



Date

Dear Parents,

I am writing to ask your permission to allow your child to take part in the project Family-School Partnership to Promote Deaf Children's Education, which is funded National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). Your child's school has kindly agreed to cooperate with the project and now we are asking your permission for your child to take part.

Our aim is to assess a teaching programme that was developed for strengthening deaf children's mathematical reasoning. A shortened version of the programme was assessed in a previous project and was found effective. The current programme is an extension that contains new activities and mathematical games to reinforce the children's learning and cover new outcomes. The children will first participate in an assessment of their mathematical and cognitive skills. The teachers will then implement this programme in the classroom and will send home the games that were designed to give the children extra practice. We hope that your child will play these games with a sibling, a friend or an adult. At the end of the school year, the children will participate in a second session of assessments so we can know how much progress they have made. The assessments will be carried out by an experienced researcher in individual sessions at your child's school; the sessions will last approximately 40 minutes and might be divided in two sessions so that the children do not become very tired.

All the information collected will be confidential. The way the information is stored in our computers makes it impossible for individual children to be identified. You and your child's teacher will be able to have access to the information on your child's progress in mathematics, which can be used to develop your child's personalised educational programme. No information about individual children will be made available to anyone else. This is in agreement with the Data Protection Act.

The research will be carried out by staff from the Department of Education of the University of Oxford. Due to the NDCS sponsorship, all the materials will be free. If you have any questions you would like to ask before replying, please do not hesitate to contact one of the researchers by telephone on (01865) 284 893/2 or by emailing Professor Terezinha Nunes (terezinha.nunes@education.ox.ac.uk).

In order for your child to participate in the project, please complete and return the attached form to your child's class teacher. If at any point you decide to withdraw your child from the project, you can do so without having to provide any explanation.

Thank you for your help.

Oxford 25th June 2009
Prof Terezinha Nunes
Department of Education
University of Oxford
15 Norham Gardens Oxford OX2 6PY



To be returned to your child's teacher

Title of Project:

Family-School Partnership to Promote Deaf Children's Education.

Child's name:

Class teacher:

I agree to my child's participation in this study.

Parent signature: