**Educational Neuroscience Masters Research Paper: Investigating Scientific Reasoning by 13 to 14 Year Olds**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I work at JFS within the inclusion and Science departments. I am currently pursuing a Masters in Educational Neuroscience at University College London. My research for my Masters is based on how children learn. This is the reason I am contacting you, as I wish to conduct a trial at JFS school, and I am looking for participants. This trial looks to address the lack of research into the development of children’s understanding of Science. This is compared to the wealth of research into English (language) and Mathematics. The results of this trial will go towards creating better and more interesting Science lessons and improve teachers understanding of how children learn about science.

**If your child wishes to participate please complete the consent form by the end of November** : [Consent Form](https://tinyurl.com/y3m527ju)

*\*participants have the right to withdraw at any time without having to provide a reason*

**Information about the trial**

The trial is computer based and will take about 20 minutes. The trial involves three parts. The 1st and 2nd parts involve answering simple puzzles and questions using words and diagrams. During the 3rd part of the trial, the participant will be shown two videos of science experiments and asked to describe them and explain what they think is happening. I will also collect information about the amount of languages spoken in the house the education level of the people who live in the house.

**Data protection**

The trial is anonymous. Part of the trial will be recorded (audio only) this is for later grading. All the data from the trial will be stored securely by Birkbeck/UCL. Once the project has finished, all recordings will be securely destroyed.

For more information on privacy please use this link: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/ucl-general-research-participant-privacy-notice>

Please consider the information in this email and read through the attached [information sheet](https://jfs.brent.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Student-Study-Information-Sheet.docx) with the student. Please discuss if entering the trial is something that they want to do.

I am seeking participation by around 60 students. If positive consent is given for more than 60, it is possible that selection of participants will be made randomly from among these.

Your help with this trial will be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

**Mr Phillips**

**Phillips@jfs.brent.sch.uk**