



LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY

Participant Information Sheet For Teachers (Interviews)

LJMU's Research Ethics Committee Approval Reference: UREC reference- 21/PSY/006

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET

Title of Study: The impact of COVID-19 and lockdown on teachers and parents of early adolescents

You are being invited to take part in a study. Before you decide if you are happy for to participate, it is important for you to understand why the study is being done and what participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

1. Who will conduct the study?

Study Team

Principal Investigators: Dr Pooja Saini and Dr Emma Ashworth

School/Faculty within LJMU: School of Psychology, Faculty of Health

2. What is the purpose of the study?

Lockdown measures have substantial societal effects, including a significant impact on parents with (young) children and teachers due to the continuous changes within school settings. The COVID-19 lockdown means that people's day-to-day lives have been disrupted. We want to gain a greater understanding of people's perceptions of lockdown, and their mental health and wellbeing during this time. We want to find out the things that boost positive wellbeing during this time, so that this information can be passed on to other people to help support their wellbeing.

The aim of this study is to explore these experiences of teachers and parents of young people who completed either/both the online questionnaire and interviews.

3. Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been invited to take part in this research because children who attend your school took part in an online survey and / or interview about their experience of COVID-19 and lockdown. All young children who were in years 7-9 were invited to take part. We now want to explore the experience of teachers during this period.

4. Do I have to take part?

No. It is up to you to decide whether or not you take part. Participation is entirely voluntary and the refusal to agree to participate will not result in any penalty. If you do decide you are happy to take part, you will be given this information sheet and be asked to complete a consent form. You

can withdraw at any time by informing the investigators without giving a reason and without it affecting your rights.

If you do not wish to take part there is nothing more that you need to do.

5. What will happen if I take part?

You will be asked to participate in a one-to-one interview with a researcher online over Teams. The interview will take approximately 30-45 minutes. The researcher will ask about your experiences and perceptions of COVID-19 and lockdown, and your mental and physical health and wellbeing. You will not have to answer any questions that they do not want to, and can end the interview at any time. The interviews will be audio recorded and written-up into transcripts after the interview.

The researchers will talk you through the study procedures and give you the chance to ask questions before beginning the interview. The researchers have received an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. These indicate that the researchers have no convictions, cautions, reprimands, or warnings held on police records that may put an individual at risk.

6. Will my I be recorded and how will the recorded media be used?

Audio recording is required for participation, but you are free to stop the recording at any time.

The audio recordings made during this study will be used only for analysis. They will be used to create a transcript of the interview.

Interviews will be audio recorded on an encrypted password protected audio recording device and as soon as possible the recording will be transferred to secure storage and deleted from the recording device.

6. Are there any possible disadvantages or risks from taking part?

No disadvantages or risks of harm are anticipated as a result of this research. However, while highly unlikely, there is a small possibility that some questions may be considered sensitive to some participants as they ask about their wellbeing. Participants do not have to answer any questions that they do not want to. You will be debriefed at the end of the interview, and will be provided with signposting to appropriate support, should they feel like they need it. The topic may be sensitive or upsetting for some participants and in this case we can signpost you to support services if required such as Samaritans. Please see the debrief sheet for more contact numbers.

7. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

It is hoped that this work will help us to understand more about what helps to increase wellbeing in the months following the COVID-19 lockdown.

8. What will happen to the data provided and how will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?

The information you provide as part of the study is the **study data**. Any study data from which you can be identified (e.g. from identifiers such as name, date of birth, audio recording etc.), is

known as **personal data**. This includes more sensitive categories of personal data (**sensitive data**) such as your race; ethnic origin; religion; trade union membership; health; or sexual orientation.

Personal data will be accessible to the core study team. Any personal data provided by your child will be anonymised prior to analysis. The interview recordings will be sent to an independent company who will produce a transcript. We will use pseudonyms in transcripts and reports to help protect the identity of individuals. Any identifying information will also be changed or removed. Therefore, you will not be able to be identified from any of the reports published from this research, and their transcripts will not be given to you as their parents/carers, teachers, or anyone else they know. If you wish to withdraw your child's data from the study, you will be able to request this up until the point where transcripts are anonymised, by contacting the researchers.

De-identified data might be used for additional or subsequent studies.

10. Limits to Confidentiality

In certain exceptional circumstances where yourself or others may be at significant risk of harm, the investigator may need to report this to the safeguarding lead at your child's school. Examples of those exceptional circumstances when confidential information may have to be disclosed are:

- The investigator believes they are at serious risk of harm, either from themselves or others
- The investigator suspects a child may be at risk of harm
- They pose a serious risk of harm to, or threaten or abuse others
- As a statutory requirement e.g. reporting certain infectious diseases
- Under a court order requiring the University to divulge information
- We are passed information relating to an act of terrorism

9. What will happen to the results of the study?

The investigator intends to publish their results from the study in peer-reviewed journal articles. They will also publish guidance documents for young people, parents and schools. Schools will be provided with an overview of the mental health and wellbeing of the pupils in their school. Your child will not be identifiable in any of the documents.

10. Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is organised and funded by Liverpool John Moores University. The funder is interested in increasing understanding of the pandemic and issues related to this.

11. Who has reviewed this study?

This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the Liverpool John Moores University Research Ethics Committee. **UREC Reference: 21/PSY/006**

12. What if something goes wrong?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, please contact the investigator, Dr Pooja Saini (P.Saini@ljmu.ac.uk) who will do their best to answer your query. The investigator should acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how they intend

to deal with it. If you wish to make a complaint, please contact the chair of the Liverpool John Moores University Research Ethics Committee (researchethics@ljmu.ac.uk) and your communication will be re-directed to an independent person as appropriate.

13. Data Protection Notice

Liverpool John Moores University is the sponsor for this study based in the United Kingdom. We will be using information from your child in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your child's information and using it properly. Liverpool John Moores University will process your child's personal data for the purpose of research. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the study to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

You can find out more about how we use your information at by contacting secretariat@ljmu.ac.uk.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, please contact LJMU in the first instance at secretariat@ljmu.ac.uk. If you remain unsatisfied, you may wish to contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Contact details, and details of data subject rights, are available on the ICO website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/individuals-rights/>

14. Contact for further information

Principal Investigator: Dr Pooja Saini

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Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering to take part in this study.