# Permanently Progressing?

## Building secure futures for children: Phase 2 Middle childhood

### Information Sheet for Carers and Adoptive Parents about Children’s participation

#### Research team

Helen Whincup (Principal Investigator), Linda Cusworth, Maggie Grant, Jade Hooper, Paula Jacobs, and Alison Hennessy.

#### About the research

We are inviting children and young people aged 8-15 years to take part in an interview for the Permanently Progressing? research study. This additional leaflet is for carers/adoptive parents about children’s participation in the research. We have also enclosed information for children for you to share with them or read together.

We are hoping to speak to around 20 children. It is up to you and the child whether or not they take part. You can take part in a carer/parent interview only, if you prefer.

#### What will happen if children take part?

We will arrange an interview at a time that suits them and you, either in person or online. The interview should take approximately one hour.

We will offer a choice of activities that we can do together while we talk and will bring all the materials needed.

Some children have specific needs that might affect their participation. If you have suggestions for communication aids, activities or other tools that would help them to feel comfortable and communicate with us, please let us know. We will be flexible around children’s needs.

What kind of questions will children be asked?

We will ask children about:

* their families and the people who are important to them
* what they enjoy doing with them
* how they keep in touch with family and important people who they do not live with
* their experiences in education
* what kinds of support are available to them and what they find useful

We will give children several options to tell us what they do and don’t want to talk about. For example, we have ‘stop and go’ signs which children can use to stop the interview at any time or to take a break.

The interviewers (Helen ,Maggie and Paula) are experienced researchers and have interviewed children, parents and carers for a range of studies. Helen is also a qualified social worker.

#### What happens to the information children share?

Information from interviews with children will be treated with care. We will follow the same rules about privacy, confidentiality, data storage and data protection as outlined in the information sheet about carer/parent interviews.

The only exception to confidentiality, as with any study, would be if someone is hurt, or is at risk of being hurt. Then we will need to discuss this and decide whether we need to tell anyone else. We would talk to you before we do this.

#### What if we change our mind(s)?

If you or the child change your/their mind within two weeks of the interview, we will not use the information. We cannot guarantee to remove data after that date as the analysis may be underway and/or the results published.

#### What if there is a problem or something goes wrong?

Please tell us if you are worried about any part of this study, by contacting the head researcher Helen Whincup. If you want to make a complaint you can contact the Dean of the Faculty, Derek McGhee.

Thank you for reading this – please ask any questions if you want to.

You can contact us at 07716 483506 or by email Paula at paula.jacobs@stir.ac.uk

More information about the research and details of support organisations are available at the study’s [website](https://permanentlyprogressing.stir.ac.uk/) ([www.permanentlyprogressing.stir.ac.uk](http://www.permanentlyprogressing.stir.ac.uk)).

