



## The 'Back to School' study

### Young Person's Information Sheet

#### What is this study trying to find out about?

We'd like to hear your thoughts about returning to school in September and also what you think about a possible new study in schools to test young people and school staff for coronavirus using saliva samples. We hope this information will help us improve how young people are supported when returning to school and develop a study to understand infection patterns in young people.

#### Why have I been invited?

We are inviting young people aged 11-16 years who attend a secondary school in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire to take part.

#### What do I have to do?

We'd like to invite you to take part in an interview to share your views. You will need to get your parent or carer to consent (give their permission) verbally before you take part. If you are happy to take part in the interview, you will also be asked to give your permission verbally to show that you agree to take part in this study.

#### What's involved?

If you agree to take part, we will contact you to arrange an interview. This will be at a time convenient for you and can be over the phone or digitally using a secure online platform called Bluejeans. This is like Zoom, but more secure and you do not need to download anything to use Bluejeans.

During the interview we will discuss how you feel about going back to school in September and also ask for your views on a new study that may start in schools involving testing young people and school staff for coronavirus. You don't have to answer every question - it's fine to skip questions if you don't want to answer. The interview will take up to 45 minutes.

#### Can I bring a friend or parent/carers?

Yes, you can be interviewed together with one or two friends from your school and year group or with your parent/carers. Your friend (and their parent/carers) will also need to sign a consent form.

#### Do I have to take part?

We hope you want to take part, but it's up to you. You do not have to take part if you do not want to.

#### What if I change my mind?

You can change your mind at any time, without having to tell us why. If you want to leave the study, let us know and we will delete your interview, as long as we haven't yet anonymised and started to analyse the data.

#### Will it be confidential?

Yes. We will digitally audio record the interview and then write down what you said, taking out your name and anything else that might identify you. We will treat what you say as private, that means we will not tell your school or anyone else what you have said. But if you say something that suggests you are in danger we will have to tell either a parent/carers or someone at your school. If that happens, we will try to discuss it with you first.

### **Are there any benefits to taking part?**

Some young people like to help with research and enjoy talking about their experiences in an interview. Telling us what you think may help improve the experiences of school for young people in the future. You will be sent a £10 voucher either by post or email after the interview to thank you for taking part.

### **Are there any risks to taking part?**

We understand talking about coronavirus may raise issues that are personal to you. We respect you and we're interested in what you're saying. If you get upset, you can pause or stop the interview at any time. If you have any questions or concerns about coronavirus in general, we can provide an information sheet.

### **Who will know if I take part in the study?**

If you are under 16 you will need your parent/carer's permission to take part, but what you say to the researcher will be confidential. Your school will not be told you are taking part.

### **What happens to the interview data?**

Anonymised interview data will be safely stored by the University and with your permission may be used by in future research projects. You can still take part in our study if you prefer that your data not be used for other studies.

### **Can I find out about the study results?**

Yes, we will email your school with a summary of our findings at the end of the project.

### **When I have finished, then what?**

When the interview is finished your involvement in the study will end and we will not need to contact you again. When the study is finished, we will write a report which explains the findings. Nobody will be able to see that you took part in the interview.

### **Who's in charge of this research?**

The research is led by Ava Lorenc, under the supervision of Judi Kidger and Jeremy Horwood. It was funded by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) West and NIHR Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) at Bristol University.

### **If you want to take part or have any questions please contact:**

Ava Lorenc by email [Ava.lorenc@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Ava.lorenc@bristol.ac.uk) or you can call (0117) 92 87323.  
Study website: <http://arc-w.nihr.ac.uk/covid-19-schools-study>.

**THANK YOU**