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**Love to Read Phase 2: A large-scale evaluation**  
**Research Information Sheet for Parents/Guardians of Children**

Thank you for taking an interest in this project. My name is Miriam McBreen and I am a researcher at University College London's Institute of Education.

This project aims to evaluate Love to Read, a programme created for primary school children aged 8-11 to increase their reading motivation and reading engagement. This information sheet will provide information about the project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Below, you will find a child friendly information sheet. This information will also be shared to your child's class by the researcher distributing the questionnaires. You and your child are under no obligation to take part in this study.

Project data protection number: Z6364106/2026/04/146

Project ethics approval number: REC2409

**Who is carrying out the research?**

Principal Researcher: Dr Miriam McBreen, Lecturer, UCL Institute of Education

Contact Information: [miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk)

Co-Investigator: Prof Sarah McGeown, University of Edinburgh

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Co-Investigator: Dr Jamie Lingwood, Lecturer, Liverpool Hope University

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**Why are we doing this research and what is it about?**

Reading motivation and engagement are key to fostering a love of reading for children and are linked to increased wellbeing and reading achievement. However, there is currently a lack of research-informed guidance on how best to support reading motivation and engagement. This project therefore aims to evaluate Love to Read, a programme designed to foster children's reading motivation and engagement. We hope this evaluation will help to inform future educational policy and teaching practice.

You are being sent this letter as your child's school and classroom teacher have agreed to take part in the project. Participating classrooms will be randomly allocated to either receive the Love to Read programme or to receive regular classroom teaching. To examine



the impact of the programme, all children will be asked to complete short questionnaires about their reading motivation and engagement.

### **What will happen if I choose to take part?**

If you choose to take part in this study, your child will be asked to complete three short questionnaires and to fill out a reading diary, at three times throughout the school year. The questionnaires will ask about their attitudes to reading (e.g., if they like talking to peers about books, how they feel about reading) and their reading engagement (e.g., how often they read for pleasure in their own time). The reading diary will ask them to share how often and for how long they read for pleasure over one week. The questionnaires and diary will be completed in school, during regular teaching time, and will take about 40 minutes in total to complete.

No risks are anticipated for children taking part in data collection and programme activities. All researchers involved in the project will have valid DBS checks and will adhere to the school's safeguarding policy.

Participating children are likely to include children with reading difficulties or with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND). To mitigate the impact of reading difficulties on completing the questionnaires, or potential stigma due to difficulties in reading the questionnaire, all questions will be read out loud by the researcher administering the questionnaire. As a result, we do not expect any discomfort or stigma to arise for these children.

If you choose to take part, we will also ask your child's teacher for information about your child that will help us to evaluate if there are any children for whom the intervention is most effective, including their age, sex, eligibility for Free School Meals, and whether they have reading difficulties or English as an Additional Language. We will also ask for information that will allow us to link children participating in this project with the National Pupil Database, to allow us to examine whether improvements in reading motivation and engagement have a positive impact on future reading achievement. This will include your child's full name, data of birth, sex, address, postcode and Unique Pupil Number.

All personal information collected will be stored confidentially. It will not be possible to identify your child or any other child taking part in this project.

### **Will anyone know my child has been involved?**

Questionnaires will be distributed to the children within regular classroom teaching and will be collected by the researcher distributing the questionnaires. All data collected will be

pseudonymised and stored securely. No individual names or other identifiable information will be included in published articles or reports about this project. It will not be possible to identify your child or any other child taking part in this project.

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

The results of this study will be used to inform recommendations for educational policy and teaching practice on how to support children's motivation to read and engagement in reading.

Overall results from this study may be included in future academic or practitioner publications. No personal or identifiable data will be included in future publications.

During the project, all data will be stored securely in encrypted files and will only be accessed by the research team. Following completion of this project, anonymised data from this project will be deposited on the UK Data Service and Open Science Framework. No personal or identifying information will be uploaded and it will not be possible to identify your child or any other child from this data.

### **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

There are no foreseeable discomforts, disadvantages and risks of taking part in this project.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Participating schools will receive a book voucher of £2000 upon completion of the project, towards purchasing books for their schools. Further, this work will inform policy and practice to support children's reading motivation and engagement, and we expect that taking part in the programme will benefit children through supporting their motivation, engagement and enjoyment of reading.

### **Do I have to take part?**

You are under no obligation for your child to take part in this project. Should you choose to take part, your child will also be given the opportunity to decline to participate prior to completing the questionnaires and reading diary. Declining to participate will have no impact on your or your child's relationship with your child's school.

### **What should I do if I do not want my child to take part in the project?**

If you are happy for your child to take part in the project, no further action is required.

If you do not wish for your child to complete the questionnaires, please notify your school by responding to this email or by emailing me directly at [miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk) before September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.



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**What if I change my mind?**

If you choose to take part but change your mind, you can withdraw from the project at any point. You can also choose to withdraw your child's data up until January 2027.

**Data Protection Privacy Notice**

The controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Officer provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data, and can be contacted at [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk)

This 'local' privacy notice sets out the information that applies to this particular study. Further information on how UCL uses participant information from research studies can be found in our 'general' privacy notice for participants in research studies [here](#).

The information that is required to be provided to participants under data protection legislation (GDPR and DPA 2018) is provided across both the 'local' and 'general' privacy notices. The lawful basis that will be used to process any personal data is: 'Public task' for personal data and 'Research purposes' for special category data.

Your child's personal data will be processed so long as it is required for the research project. If we are able to anonymise or pseudonymise the personal data you provide we will undertake this and will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible. No identifiable data will be collected as part of this project.

If you are concerned about how your or your child's personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL in the first instance at [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk).

**Contact for further information**

For further information please contact Miriam McBreen

Email: [miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:miriam.mcbreen@ucl.ac.uk)