

## UNIVERSITIES OF PLYMOUTH, BANGOR, BIRMINGHAM, KENT, LIVERPOOL, AND OXFORD

### Lexicon development in bilingual toddlers/Questionnaire study

#### INFORMATION SHEET

Name of Investigators: Drs Caroline Floccia, Allegra Cattani, Claire Delle Luche (University of Plymouth), Prof Debbie Mills (Bangor University), Dr Andrea Krott (University of Birmingham), Dr Kirsten Abbot-Smith (University of Kent), Prof Caroline Rowland (University of Liverpool) and Prof Kim Plunkett (University of Oxford)

#### **Aim of research**

This research aims to compare how monolingual and bilingual children develop language, where “bilingual” refers to children being exposed to English and another language (for example, hearing Mandarin from Mum and English from Dad; or where both parents speak Mandarin and the child goes to an English nursery). Specifically, we will look at how infants from these different backgrounds aged 24 months learn common words (such as bottle, car, etc.) and develop their two vocabularies. This will help us to inform health care professionals and provide guidance concerning how to assess bilingual children.

#### **Description of procedure**

We will send you three questionnaires to fill in. The first two are vocabulary inventories, the Oxford CDI – short form (100 words) and an Additional Language CDI for the other language your child is learning. You will have to read the words and tick the ones that your child knows (and/or says) in that language. The third questionnaire will ask a little about your family context. We will finally ask you to participate in a 5 minute phone interview where we will complete with you an input questionnaire; this will allow us to work out how much of each language your child hears. On completion we will post a small gift for your child to thank you for your participation.

The data we keep are anonymous using an ID identification number and are treated confidentially. Any paper copies will be destroyed in a secure manner and the originals will be kept in a locked file. Any electronic data will be saved on a password protected computer at Plymouth University for 10 years and then destroyed. Should any publications arise from this work, every effort will be made to ensure that participants could not be recognised (and generally only group averages are reported).

If you are willing to participate in a further additional study in the future, please indicate this on the consent form.

#### **Description of risks**

There is no risk involved.

#### **Benefits of proposed research**

There is no immediate benefit for you or your child. However, in the longer term the aim is to devise a vocabulary assessment tool for use with young bilinguals by health care professionals. This would provide health care professionals with a much needed screening instrument for a growing population whose language disorders often remain overlooked due to the absence of adapted assessment tools.



[UKbilingualtoddlers@psy.plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:UKbilingualtoddlers@psy.plymouth.ac.uk)

### **Right to withdraw**

At any point before, during and after this study, you can withdraw from this research, without providing any justification. To do so, just contact the principal investigator ([caroline.floccia@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.floccia@plymouth.ac.uk)), and any data will be destroyed.

If you are dissatisfied with the way the research is conducted, please contact the principal investigator in the first instance: telephone number **01752 584822**. If you feel the problem has not been resolved please contact the secretary to the Faculty of Health and Human Sciences Ethics Committee: Mrs Sarah C. Jones 01752 585339.

When the study is completed, a document explaining our findings will be sent to you. Before that, any questions can be asked to the principal investigator by calling 01752 584822 during office hours or by emailing [caroline.floccia@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.floccia@plymouth.ac.uk) or [allegra.cattani@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:allegra.cattani@plymouth.ac.uk)