Information for parents - intervention schools

Background to the study

Your child's class is taking part in a programme called the Kids, Adults Together programme (KAT). The programme aims to encourage young people to develop a responsible attitude to drinking alcohol by making families more aware of ways in which people use and talk about alcohol.

The KAT programme is run in partnership with Gwent Police. Cardiff Institute of Society and Health is undertaking an evaluation of the KAT programme. The evaluation will assist in planning the expansion of the programme into other areas of Wales and improve understanding of how young people learn about and use alcohol.

The evaluation will employ a randomised controlled trial design and will be conducted across 8 schools. This means that schools will be randomly allocated to either *'intervention'* or *'control'* status. Schools allocated to the intervention status will run the KAT programme. Schools allocated to the control group will not receive the KAT programme and will just carry on as normal. **Your school was chosen to be in the intervention group.**

How the evaluation will be carried out

- A telephone interview with parents
- Two questionnaires for pupils (completed during school time)
- Researchers' attendance at classroom preparation and fun evenings in schools;
- Focus groups with children to explore their views about KAT
- Interviews with parents to explore their views about KAT
- Interviews with staff involved in organising and delivering the programme;
- Interviews with head teachers and teachers

What you are being asked to do

You are asked to read through the enclosed information leaflet with your child to see if you are both willing to take part in the research, and whether you are happy for us to attend the classroom preparation and the fun evening for KAT.

For parents, taking part in the research will mainly involve a telephone interview (in about six months time). The interviews are about family life, and there are also some questions about alcohol. We may also invite you to take part in a face-to-face interview to ask you what you thought of the KAT programme.

For your child, taking part in the research will involve completing two questionnaires, which include questions about family life, and also about young people's attitudes and behaviour in relation to alcohol. We may also invite your son/daughter to take part in a focus group discussion about what they thought of the KAT programme.

As a way of saying thank you, all families which participate in the research will receive a £15 gift voucher.

If you are interested in taking part in the research <u>as a parent</u> or would like to find out more, please could you complete the attached form, and return it in the FREEPOST envelope provided. Alternatively you can email us (<u>segrottj@cardiff.ac.uk</u>) or call us (029 2087 5360).

If you do not wish your child to take part in the research please contact the school by the date included in the letter sent to you, informing them of this. If you are happy for your child to take part in the research you do not need to do anything.

Ethical approval

The evaluation has been approved by Cardiff School of Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee.

Confidentiality

Your answers to the questionnaire will not be seen by anyone outside the evaluation team and will be anonymous. Some answers may be quoted in presentations and written reports but

any details which could lead to the identification of individuals or schools would not be included. Returned questionnaires will be kept in a locked cabinet and only the evaluation team will have access. Data from questionnaires will also be stored electronically in a folder to which only the evaluation team will have access through password-protected personal computers. Questionnaires will be kept for five years after the end of the project, and will then be destroyed (in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998).

Every effort will be made to ensure that the identity of individuals and schools taking part is not revealed. However, the researchers are obliged to disclose information about circumstances which may result in harm to someone.

Results

Data from this study will be used to write a report in academic papers. Findings will be presented at an event for participants, practitioners and policy makers and to children at the schools taking part (provided this is authorised by their Head teachers). Presentations will also be made at international conferences and to other interested groups.

Further information

If you have any questions or would like to offer comments or suggestions, please get in touch: Jeremy Segrott, Cardiff Institute of Society and Health, Cardiff University, 1-3 Museum Place, Cardiff CF10 3BD. Telephone: 02920 875360. Email: SegrottJ@Cardiff.ac.uk

Evaluation of the Kids, Adults Together

Contact details form

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Research project on the Kids, Adults Together (KAT) Programme

Dear Parent/Carer,

Earlier this week we sent you a letter about a research project which your child's school is taking part in.

This is just a quick reminder that we would like to invite you and your child to take part in the research, which mainly involves completing questionnaires.

If you did not receive the information, or you would like another copy, please contact me by phone, email or letter, and I will be very happy to send it to you. Alternatively, this information is available at the following website - <u>http://bit.ly/wvBjGi</u>. The pages have a password which is Newport.

If you are interested in taking part in the research <u>as a parent</u> or would like to find out more, please could you complete the attached form, and return it in the FREEPOST envelope provided. Alternatively you can email me (<u>segrottj@cardiff.ac.uk</u>) or call us (029 2087 5360).

If you do not wish your child to take part in the research please contact the school by [INSERT DATE] informing them of this. If you are happy for your child to take part in the research you do not need to contact the school.

With many thanks

Yours Faithfully

Dr Jeremy Segrott Principal Investigator



Evaluation of the Kids, Adults Together programme (KAT)

I am / We are interested in taking part in the KAT evaluation study

Name: _____

Name: _____

Home address:

Landline:

Mobile number: _____

Email:	

Your child(ren):

Child(ren)'s school:	
Name:	Class:
Name:	Class: