



Project ID: 2019-Jun-0445

Participant Identification Number for this study: 17683245

Title of Study: "I am me!"

Name of Researcher: Mrs Rachael Shaw (Headteacher)

Parent Information Sheet: PhD Thesis
(Version 2.0: Date: 18.05.20)

My name is Rachael Shaw and I am the Headteacher of a Junior School in Lincolnshire. In my spare time I am studying for a PhD and I would like to invite your child to take part in my research. Before you decide, I would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for your child. If you have any questions about the study, you are most welcome to pass them to your child's Class Teacher, who can then forward them to me, to answer.

What is the purpose of the study?

From being a teacher for the past 27 years (the last 11 as Headteacher with a teaching commitment) and a mother of a now 21 year old daughter; I have noticed that very often children are 'told' how boys and girls should behave, play, dress and think; by books, films, social media and television programmes. Studies have shown that by the age of 7, many children have already made firm decisions about what boys and girls can and cannot do; such as boys have to be strong and not cry and girls have to like pretty things and not play rough. From the age of 7 therefore, many children are already limiting their future dreams and aspirations according to what they believe they are 'being told' by society around them. Whereas, what most parents want is for their children to be happy and be involved in things that interest them. If this means that they are a girl and want to play rugby or a boy and want to be a dancer; then this is fine.

The research I am undertaking is to see what impact a teacher can have on challenging the gender-stereotypical messages that children are given; by allowing the children to be children, rather than being boxed into a category that only exists for boys or only exists for girls.

Why has my child been invited?

Your child is being invited to take part because your child's Class Teacher and Headteacher are also interested in studying how schools/teachers can help children to develop their own aspirations for future life regardless of what society is 'telling' them they should / should not do. All the children in your child's class have been asked if they would like to participate.

Does my child have to take part?

It is up to you and your child to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form on behalf of your child. Your child will then be asked if they are happy to participate when they are asked to complete the activity for me. If you and your child decide to take part, your child is free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. Should your child wish to withdraw, whatever they have completed so far will still be used in the study.

What will happen to my child if they take part?

Your child will be asked to work by themselves and look at a pre-prepared sheet which has a list of 20 jobs on. For each job they will be asked to tick whether they think it can be done by a man, by a woman, or either. Their answers will be turned into numerical data in terms of how many children ticked 'man', 'woman' and 'either'. They will not write their name on this sheet but will write down whether they are a boy or a girl.

This activity will be carried out near the start and near the end of the academic year. Any changes in what the children tick can then be measured.

Whilst you are being asked for consent for your child to participate, your child will also be asked if they are happy to take part when I come in to carry out the research.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are no risks to your child, as a result of taking part in this research.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

It is hoped that as a result of the research, I will gain a better understanding of ways in which teachers can help children to continue to develop their aspirations and dreams without feeling they have to conform to a view of what they should be like, based on whether they are a boy or a girl.

It is hoped that this research may help your child to develop in such a way too; however, I am not sure of what the outcome will be, and this is why I wish to carry out the research.

Will my child's taking part in the study be kept confidential?

I will follow ethical and legal practice, and all information about your child will be handled in confidence. Your child's completed tick sheet will remain anonymous, but I will be taking it away with me to carry out the data analysis.

No child's name will be linked to any analysis of what was ticked.

Privacy notice

The University of Lincoln is the lead organisation for this study. The university's Research Participant Privacy notice <https://ethics.lincoln.ac.uk/research-privacy-notice/> will explain how we will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will be the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

What will happen if I don't want my child to carry on with the study?

Your child's participation is voluntary, and they are free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason, and without their legal rights being affected. If they withdraw from the study, whatever they have already ticked will still be used in the study. To safeguard their rights, I will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

The results of the research study will form the basis of my PhD Thesis, which should be completed by 2022. The final PhD Thesis may be used as a basis for further research and/or publications; such as in journals, conferences, external reports, books, website publications and research-led teaching documentation.

Who is organising and funding the research?

This research is being organised by the University of Lincoln.

Who has reviewed the study?

All research conducted by the University of Lincoln is looked as by an independent group of people, called a Research Ethics committee, to protect your interests and those of your child.

What if there is a problem?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you can speak to your child's class teacher, who can pass on your queries to me. Or you can contact me directly – my contact details are given at the end of this information sheet. If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally, you can do this by contacting ethics@lincoln.ac.uk.

If you feel that we have let you down in relation to your information rights then please contact the Information Compliance team by email on compliance@lincoln.ac.uk or by post at Information Compliance, Secretariat, University of Lincoln, Brayford Pool, Lincoln, LN6 7TS.

You can also make complaints directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO is the independent authority upholding information rights for the UK. Their website is ico.org.uk and their telephone helpline number is 0303 123 1113.

Further information and contact details

Mrs Rachael Shaw
Headteacher of Branston Junior Academy
Station Road,
Branston,
Lincolnshire
LN4 1LH

01522 880555

Project ID: 2019-Jun-0445

Participant Identification Number for this study: 17683245

Title of Study: "I am me!"

Name of Researcher: Mrs Rachael Shaw (Headteacher)



PARENT CONSENT FORM: PhD Thesis

(Version 2.0. Date: 18.05.20)

Please initial box

1. I confirm that I have read the information sheet dated 18.05.20 (Version 2.0) for the above study. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.

2. I understand that my child's participation is voluntary and that my child is free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason, without their legal rights being affected. I understand that should they withdraw then the information collected so far may not be erased and that this information may still be used in the project analysis.

3. I understand that relevant sections of data collected during the study, may be looked at by individuals from the University of Lincoln, from regulatory authorities, where it is relevant to my child taking part in this research. I give permission for these individuals to have access to the records, I understand that my child's personal details will be kept confidential.

4. I understand that the information collected about my child may be used to support other research in the future and may be shared anonymously with other researchers.

5. I would like to receive a summary of the results of the study Yes No

6. I agree to my child taking part in the above study.

Name of child: _____

Name of Parent/Carer giving consent: _____

Date

Signature

