



Relationships and Sex Education Study – Consent Form

We are researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. We are working with your school to evaluate relationships and sex education in secondary schools in England.

As part of this, we are inviting all year-11 students at your school, including you, to fill in a questionnaire. We cannot promise that the questionnaire will directly benefit you. But the information will be used to improve relationships and sex education for young people. We would like you to take part but this is up to you. If you decide to take part, you will complete the questionnaire privately in a classroom or hall at school. The questionnaire should take about 45 minutes to complete. A researcher will be available to explain and answer any questions about the questionnaire.

The questionnaire includes questions about your: family and background; relationships and sexual experiences; experiences of violence in dating relationships; health and wellbeing; knowledge and skills needed for sexual health; attitudes to gender and relationships; and your friends' attitudes to relationships and sex. Some students may find some questions upsetting. The school knows about the questionnaire and support will be available for any students who are upset by any questions.

What you tell us in the questionnaire will be treated as confidential and anonymous. Only approved researchers and authorities who check that the study is being carried out properly will be allowed to look at the information you provide. We are based in the UK and all information will be stored in line with the UK's strict data protection laws including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The answers you give will be stored securely in our offices and uploaded on to a computer database that only the researchers can access. Your name will not appear on the database. This will instead have an identity code. We will keep a separate list of student names and identity codes. This list will be securely stored on a different computer to the database of student answers. No single researcher can access both of these.

When we analyse the answers to the questionnaire and write scientific reports based on the data, we will look at the results from lots of participants together not individual answers. No-one will be able to identify you. We are required to keep all data for 20 years and then it will be destroyed. We may share data with other researchers based in the UK but this will not include names or other information which could identify you. Our methods have been approved by a research ethics committee.

However, if you report that you have had sex before the age of 13 years, have experienced forced sex, would like to be contacted by your school safeguarding lead, or if you write on the questionnaire that you have experienced any form of abuse, we will need to take action. If this happens, we would request special access to the list of student names linked to identity codes. We would then pass your name to your school's safeguarding lead so that they can help you.



You will only fill in the questionnaire if you agree to. A researcher will go through this form and explain what is involved. You will be able to ask questions before you decide whether or not to take part. If you choose to take part, you may stop taking part at any time so that we destroy your questionnaire. We would keep any data collected from you previously. You can also choose not to answer particular questions. There will be no negative consequences for not taking part.

If you are happy to complete the questionnaire, please fill in the box below. If you are NOT happy to complete the questionnaire, please speak to one of the researchers present today. This consent form will be kept separately from the questionnaire and will not be linked to your answers to the questionnaire.

Full Name

I have read the information above and had this explained by a researcher.

I have been given the opportunity to ask questions and have them answered.

I understand that I can choose to take part in this study or not.

I understand that data may be shared with other researchers in the UK but with names and other information that might identify participants removed.

I understand that I can stop taking part at any time.

I agree to take part in this study.

Signed Date