

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS AND CARERS: Poetry competition



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**Title of study:** Understanding futures through Covid-19

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Your child has wants to enter a poetry and spoken word competition called 'This is the Year', which forms part of a research project from King's College London. This information sheet tells you a bit more about the study, and what will happen if they win.

Before you decide whether you want to give permission for your child to take part in the research and competition, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what their 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.

### **A bit more about the research study:**

We are a group of researchers at King's College London, interested in understanding the kind of worlds young people want to live in in the future. In the middle of our research, we have found ourselves in a rather dystopic present with the Covid-19 pandemic. We are therefore inviting young people to take part in arts-based activities that try to understand how the lockdown, social distancing, and the pandemic itself has affected young people's health and wellbeing, as well as their hopes and fears for the future.

One of the ways we have been doing this is by inviting young people write their own poem of spoken word piece about their life during lockdown and the pandemic. We have asked them to do this as part of a competition. Their entry in itself will already contribute to the study as research data so that we have a better idea of how the pandemic has been

affecting young people in Lambeth and Southwark's wellbeing. We will give them a certificate to say thank you no matter how they do in the competition. A small group of winners will be selected to be showcased on our online Covid-19 Time Capsule, which we hope will help other young people and policy makers to think about how the world should be changed to help young people living in Lambeth and Southwark. As a thank you for their entries, winners will also receive a prize, including the first prize of a laptop, and runner up prizes of a Theatre Peckham voucher and a poetry book.

### **What is the purpose of the study?**

We are concerned that researchers at King's College London, along with local and national policy makers, are already shaping the futures that we are asking young people to live in when they grow up. This study looks at how we can give young people stronger voices about the kind of society they would like to live in, and what would improve their health and wellbeing.

We have become aware that the Covid-19 pandemic is going to strongly influence how young people are experiencing the world. In this part of the study, we therefore want to understand how lockdown, social distancing, and the pandemic itself is affecting their health and wellbeing, and how this affects their hopes and fears for the future. We will then be comparing these thoughts and experiences to the kinds of research and policy that is currently going on in Lambeth and Southwark, in order to make recommendations for how to improve young people's wellbeing in the immediate and long term futures.

### **Why your child?**

We would love to publish your child's winning poem or spoken word piece because they are a young person living, studying or attending a youth centre or Library in Lambeth or Southwark who has taken part in our poetry competition and research study. We want to know more about what kind of future society they would like to live in to improve their health and wellbeing, and how this has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **What happens if you agree for your child to take part?**

Your child has told us that they asked your permission to take part in the competition and research study. We are therefore planning on using the poem or spoken word piece that your child made as research data, to understand how they would like Lambeth and Southwark to change.

We now want to showcase your child's work on an online Covid-19 Time Capsule. We are now asking you and them if and how you would like this to be displayed. You and your child can decide this, and it won't affect whether they are a winner of the competition or whether they have taken part in the research itself. We will ask you to sign the consent form provided to sign the consent form provided and we will give you a copy to keep.

### **Do they have to take part?**

No, they do not. It is completely up to you and them whether their poem or spoken word piece gets used as research data, and/or if you want it to be showcased online. If you no longer wish for their work to be used as research data, then see below how you can withdraw consent from the study. If you do not agree for their work to be published online or used as research data at this point, then this will not disadvantage them in the competition in any way, they will still be entitled to any prizes they have won.

### **Can you or your child withdraw from the study after you have signed the consent form?**

Yes – up to four weeks after you have signed any form. If you or your child change your mind and don't want to take part after signing the forms, you can still withdraw your consent without giving a reason by contacting the researchers whose contact details are at the beginning of this information sheet. However, after four weeks we will have committed the data to research reports. If you withdraw from the study within the four weeks, we will then delete all the information we have about your child, including their poem or spoken word piece, and all we will keep is a record of your withdrawal of consent.

### **What are the possible risks of taking part?**

This is a low risk study, but we understand that talking about how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected their wellbeing and their hopes for the future may be an emotive topic for young people. We hope that the competition and online Covid-19 Time Capsule will provide a supportive environment to showcase young people's experiences and thoughts. But we have also listed a number of places for support for both adults and young people at the end of this information sheet in case you or your child would like further support.

