

Exploring the lived experiences and influence of dyscalculia or maths learning difficulties in UK secondary school aged pupils.

Thank you for taking the time to read this research invitation. Maths education researchers at the University of Derby are currently conducting a project surrounding dyscalculia/maths learning difficulties and are seeking parental permission for a child aged 15-16 years with dyscalculia or maths learning difficulties to respond to a short maths attitude questionnaire and some open-ended questions relating to their experiences of maths.

Purpose of study:

This research aims to qualitatively obtain and analyse insights from secondary aged pupils (with dyscalculia or maths learning difficulties) regarding their experiences – and potential limiting factors of this - and future directions.

Criteria for taking part:

To participate [1] you and your child must currently reside in the UK, [2] participating children must be aged 15-16 years, [3] both parent/guardian and child must provide consent, and [4] you should be fluent in English.

Procedure:

The research process is as follows:

[1] Parent/Guardian and child to indicate their consent (on the following page) and for parent/guardian to also verbally ask that their child is happy to take part.

[2] Children aged 15-16 years (educational years 10 and 11) will complete the Abbreviated Math Anxiety Scale (9-items). We request that parent/guardian are close by whilst your child completes the questions.

[3] Children aged 15-16 years will then respond to the open-ended questionnaire pertaining to their experiences of dyscalculia or maths learning difficulties. We again request that parent/guardians are close by whilst your child completes the questions.

[4] Once your child has completed the questions, we ask that parent/guardians return to the device to read and complete the debrief form.

The research has received ethical clearance by the University of Derby College of Health, Psychology and Social Care Research Ethics Committee.

Your support with this research could contribute towards findings that could lead to greater public understanding of children's experiences of dyscalculia and how this could be better supported.

If you are interested in taking part, please click on the following link which will provide you with additional information and direct you to the data collection space.

https://derby.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3gg8qN4MYrCAU1E

If you would like to ask questions about the research and to know more about what is involved, please contact me, Dr. Dominic Petronzi at: d.petronzi@derby.ac.uk or +44 (0)1332 597990

Best wishes,
Dominic

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