

Helping People to Protect Themselves from Coronavirus (COVID-19) at Home and School – Information for Participants

We are inviting you and/or your child to take part in a study to give feedback about a website called 'Germ Defence'.

A quick summary of the study...

- Germ Defence is designed to help people protect themselves and others from Coronavirus (COVID-19). We need to make some changes to Germ Defence so that it can be used in schools.
- You're being invited because your child's school has agreed to help with the study. We need to talk to school staff, parents and students to find out what they think of Germ Defence.
- We will use this feedback to make changes so that it is more helpful, easy to use and interesting.
- If you and/or your child take part, we will speak to you (separately) on the phone or a video call for up to 60 minutes.
- The study is being run by the University of Bristol and is funded by UK Research and Innovation/Department of Health and Social Care.

What do I do next?

- After you have read this information you can choose whether you want to take part and/or if you're happy for your child to take part.
- If you're happy for your child to take part, **please show them part 2 (page 4)** of this information sheet
- To take part, please email the study team or click the link at the end of the information sheet. The team's contact details are at the bottom of this page.
- You can also contact us if anything is unclear or if you would like to ask questions.

What are you asking us to do?

Once you have told us you and/or your child want to take part in the study...

- A researcher will get in touch to arrange a good time to talk to you and/or your child on the phone / have a video call. If you are both taking part, these will be separate calls, but they can be arranged together
- At the start of the call, we will ask you/your child to confirm that you/they understand what the study is about and that you/they agree to take part. This will be audio-recorded and kept separate to the recording of your/their interview
- If your child takes part, we will also ask you to be there at the start of their call to confirm that you are happy for them to take part. You don't need to stay for their whole call unless they would prefer you to
- In the call, the researcher will ask you and/or your child what you think about Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- You and/or your child will then look at the Germ Defence website and tell us what you/they think about it
- The call will last for up to 60 minutes and will be recorded so that we can keep an accurate record of your/their views.

Are there benefits or risks?

- All participants will receive a **£20 Love2Shop voucher**
- The feedback we receive will help make Germ Defence as useful as possible for school staff, parents and students. Over time this could help schools to get 'back to normal' faster and find ways to make dealing with Coronavirus at school easier
- It is not expected that the phone/video call should cause you and/or your child any distress. If you/they are worried about Coronavirus, you/they may feel distressed talking about it, but you/they can always choose not to answer a question. You/they can also pause and restart (or end) the interview at any time without giving a reason
- The researcher is not a medical professional and so can't answer any medical questions. They will suggest you speak to your GP or NHS 111 about medical questions, look at the support on the MIND website, or contact the Bristol Mental Health Crisis Service (01275 796209/341) if you are feeling concerned or worried about the virus. If your child has concerns, the researcher will suggest that they speak to you in the first instance. If you have concerns about their health, we recommend contacting your family GP or NHS 111.

What if we change our mind?

- It is up to you and/or your child to decide whether to take part. If you/they agree to take part, you will need to contact the study team to arrange a time for the conversation to take place. If you take part, at the start of the conversation, we will ask you to confirm that you understand what you are being asked to do and that you agree to take part. If your child takes part, we will ask them to do this too, but we will also ask you to be there at the start to confirm you are happy for them to take part.
- You and/or your child have the right to change your mind and stop taking part at any time without giving a reason
- If you and/or your child wish to stop the call before the end of the conversation, all information collected to that point will be deleted
- You and/or your child will have up to two weeks after the call to withdraw your/their data from the study. If you contact the research team after this point your/their data may still be used.

What information will be collected?

- The recording of the telephone/video conversation will be typed up. These records will not include any names or other details that can identify you and/or your child
- We ask about your and/or your child's postcode and ethnic group so we can check we are speaking to a diverse range of participants. It will not be possible to identify you and/or your child from any data we use in our reports
- Your and/or your child's name, postcode and contact details will be stored during the study so we can contact you, and then deleted after the study has ended.

Will my information be confidential?

- Yes, all the confidential information will be held securely at the University of Bristol and will only be seen by people in the research team
- There are only two ways that people outside the research team could see your information:
 - If the University staff need to carry out a standard check that research teams are storing people's information properly

- If you share information that suggests your safety or someone else's is at risk, the researcher may need to pass this on to support services
- The recording of your and/or your child's telephone conversation will be typed up and your/their name, or any other details that can identify you/them, will be removed to ensure your privacy
- The people who type up the interviews will have signed agreements to keep everything private
- These transcripts will be stored as a password protected file on secure University of Bristol computers for up to 10 years. After this time, they will be destroyed
- The recordings will be kept securely on the computer system at the University of Bristol which only the research team can access. The recordings will be destroyed when the study is complete
- The findings from this study will be used in research reports and in making changes to the Germ Defence website, but no names will be included so any quotes from the interview will be anonymous
- If you and/or your child take part, you will be asked if you are happy for your interview, with the personal details removed, to be made available to researchers working on other relevant studies. You can still take part if you don't want this to happen.

