



PARENT LETTER

Perspectives Program, Parents

Dear Parent,

My name is Jason Okonofua. I am a consultant at Mindset Science Solutions, LLC. I am doing a research study. We invite your child, with your permission, to participate in this study.

Before you and your child decide whether he/she will be part of this study, it's important for all of you to understand why we're doing the research and what's involved. Please read this form carefully. Your child will receive his/her own assent form. We encourage you to discuss the study with your child. If you or your child has questions about the research, feel free to ask us.

Purpose

We are doing this study to find out more about students' experiences at school when interacting with teachers and other students. This information may help to improve the school's climate and students' outcomes at the school. We are inviting your child to participate because he/she is in this age range and the school has agreed that we can conduct the research here. This study is not part of your child's schoolwork and it will not be graded.

Procedures

If your child decides to participate and you give permission, we will ask him/her to write about his/her thoughts and feelings about school, read some brief articles and complete some questions about them, and/or tell us how he/she can study more effectively. This will take about 15 – 40 minutes, once in Fall 2018 and again in Winter 2019. They will complete the survey from a computer at school.

Alternatives

If you do not give permission for your child to take part in the study, or if he/she does not wish to participate, your child's teacher will select another class activity for him/her to work on. It will take about the same amount of time as the research activity.

Benefits

There is no direct benefit to you or your child personally for taking part in this study. However, we hope that the results of the research will help us learn more about what students think and how they feel about school. This information will be used to help make school a better place for all students.

Risks/Discomforts

- Your child might get bored or tired and decide that he or she does not want to complete the study activities. If so, your child can just tell us that he or she wishes to stop.
- *Breach of Confidentiality*: A possible risk for any research is that confidentiality could be compromised, that is, people outside the study might get hold of confidential study information. We will do everything we can to minimize this risk.

Confidentiality

We will keep your child's study data as confidential as possible. If we publish or present results of this study, we will not use individual names or other personally identifiable information.

To help protect confidentiality, we will give each student's study data a randomly generated code number. All data will be kept on password-protected computers that only the researchers will have access to. Files will be encrypted before transmitted from one computer to another.

Compensation/Payment You/Your child will not be paid for being in this study.

Rights

Participation in research is completely voluntary. You have the right to decline to allow your child to participate or to withdraw your child at any point in this study without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Your child has the same rights to decline to participate or withdraw from the study at any time.

Questions

You and your child can ask questions about this study at any time, now or later. You can talk to me, a principal or teacher at the school, or someone else at any time during the study. You can contact me, Jason Okonofua, at mindsetsciencesolutions@gmail.com.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's rights and treatment as a research subject, you may contact Jason Okonofua, at mindsetsciencesolutions@gmail.com.