

PERFORM: Participatory Engagement with Scientific and Technological Research through Performance

Information for participants

Dr Leanne Gunn is working at *science made simple*. She is working on a new research project with the help of some other researchers from the PERFORM consortium. Through this project we want to explore and assess the effectiveness of innovative science education methods based on performing arts in stimulating secondary school students' engagement in Science, Technology, Environment and Mathematics subjects (STEM). This research is funded by the European Commission through a Grant to Isabel Ruiz-Mallén (UOC).

The current phase of the project involves us performing a science busking session developed to inspire students in areas of STEM and also to tackle Responsible Research Innovation's such as gender bias in science and the importance of ethical research. This will take place in 10 schools across the UK. To assess changes in the student's perception of STEM, they will be asked to complete one online survey in the week prior to our visit, and another in the week following our visit. The performances may also be recorded in video and audio formats.

The assessment will also include a social media analysis of participants' interventions related to the study in social platforms. The study will not be gathering private personal information or using secretive methods to gain access to social media data. PERFORM will be accessing content that audience members choose to make public, either on the performance groups' webpages or on Twitter. The data generated in this study will be used for basic science research; it will not be used with any commercial purpose.

All the procedures chosen for this study are widely used by social researchers and entail no risks to the participants. The Principal Investigator and other participants in the team have considerable experience with these methods, having used them successfully in numerous social science research projects over the last 10 years. The PERFORM consortium will treat any personal information and data with the highest level of consideration, courtesy, privacy and ethical practice according to the corresponding national legal and ethical requirements.

Informed consent

We are asking for your participation, *because your school has been selected to participate* in the PERFORM project. Your school does not have to participate if you do not wish so, and you are welcome to decline to proceed at any time. Participation in this study is strictly voluntary. There are no penalties to people who decide not to participate, or who started to participate and later decided to withdraw.

Data from this project will only be available to the project's key personnel. Data are completely confidential. All names will be replaced by coded numbers. Any publications, videos and reports to the funding agency will not identify participants by name. