# Birmingham City University | Student Nursing Times Awards 2020Title of Research Project

**Exploring the multi-dimensional relationships between social class inequalities, wellbeing and play in children aged 0-5 years**

# Invitation to Participate

 You are being invited to take part in this research project. The purpose of this information sheet is to inform you about the project so that you can decide whether you would like to participate or not. Please take time to read the information and to make your decision. If you wish you can discuss it with other people or you can contact me if you would like to ask any questions or if anything is not clear.

# What are the aims of the project?

 This project is being undertaken as part of my PhD in Education. The project seeks to explore the ideas and perceptions of practitioners and parents in Early Years settings around the key themes of social class inequalities, play and health and wellbeing. It aims to answer the following research questions:

1. How do social class inequalities in society shape the experiences and views of practitioners and parents in early years settings?

2. How do parents and practitioners perceive the way in which children from birth to five are affected by the relationship between social class inequality, play and health and wellbeing?

3. How can the theories of Amartya Sen, Pierre Bourdieu and Urie Bronfenbrenner be utilised to explain the relationship between social class inequality, children’s health and play in the Early Years?

# Why am I being invited?

 The manager or headteacher at the setting your child attends has already expressed an interest in participating. You have been chosen as you currently have, or recently have had, one or more children in the Early Years classes at the setting. This means your child is aged between 0 and 7 years.

# Do I have to take part?

 You have the choice whether you would like to take part or not. Regardless of your decision you are welcome to keep a copy of this information sheet to refer back to at any time. If you choose not to participate you will not be asked to provide a reason why and you will not be negatively impacted by your decision. If you choose to participate you will be asked to complete a consent form before you participate. Even after you sign this you can still choose to withdraw from the project without giving a reason.

# What will I have to do if I participate?

 If you choose to participate you will need to access an online survey using a computer or mobile device using the enclosed details. When you access the survey you will be asked to complete a consent form and then answer some questions. The survey should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete. At the end of the survey you will be asked whether you wish to volunteer for an individual online interview with the researcher. Separate information about the interview will be given to those who volunteer for this. No physical face to face contact will take place between yourself and the researcher in order to comply with the Covid-19 social distancing requirements.

# What are the benefits of taking part?

 Whilst there are no immediate benefits to you, it is hoped that the project will be able to create recommendations for improvements to the way in which Early Years settings operate in order to improve the life chances of young children. A brief summary of the final report will be provided to you for your information.

# What are the potential risks of taking part?

 Participating in this research is not expected to cause you any significant harm or discomfort. Should you feel uncomfortable at any stage you have the right to withdraw from the study without providing a reason. You will not be expected to answer any question or discuss any topic which you feel uncomfortable about. You will have the right to refuse to answer without penalty.

# Will my information and responses be confidential?

 All of the information you provide during your participation will be kept strictly confidential. You will not be individually identifiable in any report or publication produced as a result of this study. Unless you volunteer for an individual interview you will remain completely anonymous. If you provide your contact information to volunteer for an interview these details will be separated from your survey responses immediately upon receipt. Your participation and survey responses will not be shared with your child’s setting.

# How will my data be protected?

 Any digital data collected about you will be securely stored using an encrypted device and physical copies will be kept in a locked drawer. Your data will be held until the project is complete and the final report has been assessed by the examination board and an award has been confirmed. This is anticipated to be complete by August 2023.

If you have any concerns about the way in which your data has been used or stored at any stage you can contact:

**Birmingham City University Data Protection Officer**

Information Management Team, Birmingham City University, University House, 15 Bartholomew Row, Birmingham, B5 5JU

informationmanagement@bcu.ac.uk

0121 331 5288

**Information Commissioner**

Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Further information available at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

# What rights do I have?

 You have the right to choose whether to participate in this study or not. You have the right to have access to enough information to be able to make this decision. You can also choose to withdraw from the project at any point without prejudice. You have the right to remain anonymous in the resulting reports and publications and for your data to be adequately protected.

# Who is organising the project?

 This project is organised by Hannah Malpass, a Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant and registered PhD student at Birmingham City University.

# Who is supervising this project?

 This project is being supervised by Dr Carolyn Blackburn and Dr Kate Thomson, both of Birmingham City University. They can be contacted using the information below:

Dr Carolyn Blackburn (Director of Studies)

Reader in Interdisciplinary Practice and Research with Families

Birmingham City University, Faculty of Health Education and Life Sciences, Room 213, Ravensbury House, Westbourne Road. Birmingham B15 3TN

Carolyn.Blackburn@bcu.ac.uk

Dr Kate Thomson (Second Supervisor)

Associate Professor in Therapies and Public Health

Birmingham City University, Faculty of Health Education and Life Sciences, Room 114, Ravensbury House, Westbourne Road. Birmingham B15 3TN

Kate.Thomson@bcu.ac.uk

# Who can I contact if I wish to complain?

 You can contact either of the supervisors named above or the Birmingham City Ethics Department on HELS\_Ethics@bcu.ac.uk.

# Contacts for Further Information

Hannah Malpass

Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant

Birmingham City University

Hannah.Malpass@bcu.ac.uk

Thank you for showing an interest in this research project.