



Ask, Listen, Act - working together to inform the provision of SEND support for children after the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Information Sheet for Professionals

We are asking if you would like to take part in a short anonymous survey to help us work out how children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities aged 5-15 years of age have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

### Who is doing this study?

The study is being led by Dr Emma Ashworth from Liverpool John Moores University and the team includes researchers from Edge Hill University and the University of Liverpool.

### What is the purpose of the study?

This study is trying to find out how children and young people with SEND aged 5-15 years of age have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are keen to find out your views about

- the impact of COVID-19 on the provision of your service to children and young people with SEND,
- what within your service has worked well,
- what within your service has been particularly challenging and
- what the priorities should be moving forward for children and young people with SEND and their parents/carers.

### Why have we been invited to take part?

We are keen to hear the views of professionals from health care, social care, education, third sector organisations and policy. We are also asking parents and children and young people with SEND to share their views.

### Do I have to take part?

No. It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do not wish to take part there is nothing more that you need to do.

## What will happen if I take part?

You will be asked to complete a short anonymous online survey, which will take about 10-15 minutes to fill out. You will not have to answer any questions you do not want to, and you can end the survey at any time.

We will not be asking for any information which will identify who you are. There will be a separate link at the end of the survey where you can leave your contact details if you would like to volunteer to take part in an interview.

## Are there any possible disadvantages or risks from taking part?

We hope that taking part will not involve any risks for you. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to and at the end of the survey there are some links and numbers to support services.

## What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We hope that what we find out from this study help policymakers and Local Authorities across the country to develop strategies to reduce the impact COVID-19 has had on children and young people with SEND.

## What will happen to the results of the study?

The research team will share the results in articles, presentations and we will also be working with parents and children and young people to write a summary of the key findings from the research which will be posted on our webpage. The report from the study will be shared with policymakers and Local Authorities across the country.

## Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and has been organised by Liverpool John Moores University in collaboration with Edge Hill University, The University of Liverpool and Liverpool Health Partners.

## Who has reviewed this study?

This study has been reviewed and given ethics clearance through the Liverpool John Moores University Research Ethics Committee. UREC Reference: 21/PSY/016

## What if something goes wrong or I have a concern?

If you have a concern about any part of this study, please contact the lead researcher, Dr Emma Ashworth (E.L.Ashworth@lmu.ac.uk) who will do their best to answer your query and will 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@lmu.ac.uk) and your communication will be re-directed to an independent person as appropriate.

## Data Protection Notice

Liverpool John Moores University is the organiser for this study based in the United Kingdom. We will be using information from you 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 information and using it properly. Liverpool John Moores University will process your 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@lmu.ac.uk.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, please contact LJMU in the first instance at secretariat@lmu.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/>

## Contact for further information

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