**INFORMATION SHEET**

(Version Number 4, 30/09/19)

**Study Title:** Fearing the Unknown: An investigation into Intolerance of Uncertainty amongst children with Night Time Fears.

**Researcher names**: David Keep, Professor Matt Garner, Dr Julie Hadwin, Dr Denis Golm

**Ethics number**: 47287

*You are being invited to take part in the above research study. To help you decide whether you would like to take part or not, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the information below carefully and ask questions if anything is not clear or you would like more information before you decide to take part in this research. You may like to discuss it with others, but it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you are happy to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form.*

**What is the research about?**

My name is David Keep. I am a PhD student at the University of Southampton. My research focuses on understanding fears and worries and particularly night time fears in childhood, and the impact on sleep and daytime routines.

Some children have night time fears. Night time fears can be linked to other worries in childhood like fear of the dark, bad dreams, noises in the house, monsters, or being left alone at night. Children who say that they have night time fears can also have problems going to bed and falling or staying asleep. Some children who say they have night time fears might also feel worried about lots of different things, like not doing well in school, not being able to concentrate, or fear of animals, or difficulties in situations that are new or different. We want to understand night time fears and things that might be linked to them in childhood.

We are also interested in Night time fears and general fears such as animal and environmental fears in adults and we are looking to recruit an adult sample as a comparison for children with night time fears.

**Why is the study important?**

Understanding why some people experience night time fears and other fears to help researchers to think about how best to help so that these do not affect both children when they are older, and adult during everyday life.

**Why have I been chosen to take part?**

You have been chosen to take part because you are a student/post graduate student at the University of Southampton and have shown interest in the study.

**What will happen to me if I take part?**

If you agree to take part, you will be invited to the University for a single test session lasting 1 hour. You will be asked to complete a questionnaire and you will also perform an audio task responding to happy and scary sounds. You will then be asked to rate the sounds you have heard.

**Are there any benefits in me taking part?**

You will benefit from knowing you are involved in a study which looks to help children to worry less, not be scared at night and to get more sleep. Also, by taking part in this research, students who require university research credits will be awarded 12 credits for your e-folio research credit account. If you do not, you will be awarded £5 for participating.

**Are there any risks involved?**

Sometimes talking or thinking about things that might worry you can be difficult. Also, you may become upset or distressed due to the sounds that you will hear. If so and you get upset by thinking about your own worries and fears, then we encourage you to talk to your GP or another adult who could help.

**What data will be collected?**

You will be asked to complete a consent form before you begin. You will also be asked to provide demographic information regarding your age, date of birth, ethnicity, job status and marital status. These are required for analysis of data. You will then complete a series of questionnaires where you will ask questions about how you feel in certain situations, your thoughts and experiences. The task you complete will record your data which will also be used for analysis.

Personal data be secured, paper copies of questionnaires will be stored in a locked cabinet where the lead researcher, David Keep, has the only access. Online data will be secured in a security locked documents folder. All personal data gathered will not be shared outside the research team (David Keep, Professor Matt Garner, Dr Julie Hadwin, Dr Denis Golm).

**Will my participation be confidential?**

Your participation and the information we collect about you during the research will be kept strictly confidential.

Only members of the research team and responsible members of the University of Southampton may be given access to data about you for monitoring purposes and/or to carry out an audit of the study to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations. Individuals from regulatory authorities (people who check that we are carrying out the study correctly) may require access to your data. All of these people have a duty to keep your information, as a research participant, strictly confidential. Only those you have told will know about you taking part in this study. No information to where or when will be shared outside the primary research group

You are assigned identification numbers, so that information stored within electronic data files will be anonymous.

**Do I have to take part?**

No, it is entirely up to you if you want to be involved in the study. If you decide to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form.

**What happens if I change my mind about taking part?**

You have the right to change your mind and withdraw at any time during the experiment without giving a reason and without your participant rights being affected. To withdraw your data and any contact details you provide, please contact the main researcher, David Keep ([nightimestudy1@soton.ac.uk](mailto:nightimestudy1@soton.ac.uk)) if you no longer want to take part. If you wish to do so, you have 6 weeks to withdraw your data.

**What happens if something goes wrong?**

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact the University of Southampton, Head of Research Integrity and Governance (Phone: 023 8059 5058, Email: rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk).In the unlikely event that you feel that you have been placed at risk, you can contact the Chair of the Ethics Committee at the University of Southampton: Phone: +44 (0)23 8059 5058 Call: +44 (0)23 8059 5058, email: risethic@soton.ac.uk. **Where can we get more information?**

If you have any questions about the study after reading this information sheet, please contact Mr David Keep at the University of Southampton. Email: nightimestudy1@soton.ac.uk.

**What should I do if I want to take part?**

If you would like to take part, then complete the consent form.

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

The results of the research will be analysed and presented both by publishing and presentation. The data will be collected and kept in the Universities archive for 10 years as per University of Southampton policy. Resulting published data will also be made available through the institution repository.

**Data Protection Privacy Notice**

The University of Southampton conducts research to the highest standards of research integrity. As a publicly-funded organisation, the University has to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information about people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, we will use information about you in the ways needed, and for the purposes specified, to conduct and complete the research project. Under data protection law, ‘Personal data’ means any information that relates to and is capable of identifying a living individual. The University’s data protection policy governing the use of personal data by the University can be found on its website (https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page).

This Participant Information Sheet tells you what data will be collected for this project and whether this includes any personal data. Please ask the research team if you have any questions or are unclear what data is being collected about you.

Our privacy notice for research participants provides more information on how the University of Southampton collects and uses your personal data when you take part in one of our research projects and can be found at: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/assets/sharepoint/intranet/ls/Public/Research%20and%20Integrity%20Privacy%20Notice/Privacy%20Notice%20for%20Research%20Participants.pdf

Any personal data we collect in this study will be used only for the purposes of carrying out our research and will be handled according to the University’s policies in line with data protection law. If any personal data is used from which you can be identified directly, it will not be disclosed to anyone else without your consent unless the University of Southampton is required by law to disclose it.

Data protection law requires us to have a valid legal reason (‘lawful basis’) to process and use your Personal data. The lawful basis for processing personal information in this research study is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. Personal data collected for research will not be used for any other purpose.

For the purposes of data protection law, the University of Southampton is the ‘Data Controller’ for this study, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. The University of Southampton will keep identifiable information about you for 10 years after the study has finished after which time any link between you and your information will be removed.

To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personal data necessary to achieve our research study objectives. Your data protection rights – such as to access, change, or transfer such information - may be limited, however, in order for the research output to be reliable and accurate. The University will not do anything with your personal data that you would not reasonably expect.

If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, or wish to exercise any of your rights, please consult the University’s data protection webpage (https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page) where you can make a request using our online form. If you need further assistance, please contact the University’s Data Protection Officer ([data.protection@soton.ac.uk](mailto:data.protection@soton.ac.uk)).

**Thank you for taking the time to think about whether you would like to be involved in this research.**

**Yours faithfully**

**Mr David Keep**