The only other risk is that we will be holding data about your child's thoughts on how the pandemic has affected young people's wellbeing and hopes and fears for the future. However, this data will not have their name attached (unless you and they decide otherwise) and any evidence that they took part in this study (such as the consent forms) will be held in a secure place in the university or in a secure online university file which is password protected.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

If you and your child continue to decide to take part then your child will be able to contribute to a research project which is specifically trying to understand what young people from Lambeth and Southwark want in the future. If you decide to have their work showcased online then this will contribute to an online Time Capsule which will help other young people and the public to understand how young people have been experiencing the pandemic. In the long term we hope that this research begins to change research agendas in

universities such as King's College London and local policy. We also hope that the poetry activity has been a fun and engaging educational opportunity for your child.

### **What happens to the results of this study?**

We will collect all the information together with data from some other activities we are doing to feed into an immediate policy response on how local authorities can support young people during the pandemic. We will also compare young people's hopes and fears to the futures already being created and imagined by healthcare researchers. We will then communicate these findings to shape decisions about what kind of research they should do and how local policy makers should respond.

### **Does anyone know your child is doing this?**

The people in our research team, and the team at Theatre Peckham, are the only people that know your child is taking part, unless they have decided to tell anybody else. Any time we write or talk about your child, we will ensure we do not use their name or things which could identify them such as their school or physical description. The only time someone might be able to identify your child is if you choose to use their name or photograph when showcasing their work on the website – but you do not have to consent to this. None of this stops you or your child telling other people that they have taken part in the study – you and your child are welcome to talk about this study with whoever you like.

In their entry form for the competition, we will have asked you and your child whether they would like their full name or pseudonym attached to their work when we showcase it online in the Covid-19 Time Capsule. It is completely up to you and them to decide if you want us to use their name and photo or if you have changed your mind since entering the competition.

### **How will we store and use the data we collect about your child?**

The data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 (GDPR). In the consent form we have given you, you will have the choice about whether you are happy for us to use photos or video footage in which your child is visible for publications and dissemination. We will store all personal data (telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, postal addresses, and consent forms) in a password-protected and encrypted online storage repository or in locked and secure physical repositories such as locked cabinets in a research office which requires a staff ID card to enter. Along with the typed-up notes and images from Minecraft which will not have any names attached (unless you ask us to), we will hold all the research data for 7 years after the study ends on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021. We will only contact you and your child about the results of this study and personal data will only be shared within the research team, and not with third parties.

## **Data Protection Statement**

The data controller for this project will be King's College London (KCL). The University will process you and your child's personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. The legal basis for processing your and your child's personal data for research purposes under GDPR is a 'task in the public interest'. You can provide your consent for the use of your and your child's personal data in this study by completing the consent form that has been provided to you.

You have the right to access information held about you or your child. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure, objection, and data portability. Questions, comments and requests about your or your child's personal data can also be sent to the King's College London Data Protection Officer Mr Albert Chan info-compliance@kcl.ac.uk. If you wish to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

## **What if you have further questions, or if you want to talk to someone about the study?**

If this study has harmed you or your child in any way or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the study you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

The Chair,  
BDM Research Ethics Sub-Committee,  
rec@kcl.ac.uk

## **What if you have questions or want to talk to someone about the study?**

You can talk to anyone you want to about this research. We are also very happy to answer your questions. You can contact us by email, phone, post, or text - our contact details are at the top of this sheet.

## **Support networks for adults locally and nationally:**

Lambeth Coronavirus support: <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/get-support-for-yourself-or-a-vulnerable-person>

Southwark coronavirus support: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/public-health/for-the-public/coronavirus>

Mind: <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

**Support networks for young people locally and nationally:**

Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk> or call 0800 1111 9am-midnight

Young Minds: <https://youngminds.org.uk> If you need urgent help text YM to 85258

Lambeth Coronavirus support: <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/youngpeople-coronavirus>

The Nest Southwark (wellbeing support) <https://www.thenestsouthwark.org.uk/young-people/>

For a full list of national support for coronavirus and mental health visit:

<https://hypekcl.com/covid-19-coronavirus-resources/>

**Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.**