



Education
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Foundation



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The Focus4TAPS trial

Case study information for parents and guardians

Your school has agreed to participate within the trial of Focus4TAPS, and your school has been selected as a case study to help us understand how the Focus4TAPS programme is working.

The Focus4TAPS programme aims to support teaching, learning, and assessment in primary science. Bath Spa University have developed and will deliver the Focus4TAPS programme, which draws together research from the Teacher Assessment in Primary Science (TAPS) project, which was funded by the Primary Science Teaching Trust. The Focus4TAPS programme provides a package of training for teachers, with resources and activities to support the teaching of 'Working Scientifically' and the delivery of science content within the curriculum.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and the Wellcome Trust are funding the UCL Institute of Education to compare Focus4TAPS against other teaching across many primary schools in the country.

We would like child volunteers to take part in case study interviews.

The interviews will take place individually or in small groups of pupils, depending on the latest physical distancing guidance for the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. If researchers are able to visit schools, everyone involved will follow the latest physical distancing and other guidance for the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. If researchers are unable to visit schools, then the interviews are expected to be remote; the students will be in school (or potentially at home), with an online or telephone link to the researcher. An online system will be secure and encrypted (we expect to use Skype or Microsoft Teams).

We would like to undertake group interviews, but we understand that this will only be possible if children are at school. If schools are not open and children are learning at home, then we would like to arrange individual telephone interviews or online calls (depending on parents' preference).

The interviews will last up to 30 minutes.

The first set of interviews will take place in Autumn Term 2020 and the second set of interviews will take place in Summer Term 2021.

What happens in the case study work?

Children will be interviewed within small groups at their school (or potentially through telephone/online calls at home if schools are not open). The interview will ask about their experiences of studying science, such as practical work.

The interviews will be conducted by a researcher from the UCL Institute of Education who is secured to work with children through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The interview will be audio recorded and transcribed. The transcription will be made anonymous, so that children or schools cannot be identified.

Children's responses will be treated with the strictest confidence. All information will only be used within the trial, and will not be used by schools or teachers in assessments. All information will be held securely and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The results of the trial will not identify any children or schools; anonymous quotations from the interviews may be reported within the results.

If I have some questions or need more information, what should I do?

If you have any questions or need any more information, please contact:
primary.science@bathspa.ac.uk or ioe.focus4taps@ucl.ac.uk.

We would like volunteers to opt-in and take part in the case study work. After agreeing to take part, anyone can decide to opt-out of the case study work at any time during the trial and for any reason (or for no reason) by contacting us.

Data Protection Privacy Notice

The data controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Office provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data, and can be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk. UCL's Data Protection Officer can also be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.

Further information on how UCL uses participant information can be found here:

www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/participants-health-and-care-research-privacy-notice

The legal basis that would be used to process your child's personal data will be performance of a task in the public interest. The legal basis used to process special category personal data will be for scientific and historical research or statistical purposes/explicit consent.

Your child's personal data will be processed so long as it is required for the research project. If we are able to anonymise or pseudonymise the personal data you provide we will undertake this, and will try to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL in the first instance at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.