your child to take part in the project I will meet with your child for approximately 60 minutes on one occasion either at home, or if you prefer at their school or a clinic they attend. I will ask them to carry out a series of tasks and puzzles. I will make it clear that these are not a test, and that there is no right or wrong answers, but that I am interested in their ideas. It will be explained to your child that they can stop participating at any time should they wish to.

The tasks consist asking children to sort cards into different categories, and answer questions on short stories. A short measure of general ability and three brief questionnaires will also be used. The tasks have been used before in research at UEA with hundreds of children. Feedback so far is that children find the experience engaging and enjoyable. In the very unlikely event that your child becomes distressed in any way whilst participating I will stop the session immediately and notify you or their class teacher. In this situation I would also inform my primary research supervisor about the situation; however no personal details will be shared.

I will also a parent to fill out three brief questionnaires on your child and provide some demographic information. This should take no more than 25 minutes of your time. I will ask you to complete these when I visit your child or send these to you via your child’s school and ask you to return them using a stamped addressed envelope.

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*Please Turn Over*

**What do I have to do if I am happy for my child to take part?**

As your child is under 16, before I can include them in the project I need you to provide written parental consent. I will also ask your child if they are happy to take part and they will sign a form to give their agreement. Even after receiving your consent if your child decides they do not want to take part then they will not be included.

If you and your child are interested in taking part in this project then please fill out the consent to share details form enclosed and return it to me using the stamped addressed envelope provided. I will then contact you to discuss the study and answer any questions and concerns you may have. If you and your child are happy to participate then after this I will arrange to come and visit you and seek written consent and complete the tasks.

**Are there any expenses or payment involved in the study?**

Your child involvement in the study will not involve any financial expense on your part. I will travel to you and all correspondence that needs to be returned to me will be sent with a stamped addressed envelope. As a thank you for taking part at the end of the study all children will be entered in to a prize draw to win one of two £10 vouchers for a high street store of their choice.

**What are the disadvantages and risks of my child taking part?**

I do not think there are any significant disadvantages or risks of taking part. It is not anticipated that participation will cause distress in any way. In the very unlikely event of this happening I will discuss this with you and your child.

**What are the possible benefits of my child taking part?**

There is little direct benefit for your child or yourself from taking part. If your child is engaged with rehabilitation services and you give permission I will share the findings with that service. This may help to increase their understanding of your child’s needs. The information we get from this study will help improve psychological treatment for children who have experienced an acquired brain injury.

**Will information be kept confidentially?**

I will keep all information private and safe. Data will be kept in a locked cabinet and files on computers will be password protected. No identifying information (such as names) will be included on the data and numbers will be used instead. Participation will be audio recorded and a small random sample of recordings listened to by Dr Anna Adlam. This is to ensure that I carry out the research properly. All recordings will be securely destroyed once this procedure has taken place.

If you do not know information regarding the severity of your child’s head injury then I will ask permission from you to consult your child’s medical records in order to find out about this information. This is the only information I will request, and if you know or can access this information then I will seek your permission to access your child’s records. I will not disclose any personal information about you or your child to others when doing this**.**

**Who has reviewed the study?**

All research in the NHS and at the University of East Anglia is looked at by an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee, to protect your interests. This study has been reviewed and given a favourable opinion by Cambridge Central Research Ethics Committee.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet. I hope you will decide to allow your child to participate. Should you have any questions I would be very happy to discuss my project further with you and can be contacted on 07976 423 994 or on J.Ingham@uea.ac.uk.

If you would like to speak to someone for independent advice about participating in research in general then you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 01223 726774 or pals@cpft.nhs.uk. If you are unhappy with any aspect of this study, or wish to speak to one of my supervisors then they are contactable on 01603 593310.

Many Thanks, Jessica Ingham

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