**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

**(Version 2; 03/09/15) (Control)**

Study title: ***Emotional Differences between Children with attention-hyperactivity problems and children with anxiety problems***

Researcher name: Athina Manoli

Study ID: 15220

**Please read this information carefully before deciding to take part in this research. If you are happy to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form.**

*You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it 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. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part and remember that your participation is voluntary*.

My name is Athina Manoli and I am a PhD student at the University of Southampton. I would like to invite you and your child to take part in my research study that is being done as part of my degree. Before you decide whether to take part, I would like to explain why the research is being done and what it would involve for you and your child. I will go through this information sheet with you and answer any questions you may have.

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

Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is one of the most common childhood disorders. Often children and adolescents who have a diagnosis of ADHD also report feelings of worry and anxiety. The aim of this study is to understand why and how some young people experience both ADHD and anxiety. We want to consider attention and emotion in children and adolescents who have a diagnosis of ADHD or anxiety compared with those who are diagnosed with one disorder. The study will measure how young people move their eyes when completing tasks that require them to attend to different parts of the screen to achieve the task goals. Understanding attention will help us to think through causes of disorders in children and adolescents, as well as to develop effective treatments.

**Why has your child been chosen to take part?**

Your child has been invited to take part since we are recruiting children aged between 8-15 years throughout schools in the Hampshire area that fall outside of the study’s exclusion criteria (i.e. no history of mental health disorders). We require both your and your child’s agreement to take part to the study. We do require assent from your child to participate (i.e. he/she should be willing to take part) and we also require from you to agree if he/she should take part. If you do, you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. Even after agreeing to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason.

**What does this research study involve?**

Initially, we will ask you some general/demographic questions about you and your child to see if it is possible for you to take part. We will then phone you to discuss any questions or concerns that you might have. We will then arrange a convenient time for your and your child to visit the Psychology Academic Unit at the University of Southampton.

***A typical visit to the University***

When you arrive at the University, we will explain the study to you. You and your child will be asked to sign forms to say that you are still happy to take part. You will be told that the tasks you are asked to do take around three hours.

Your child will then be asked to complete two computer tasks and we will measure their eye movements as they complete the tasks. Before we start, we make sure your child is in a comfortable position and understands what the equipment measures and what they will be asked to do. The tasks involve identifying targets on a computer screen and ignoring distractors (e.g., arrows or emotional faces) or using these different stimuli to decide where they will look or how they will respond. Each task takes about 30 minutes to complete. Your child will be given the opportunity to take breaks while they are doing each task, as well as between tasks. After completing the computer tasks your child will be asked to complete a number of questionnaires. These ask your child to report how they feel and behave and they will take around 45 minutes to complete. While your child is doing the computer and questionnaire tasks, we will ask you to complete two questionnaires. These will include questions about your child’s behaviour, emotions, academic and social performance. They will take about 25 minutes to complete. After finishing the computer tasks and completing the questionnaires we will ask from your child to complete two short thinking tasks.

Once you and your child have both finished, we will explain more about what you were asked to do and why, and you will be provided with a written debriefing statement. In order to thank you for taking part your child will receive £15 for his or her help and you will receive £10 for participation and time and your travel expenses will be reimbursed as well. The whole testing session should take no longer than 3 hours.

**What are the possible disadvantages and risks for taking part?**

The tasks and measures we will ask you to do will take time and effort. During the session your child may experience some discomfort and boredom due to the length of the computer tasks and because he/she will be asked to keep still so we can record eye movements clearly. We always aim to support children through the tasks to make the experience as enjoyable as possible and to allow them to take frequent breaks.

**What are the possible benefits for taking part?**

By taking part in the study both you and your child will help us understand better the factors that might place children at risk for developing a disorder. The information we collect will be important in understanding causes of different disorders and how we can start to treat them. We are always very grateful for the time and enthusiasm families give when they take part in our studies.

**Will information collected during the study be kept confidential?**

All data is anonymized and confidential. Your child’s identity will be protected by changing his/her name into a subject code during analysis. Any information and research study documentation taken for this research will remain confidential and will be available only to the principal investigator and members of the research team directly involved in the study. However, this confidentiality would not be maintained if there is significant cause for concern about the child (for example, in case your child report very high levels of anxiety on the questionnaire measures); in this circumstance, you will be informed (as a parent/guardian) and if you require further support or advice we will direct you to a person that you can get further advice and/or support.

**What happens if I no longer want my child to participate?**

Even if you and your child decide to take part you both are still free to withdraw from the study at any time without having to give a reason.

**What will happen to the results of the research study?**

When the study has been completed, data will be analyzed and the findings will be written up for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals and may be presented at scientific conferences. You and your child would not be identified in any way. If you would like to know the results we can provide you with a summary report, or a copy of the final paper.

**Who has reviewed the study?**

The University of Southampton Research Ethics Committee and the South Central Berkshire Research Ethics committee have both reviewed and approved the study.

**Who can I contact for further information?**

If you have a concern or complaint regarding any aspect of this study you can contact the Research Governance at the University, Phone number: 02380 595058, Email address: [rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk](mailto:rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk)

For further queries, please contact me or my supervisor via email:

Athina Manoli (email: [am32g13@soton.ac.uk](mailto:am32g13@soton.ac.uk)) or Dr Julie Hadwin (email: jah7@soton.ac.uk