Data protection

All your information will be stored in line with data protection laws. These laws allow personal information to be collected and stored for research providing you have understood the purpose of the research and freely given your consent. The law also requires the researchers to protect the information so that no one else can use it for any other purpose. The University of Bristol is responsible for making sure your data is carefully handled. To protect your rights, we will only collect the minimum amount of your personal data that is needed for us to complete the study.

You can find out more about how your data will be protected by contacting the research governance team at research-governance@bristol.ac.uk.

What happens if there is a problem?

- If you and/or your child has a concern about the study, please speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions
- If you/they are still unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact the Research Governance Office at the University of Bristol: research-governance@bristol.ac.uk.

Who has approved this study?

The study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Bristol, Psychological Science School Research Ethics Committee. Ref: 112184.

Contact details

- **To let us know you would like to take part**, or if you would like more information, please email the research team: germ-defence-schools@bristol.ac.uk to arrange a time for the conversation to take place
- OR you can [CLICK HERE](#) to leave your details and we will get back to you.

Part 2 – Information for Young People

Helping People to Protect Themselves from COVID-19 at Home and School

We think that young people's views are really important so we are inviting you to take part in a research project to find out what you think of a website called 'Germ Defence'. Please read the information below carefully and ask questions if anything is not clear.



GermDefence



Quick information about the study...

- ◆ Germ Defence is designed to help people protect themselves and others from coronavirus (COVID-19). We need to make some changes to Germ Defence so that it can be used in schools.
- ◆ You're being invited because your school is helping with the study – it's up to you if you want to take part. We need to talk to young people like you to find out what you think of Germ Defence.
- ◆ We will use what we find out to make Germ Defence more helpful, easy to use and interesting.
- ◆ If you take part, we would speak to you on the phone or a video call for up to 60 minutes.
- ◆ The study is being run by researchers at the University of Bristol and is approved by University of Bristol.

What do I do next if I want to take part?

- ◆ If you want to take part, **you need to be aged between 11 and 18 years**, and you or your parent need to contact us using the information **at the bottom of page 6**. If you're under 16, we need your parent to say this is okay too.

What do you want me to do?

- ◆ We would like to talk to you (online or on the phone) about a website to help you protect yourself and your friends from coronavirus at school.
- ◆ In the conversation, the researcher will ask you what you think about Coronavirus.
- ◆ You will then look at the Germ Defence website and tell us what you think.
- ◆ The conversation will last up to 60 minutes and will be recorded to keep a record of what you tell us.
- ◆ At the start, a researcher will make sure that you and your parent or carer are happy for you to take part, and for the conversation to be recorded. We will record this part, but it will be separate to the rest of your conversation.



Are there any benefits or risks to taking part?



- ◆ You will receive a £20 shopping voucher as a thank you for your time. Over time your feedback could help schools like yours to get 'back to normal' faster and find ways to make dealing with coronavirus at school easier.
- ◆ We don't think that anything we ask in the phone/online call will upset you. If you are worried about Coronavirus, you might find it hard to talk about. You can always choose not to answer a question.
- ◆ The researcher is not a doctor or nurse and so can't answer any medical questions. They will suggest you speak to your parents or teacher if you are feeling nervous about the virus.

What if I don't want to take part or I change my mind?

- ◆ It is up to you if you want to take part. If you do, you and your parent/carer will have to say that you are happy to take part while we record you.
- ◆ You can change your mind and stop taking part at any time without giving a reason.
- ◆ If you tell the researcher you would like to stop the call, all information collected so far will be deleted.
- ◆ If you contact the research team after the conversation to stop taking part in the study, we will not contact you again but the typed record of your conversation will still be used for the research.



What information will be collected?

- ◆ The recording of the telephone/video conversation will be typed up. These records will not include any names or other details that could let other people know who you are.
- ◆ We will ask about your postcode and ethnic group so we can check we are speaking to a wide range of different people. If you tell us anything that we later use in our reports, no one will know that you told us this.



Who will know what I have said or what information I have provided?

- ◆ 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/carer or someone at your school. If that happens, we will try to discuss it with you first.
- ◆ The typed records, the recording of your agreement to take part, and the information you tell us about yourself will be kept on a secure network at the University of Bristol. Only the research team can look at these.
- ◆ At the end of the study the recording of your conversation will be deleted. The typed record will be kept for 10 years. Your name, postcode and contact details will be kept during the study so we can contact you, but they will be deleted after the study has ended.



What happens if there is a problem?

- ◆ If you have a concern about the study, please speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions.
- ◆ If you are still unhappy or have a complaint about any part of this study, you or your parent can contact the Research Governance Office at the University of Bristol: research-governance@bristol.ac.uk



What if I have questions/ How do I take part?

- ◆ If you want to ask any questions, please email the research team:
germ-defence-schools@bristol.ac.uk
- ◆ To let us know that you would like to take part, you or your parent can email us to arrange a time for the call to take place.

