



RESEARCH PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

For Parents and Carers

Title of the study: Paediatric Facial Analysis for Spectacle Wear

We would like to invite your child to take part in a research project. Before you and your child decide is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it 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 your child to take part. An age-appropriate explanation for your child is accompanied with this information.

What is the purpose of the project?

The purpose is to gather data on how a child's face develops, in particular the nasal area and structures relating to how a spectacle frame would fit. It is hoped that the analysis of this data will inform the optical profession and industry more accurately what sizes of frames need to be manufactured in order to improve the fit of children's eyewear overall. In cases where children already wear spectacles, additional measurements will be taken to assess the wearing position and the exact prescription received by the child.

Why has my child been chosen?

Data is required from as many children as possible from birth to 16 years. Participation is being sought from local schools and playgroups, centres and associations. The research will take place at these centres.

Does my child have to take part?

A written consent form (attached) is required from every parent or guardian for those children deciding to take part. It is also important that the child is happy to take part on the day and therefore will be asked again prior to participating.

It is perfectly acceptable for you and/or your child to withdraw at any time without prejudice.

What will happen to my child if we decide to take part?

A photographic image will be taken on our 3D medical imaging system. This takes 1.5 milliseconds to capture. The child will be shown the image as we check it has captured properly.

It would be beneficial if this process could be repeated at 6 monthly intervals over an 18 month period, although even one image will be useful.

If the child wears spectacles, then there will be additional measurements taken as listed below, these take approximately 5 minutes to capture

- A measurement of the distance between pupil centres with a ruler
- A measurement from the eye to the back of the lens using a ruler
- A mark made with a lens marking pen to show the pupil position on the lens
- The spectacles removed and the curvature, thickness, centration and power of the lenses measured – the spectacles will then be cleaned and returned to the child.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

The three flashes of the imaging system may cause a temporary after-image, this is similar to what is experienced in flash photography and should only last a few minutes.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The 3D image captured can be analysed to produce measurements and angles that relate to how a spectacle frame should be designed. It is hoped that this data will be used by frame manufacturers to ensure the fit of children's frames is improved and therefore the full prescription or intervention is delivered at such a critical stage in a child's development.

Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?

Other children in the class/school may know their friends have participated. A database of participants will be kept for the purposes of creating a unique number and inviting children back after 6 months. This database will be kept securely on a password-protected laptop in a locked safe. No personal details will be published or disclosed to a third party. Only the researcher and supervisor will have access to this database and the images.

What will happen to the results of the research project and how will participant anonymity be protected?

Each image will be stored under a unique identification number and not the child's name. The images will be captured on a computer, and then stored for analysis on a separate password-protected laptop to the database.

Some images may be published if consent is granted, along with the results, in academic and professional journals, academic thesis, conference and educational presentations.

Who has reviewed the project?

This research project has been approved by Aston University's Ethics Committee. If you have any concerns about the way the research has been conducted, then please contact the Secretary of the University Research Ethics Committee j.g.walter@aston.ac.uk or telephone 0121 204 4665

Contact for further information

Any queries to be addressed to

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