

Participant Information Sheet (Parent or Guardian)

Study Title: DELTEA Work Package 2

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Version: 3 (parent/guardian)

Your child is being invited to take part in the above research study. To help you decide whether you would like your child to take part or not, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the information below carefully and ask questions if anything is not clear or you would like more information before you decide to take part in this research. You may like to discuss it with others but it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do not wish for your child to take part, you will need to sign an opt-out form and return it to the child's French/Spanish teacher. Alternatively, you can email the DELTEA team: DELTEA@soton.ac.uk.

What is the research about?

The research will explore whether a programme of digital literacy and phonics in French or Spanish affects foreign language (FL) learning outcomes for primary school pupils.

Why has your child been asked to participate?

Your child has been asked to participate because they are a primary school student who studies French or Spanish. Their class teacher has worked with us throughout 2023 to learn more about teaching languages using digital technologies.

What will happen to my child if they take part?

Classes will make use of digital stories in French or Spanish and a phonics/pronunciation app called Speacher (Niter Ltd). Your child will complete a series of tasks at two timepoints: once in January-March (pre-test), and once in May-July (post-test). The tasks relate to progress in FL vocabulary, reading comprehension, phonics, pronunciation, plus empathy, language learning motivation and creativity. Speech recordings will be made in the app to monitor pronunciation. Your child's teacher will add your child to the app which will then create a unique user ID. Your child will always login using this unique ID rather than their own name. Any recordings will be held on encrypted servers with password-protected access. Once the research project is complete, all names and emails will be removed from our database so the recordings will only be accessible by unique identifier. A very small number of children, approximately 2 per school, will be asked to read some stories using a tablet whilst the tablet camera tracks the corners of their eyes. This is because it will show us how children engage with the rich images, text and sound files that are in each book. Your child will complete tasks in class as they engage with our multimodal stories and we would like to collect evidence of their anonymised responses to these tasks. We will also ask your child/children's school to provide background data which might help explain our results such as EAL status, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), prior academic attainment and L1 literacy scores (including KS2 reading and writing data, KS1 phonics screening and GPAS – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling - test scores). These data will be stored under pseudonyms and will adhere to GDPR protocols. All write-ups will also use pseudonyms for names, ensuring schools, pupils and teachers are not identifiable.

Are there any benefits in my taking part?

By allowing your child to take part you will help us understand more about the teaching and learning of foreign languages using technology.

Are there any risks involved?

The risks involved in this project are no more than everyday risks. The tasks used in the research are consistent with normal foreign language classroom routines.

What data will be collected?

We will collect data as outlined in the “What will happen to my child...” section.

Will my child’s participation be confidential?

Your child’s participation, as well as the information we collect about your child during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential.

Only members of the research team and responsible members of the University of Southampton may be given access to data about your child for monitoring purposes and/or to carry out an audit of the study to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations. Individuals from regulatory authorities (people who check that we are carrying out the study correctly) may require access to your child’s data. All of these people have a duty to keep your information and that of your child, as a research participant, strictly confidential.

All student names will be pseudonymised with only one file containing the information that connects the student to their pseudonym or “code” (e.g. P1). Personal data will also be pseudonymised as soon as the DELTEA team receive it to ensure confidentiality. The file containing the names and pseudonyms will be encrypted and held on a university-secure server, accessed through a password-protected University of Southampton device.

During the project, anonymised speech recordings will be made for the purposes of acoustic analysis (to understand how pronunciation changes over time). Information extracted from recordings (e.g. accuracy scores, result sheets, files containing acoustic measurements, transcripts), will all be pseudonymised then uploaded to an online repository (Open Science Framework (OSF): <https://osf.io/>) to allow for future study replication. Any uploaded data will be identifiable by unique identifier only. There will never be the opportunity to link anonymised recordings to specific schools, teachers or students. The raw recordings will not be uploaded to OSF but will be held securely on University of Southampton servers for up to 10 years then deleted.

Does your child have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not your child takes part. If you decide that you are not happy for your child to take part, you will need to sign the opt-out form. Although it will not be possible to prevent students undertaking the language learning tasks (given that these are classroom activities and are consistent with everyday language activities), if you opt-out, your child’s data will be deleted before analysis takes place.

What happens if I change my mind?

You have the right to change your mind and withdraw your child from participating at any time without giving a reason and without your child’s participant rights being affected. Please e-mail DELTEA@soton.ac.uk to withdraw. If your child withdraws from the study, we will keep the information about them that we have already obtained for the purposes of achieving the objectives of the study only, unless you specifically ask us not to.

What will happen to the results of the research?

Your child’s personal details will remain strictly confidential. Research findings made available in any reports or publications will not include information that can directly identify you without you and your child’s specific consent. Any publications coming from this research will use pseudonyms to prevent identification. You may e-mail DELTEA@soton.ac.uk to request a copy of any publications coming from this research.

Where can I get more information?

You may contact DELTEA@soton.ac.uk for further information.

What happens if there is a problem?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions: DELTEA@soton.ac.uk

If you remain unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact the University of Southampton Head of Research Ethics and Clinical Governance (023 8059 5058, rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk).

Data Protection Privacy Notice

The University of Southampton conducts research to the highest standards of research integrity. As a publicly-funded organisation, the University has to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information about people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, we will use information about you in the ways needed, and for the purposes specified, to conduct and complete the research project. Under data protection law, 'Personal data' means any information that relates to and is capable of identifying a living individual. The University's data protection policy governing the use of personal data by the University can be found on its website (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page>).

This Participant Information Sheet tells you what data will be collected for this project and whether this includes any personal data. Please ask the research team if you have any questions or are unclear what data is being collected about you. Our privacy notice for research participants provides more information on how the University of Southampton collects and uses your personal data when you take part in one of our research projects and can be found at

<http://www.southampton.ac.uk/assets/sharepoint/intranet/Is/Public/Research%20and%20Integrity%20Privacy%20Notice/Privacy%20Notice%20for%20Research%20Participants.pdf>

Any personal data we collect in this study will be used only for the purposes of carrying out our research and will be handled according to the University's policies in line with data protection law. If any personal data is used from which you can be identified directly, it will not be disclosed to anyone else without your consent unless the University of Southampton is required by law to disclose it. Data protection law requires us to have a valid legal reason ('lawful basis') to process and use your Personal data. The lawful basis for processing personal information in this research study is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. Personal data collected for research will not be used for any other purpose. For the purposes of data protection law, the University of Southampton is the 'Data Controller' for this study, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. The University of Southampton will keep identifiable information about you for 10 years after the study has finished after which time any link between you and your information will be removed. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personal data necessary to achieve our research study objectives. Your data protection rights – such as to access, change, or transfer such information - may be limited, however, in order for the research output to be reliable and accurate. The University will not do anything with your personal data that you would not reasonably expect. If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, or wish to exercise any of your rights, please consult the University's data protection webpage (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page>) where you can make a request using our online form. If you need further assistance, please contact the University's Data Protection Officer (data.protection@soton.ac.uk).

Thank you.

Thank you for considering taking part in this study.