



Teen Online Problem Solving



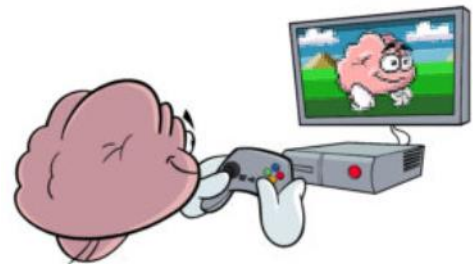
We are inviting you to participate in our research study. The purpose of the study is to adapt and test a problem-solving programme for children and young people who are autistic, have learning difficulties, or epilepsy.

Below are some commonly asked questions to consider, before providing your consent to participate in the study.



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). TOPS provides strategies to help manage executive function challenges that impact everyday life. Originally designed for young people with brain injuries, through this study we want to modify TOPS to benefit children and young people who are autistic, have learning difficulties, or have epilepsy. Your views on TOPS are crucial to supporting us in creating a version tailored to their specific needs.



What Will I Do If I Join?

If you decide to participate, we will arrange to meet with you (via video/audio call) to tell you more about what will be involved. You'll then join an online call with our researchers and up to 7 other parents or guardians who have similar experiences. The 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 epilepsy. This can be verbal or using the chat function.

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

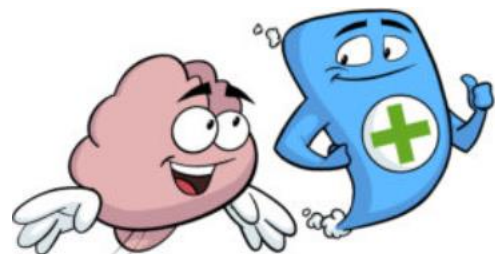
After participating, you will have a two-week window to request the deletion of any shared information. After that, we'll remove any details that could potentially identify you so it will not be possible to delete your data.

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 gift 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 anonymised, 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.