

11. Who else is taking part?

Other parents of young people who have left school.

12. What if something goes wrong?

You will be free to end the interview at any time.

13. What happens at the end of the research study?

The findings from the interviews will be shared with parents who took part, people at the school and other outside professionals through a written article and/or a spoken presentation. They will be used as part of a Master's study.

14. What if I have more questions or do not understand something?

You may contact me using the information on the front of this leaflet at any time.

15. What happens now if I decide to take part?

You will be asked to sign a statement that you have read, accept and understood the information in this leaflet.

16. What happens if I change my mind during the research study?

You may withdraw at any time (see 9 above).

17. Expenses

There should be no expenses.

18. Contact name and details

See the front of this leaflet.

Research Information Leaflet

FOLLOW-UP STUDY for the TRANSITION PROJECT

An exploration of parents' ideas and feelings about whether information exchanged and staff practice in different areas of everyday living

over the time of their son or daughter's post-16 transition from school to a new home

made a difference to how they adapted to their new home

Researcher:
[name]

Contact details:
[Address / telephone / email]

1. Introduction to the research and an invitation to take part

The school is carrying out research into transitions for young people moving from school into a new home. We are asking parents/carers of young people who have left school to take part in a telephone interview. This leaflet contains important information about the project and your involvement in it, should you choose to take part. If you are unsure of anything, please do not hesitate to ask me, and I will try to answer your questions. My contact details are on the front of this leaflet.

2. What is the research study about?

The school would like to ask for your ideas about how they can make a difference to the transitions of students in the future. The follow-up interviews for the Transition Project will focus on whether the information exchanged between the school and young people's new homes, and staff practice over the time of transition, made a difference to whether they did or did not adapt to their new home.

3. What do we mean by transition?

The school is especially interested in your and your son or daughter's experiences at the time of moving, and, generally, one month before and up to 12 months after that. However, each family's experiences are different, and the interview may cover an extended period, and more than one transition.

4. What do we mean by 'adaptation' of your son or daughter to their new home?

With this leaflet, you will find scales on which you can indicate how you feel your son or daughter adapted to their new home over time. The scales cover a range of possible responses from 'totally settled' to 'breakdown of placement', where your son or daughter has left their new home.

5. What would I have to do?

You would take part in an interview over the telephone, lasting about 45 minutes. I would arrange to ring at a date and time to suit you, and the interview could take place over more than one telephone call if you wished. All information gathered from the interview will be typed up and sent to you for comment. You would be able to change or withdraw any of the information you give me at any time.

6. What are the benefits?

The school would use the information you give to enable them to get a better understanding of the support needs of young people who move from the school to new homes and how to meet those needs.

7. What are the risks to you?

Occasionally, some parents/carers may find the interviews raise issues that are painful or difficult to discuss. It is not my intention to seek or target such issues. No pressure will be put upon you to discuss any issue you do not wish to.

In order that the information I take away from the interview is accurately recorded, I would like to audio-record the interview, but would respect any request you make not to record it.

Although I would be interested to talk about your son or daughter's situation and will do all I can to provide you with any appropriate information you ask for, I will not be able to influence, or offer specific advice about, your son or daughter's situation in any way.

8. What are the alternatives?

Given that many parents/carers live a long way from the school, I believe that telephone interviews are the best way of giving all parents an equal opportunity to share their ideas, feelings and experiences of their son or daughter's transition.

9. What if I do not want to take part?

You are under no obligation to take part, and may withdraw at any time without prejudice.

10. What happens to the information?

All information given during the interview, and any conversations, will be confidential to the research project. Nothing will be disclosed in any way that will identify you or anyone or any place known to you without your and their express permission. All recording (audio-tape recording, interview notes, copies of correspondence) will be held securely. Copies of written and recorded material will be available to you at any time. Before any specific material relating to our interview or any discussion is published, you will have the opportunity to read and comment on it or withdraw it if you wish.