



My Asthma in School

Researcher: Katherine Harris

Information for Parents/Guardian

Dear Parent/Guardian,

A research study is being run by researchers in the Centre for Child Health at Queen Mary University of London. This is a research project which aims to improve asthma control for children, and raise awareness of asthma in secondary schools. Your child is invited to be part of this research study. It is entirely up to you whether you wish for your child to take part. If you choose not to take part, there will not be any disadvantages for you. Please read the following information carefully before you decide.

We have previously visited secondary schools across London and have collected information from teenagers with asthma about what it is like to have asthma. This information has been used to develop a school-based intervention, aimed at raising awareness of asthma among school-children, and improving asthma control.

If you agree for your child to take part, they will be invited to attend four educational workshops about asthma, which will take place in school over one school day, and watch a theatre workshop, which will be delivered to the whole year group. We will also ask your child to complete a short online questionnaire about asthma. This questionnaire will be completed a few times in school over the next twelve months. We will work closely with the school to make sure that the disruption to your child's lessons is kept to a minimum.



What we will ask your child to do:

- We will ask your child to participate in a series of educational workshops about asthma.
- We will ask your child to watch a play about asthma and participate in an interactive group discussion afterwards.
- We will ask your child to complete a short questionnaire about asthma every few months for 12 months.

Benefits:

- Your child will be involved in a university research project about asthma.
- Your child will participate in an interactive session about asthma with other children.
- We will ensure that your child does not miss out on regular break and lunch times, and we will work with the school to ensure that the workshops are scheduled in accordance with these breaks.
- Your child will receive a certificate of their involvement in the project.

Important things you need to know:

- Your child does not have to participate if you, or they, do not want to. Your child can also decide to stop participating at any time without any consequence.
- If you do not want your child to participate, please complete the withdrawal form below and send it back to your child's school by **[insert date]**.
- We do not anticipate any risks from taking part in this research. If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this project, you should contact the research team using the contact details below. If you are unhappy and wish to



complain formally, you can do this using the university contact details, which can be found below.

- The information that is collected during this project will be summarised and written into a report, which will be sent to the school. The findings will also be submitted to scientific journals and presented at conferences. Everything that will be written will be anonymous, and your child's name will not be used in anything that is published.
- As a result of this research, we may wish to contact you again in the future to let you know about further research opportunities.

Thank you for your time!

Contact Details for the Research Team:

Chief Investigator: Professor Jonathan Grigg, 020 7882 2206, j.grigg@qmul.ac.uk

Post-doctoral Researcher: Katherine Harris, 020 7882 2361, k.harris@qmul.ac.uk

Learning and Outreach Manager: Gioia Mosler, 020 7882 2361,
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Research Team Address:

Centre for Genomics and Child Health
The Blizard Institute
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If you have any questions or concerns about the study, please contact the researcher responsible for the study. If this is unsuccessful, or not appropriate, please contact the secretary at the Queen Mary Ethics Research Committee, Room W104, Queen's



Building, Mile End Campus, Mile End Road, London. Alternatively, please email them at research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk

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Withdrawal Form

You only need to complete this form if you **do not** wish for your child to participate in the study.

If you are happy for your child to participate OR your child is aged 13 years or older, you do not need to do anything.

If you **do not** want your child to participate **and your child is aged 12 or younger**, please tick:

I wish to **withdraw** my child from taking part in the My Asthma in School study.

Child's name:

Parent/guardian's name:

Relationship to child:

Signature:

Date: