



Note from Mr Lee:

The first stage of this research project will take place on Tuesday 18th October. Therefore, please return consent forms no later than this Friday 14th October. Thank you.

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Classroom Talk Project, University of Cambridge

With permission from the Head Teacher, your child's class will be participating in a research project that Cambridge University's Faculty of Education is running. The aim is to learn more about how the way in which teachers talk to their class during lessons influences children's learning and attitudes to school. The research will be conducted in your school between September 2016 and July 2017 and will involve two researchers coming to your child's classroom and making video recordings of the class teacher. The focus of the recording is not the children. However, your child may incidentally appear in some of the video recordings, unless we deliberately seat them out of camera range.

Towards the start of the project, we will ask the children to complete a short questionnaire about their attitude to school and a maths or reading assessment. Towards the end, the children will complete the attitude questionnaire once more, together with assessments of general and scientific reasoning skills. We shall also request SAT results from the school. All data will be kept confidential within the project team and will be anonymised. Furthermore, we are not interested in individual performances, merely class averages.

At all stages the children's right to anonymity and right to withdraw will be respected. If you do not wish your child to be included in any assessments and/or appear in any video recording made during this study please complete the section below and return it to the class teacher within one week of receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions about this study, please contact the project's Research Associates, Dr Maria Vrikki (mv387@cam.ac.uk) or Dr Lisa Wheatley (lw545@cam.ac.uk) during school hours.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Christine Howe, Professor Neil Mercer, Dr Sara Hennessy
Project Directors
Dr Maria Vrikki & Dr Lisa Wheatley
Research Associates

I do not wish my child to appear incidentally in any Classroom Talk Project video recordings

I do not wish my child to be included in any Classroom Talk Project assessments

Parent/guardian's name in capital letters: _____

Child's name in capital letters: _____

Date and Signature of Parent/Guardian _____