



Teen Online Problem Solving



Adapting a Problem-Solving Programme for Autistic Children and Young People or those with Learning Difficulties or those with Epilepsy

We are inviting you to participate in our research study to adapt and test a problem-solving programme for children and young people who are autistic, have learning difficulties, or have epilepsy. Before you provide your consent to take part in the study, we want to ensure that you have all the necessary information.

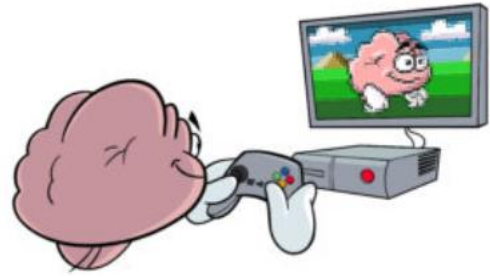


What is This Study About?

Children and young people who are autistic, have a learning difficulty, or have epilepsy may struggle with skills like problem-solving, planning, and organising (known as executive function skills). This study aims to adapt a web-based program called Teen Online Problem Solving (TOPS). TOPS provides strategies to help manage executive function challenges that impact everyday life. Originally designed for young people with brain injuries, we want to modify TOPS to benefit children and young people who are autistic, have learning difficulties, or have epilepsy. Your professional opinion and insights on TOPS are crucial as we create a version tailored to the specific needs of these children and young people.

What Will I Do If I Join?

If you decide to participate, you'll join an online call with our researchers and up to 7 other health professionals with relevant experience. The focus group session will last about an hour and will be recorded. You can turn off your camera during the call, and only the research team will have access to the recording. During the session, we'll ask for your input on improving the program for children and young people who are autistic, have learning difficulties, or have epilepsy. You can share your ideas on programme design and the topics it should cover.



It's Your Choice and You Can Withdraw at Anytime

Participating in this study is entirely voluntary. You are not obligated to take part, and you can stop at any time without giving a reason. Your decision won't impact any gift vouchers you might receive.

You Can Change Your Mind About Your Data

After participating, you will have a two-week window to request the deletion of any shared information. After that, we'll remove any details that could potentially identify you so it will not be possible to delete your data.

Are There Any Risks?

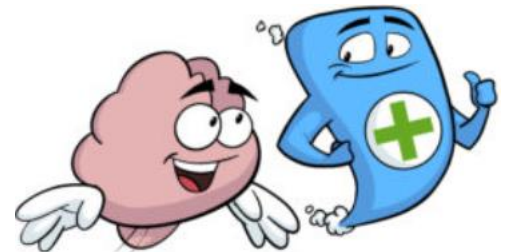
Participating in this study doesn't come with significant risks. During the session, we'll talk about both the positive and negative aspects of the TOPS programme. If anything makes you uncomfortable or upset, you can leave the call, take a break, or stop participating. Your safety and well-being are our main concerns.

Are There Any Benefits?

Your participation will help develop a TOPS programme that can benefit other children and young people. Plus, you'll receive a £25 voucher as a thank-you for your time.

What Happens to My Information?

While the call will be recorded for transcription, only the research team will have access to it. Once transcribed and de-identified, the recording will be deleted. The anonymised transcript will be securely stored on the University of Exeter server with password protection and may be used for additional research purposes by our team for up to 10 years.



If you agree to have your contact details added on to the Research Volunteer Register, then we will contact you before 5 years elapses to ask if you wish to remain on the Register

How Do We Safeguard Your Information? All information, recordings, and transcripts will be securely stored on the University of Exeter server with restricted access limited to our research team. When compiling reports, we'll ensure no identifying information is included. The University aims to be transparent about processing your personal data. If you have any queries that the research team can't resolve, you can contact the University's Data Protection Officer at dataprotection@exeter.ac.uk or visit www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection.



Got Questions? If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact:

A/Prof Anna Adlam at a.r.adlam@exeter.ac.uk

Flora Hemming at m.f.h.hemming@exeter.ac.uk

If you have any concerns about ethics, you can talk to the Psychology Ethics Committee Co-Chairs, Ian McLaren (I.P.L.McLaren@exeter.ac.uk) and Ciro Civile (c.civile@exeter.ac.uk). You can also reach out to Antony Walsh (A.Walsh3@exeter.ac.uk) if you want to talk to someone else about any worries or complaints.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to participate in our study. Your support is greatly appreciated.