

## **Participant Information Sheet:**

### **Modified texts and mainstreamed deaf learners**



#### *Who will do the research and where?*

Rachel O'Neill is doing this research as part of her PhD at the University of Edinburgh. The aim of the research is to find out the ways in which texts are modified for deaf learners, and what views deaf mainstreamed deaf learners and their teachers have about modified texts.

#### *Why have I been asked to take part?*

The researcher is trying to find a representative sample from across the UK of teachers of deaf children, tutors of deaf students and Communication Support Workers who are regularly modifying texts for deaf learners in mainstreamed contexts. A mainstreamed context could mean the deaf learner is the only one in their school or college, or that there is a resource base or unit for deaf learners.

#### *What would I have to do and how long would it take?*

In this first phase of the research (January – April 2010) I would like to collect examples of texts you have modified. I need the unmodified text and the modified one, preferably in electronic format. However, paper modification will also be fine. I would also need you to fill in a form about the learner this text was modified for, and about your own background in modifying texts.

#### *What happens to the information collected?*

Rachel O'Neill will keep this information on a password protected computer. She will analyse the data to help answer the research questions. Ideas from the first phase of the research will help with focus group and questionnaire design in the second phase.

#### *How will confidentiality be kept?*

The only people who will see the data are Rachel O'Neill, and her two supervisors: Professor Sheila Riddell and Professor Gary Morgan. The forms and texts will be stored separately from the email addresses of the people who participate.

When the study is finished and the results have been published, the data will be destroyed. The latest it could be is January 2019. Names of participants or places will never be used in any published work which arises as a result of the PhD research.

*What happens if I don't want to take part or change my mind?*

You are under no pressure to take part in the study. If you decide after sending some texts in that you no longer want to take part, you can contact Rachel and ask for your texts to be withdrawn from the study. You are under no obligation to take part in the second phase of the research, which will be focus groups of teachers and Communication Support Workers discussing modification.

*Will the outcomes of the research be published?*

The outcomes of the PhD will be published in the BATOD Association Magazine and in NATED Newsbrief. There may be other articles in journals, e.g. Deafness and Education International. Rachel will offer to give talks to groups which are interested in the results of the research.

*Contact information*

Please contact Rachel at any time if you would like to discuss any aspect of the research. Rachel can be contacted by phone, by email, or in BSL via Skype.

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*What if something goes wrong?*

If you have a complaint about the research, or are unhappy about any aspect of it, please contact Rachel in the first instance. If this doesn't resolve the issue, please contact Professor Sheila Riddell, who is one of the research supervisors:

[Sheila.riddell@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Sheila.riddell@ed.ac.uk)

**Agreement to take part in the first phase of the study:**

**Modified texts and mainstreamed deaf learners**



1. I confirm that I have read the information about the research on language modification and deaf learners. I have had the chance to think about the information and ask questions. If I have asked questions, they have been answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that it is my decision to take part in the study and I can withdraw at any time without explaining why.
3. I understand that my responses will be kept securely and anonymously at the University of Edinburgh for ten years.
4. I agree that the results of the study can be presented and published, and the things I have said can be quoted in the results without my name on, or any identifying feature of my school or college.
5. I agree to take part in this phase of the research project.
6. Please write your full name \_\_\_\_\_
7. Please write the full postal address of the school / college where you are based.

Postcode

8. What is your email address?

You do not have to give this. Your email address will be stored separately from your replies.

9. How do you prefer to be contacted? Email / mail / phone  
If phone, please give your area code and number.

Please return this page by 30.4.10 to Rachel O'Neill, Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, EH8 8AQ. Or email it as an attachment to: [Rachel.oneill@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Rachel.oneill@ed.ac.uk)