

Participant Information Sheet

CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON (Aged 12-17 years)

**Improving Peer Relationships in Adolescents Following Acquired Brain Injury:
Designing an Intervention Programme Through Intervention Mapping.**

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We would like to ask you to take part in our research study. It is really important that we give you all the information you need before you say 'yes' or 'no'. Please could you read the information on this page carefully about what you will be asked to do. If it is easier, you can ask someone else to read it with you, like your parents. You can always ask us for more information at any time. The contact details can be seen below.

What is the study about?

Sometimes, teenagers who have had a brain injury can find it hard 'connect' with their friends. This may be for a number of reasons, ranging from difficulties with memories to feeling that friends do not understand you. We would like to hear more about your experiences with friends and think about how we could help. We also want to hear about what's important to you.

Why am I being asked to take part?

We would like you to be in the study because you are the experts. We are asking both girls and boys between the ages of 12 and 17 years who have had a brain injury, or know a friend who has had a brain injury to take part.

Do I have to?

No, you do not have to take part if you do not want to. It's up to you and your parents. You can say yes or no.

What will happen in the study if I say yes?

If you say yes, we will give you and your parents more information on the study. If you are happy to continue, we will invite you to come to the University of Exeter one day and meet other teenagers with brain injuries. We will ask you to have a group discussion in response to some questions that we will ask the group, there are no right or wrong answers. The group will last for around one hour and refreshments will be provided.

In the group, we will ask you to tell us about the difficulties some teenagers with brain injuries may face with friendships, and the other difficulties with this. We also want to ask you for your advice about what would help.

What's good about taking part?

You are the 'experts' in social experiences following brain injury. You will be helping us to understand what it is like for teenagers and what problems they might have. You can talk to us about what is meaningful and important to teenagers. We can think together about how we might be able to help teenagers who have difficulties with their friends. You will be able to meet other people your age and share experiences. You will also get a £10 Amazon voucher as a thank you for coming along.

What's bad about taking part?

One possible bad thing about taking part is that some of the discussions may be upsetting. If at any time you feel that you might be upset, you can stop. If you want to, there will be people there who you can talk to and further information about support will be provided. If you want to leave the group at any point, you are more than welcome to.

Will information be kept secret?

Due to recent regulatory changes in the way that data are processed (General Data Protection Regulations 2018 and the Data Protection Act, 2018), the University of Exeter's lawful basis to process personal data for the purposes of carrying out research is termed as a 'task in the public interest'. The University will endeavour to be transparent about its processing of your personal data and this information sheet should provide a clear explanation of this. If you do have any queries about the University's processing of your personal data that cannot be resolved by the research team, further information may be obtained from the University's Data Protection Officer by emailing dataprotection@exeter.ac.uk or at www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection. If you have any concerns about how the data are controlled and managed for this study then you can also contact the Sponsor Representation, Pam Baxter, Senior Research Governance Officer (e: p.r.baxter2@exeter.ac.uk).

Making sure that your information remains private is important to us. We will do the following to protect your privacy in this research study:



- All personal and research information about you will be stored on a secure password protected university server. No identifiable information will leave university premises.
- Only researchers at the University of Exeter will have access to your personal information (contact details, consent forms). This will be kept securely for 5 years before being destroyed.
- Once the research data has been analysed, all identifiable information will be anonymised. We will not use your names and no one will know it is you who is talking.
- Everyone in the group will be asked not to discuss what has been said with anyone else outside of the room.

Risk and Confidentiality

We may have to break confidentiality if you say something that worries us. We will follow risk procedures and might have to tell someone else, such as your parents, what you have said to keep you safe. If we do this, we will talk to you first and provide you with support around accessing local services. You will be reminded of this on the day of participation.

Thank you for reading!

Further Information

If you have any further questions about this research study, please contact the lead researcher via email: sa675@exeter.ac.uk

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To contact the Chair of Psychology Ethics, please contact Dr Nick Moberly (e: n.j.moberly@exeter.ac.uk t: 01392 724656)

Ethical approval number: <insert REC number>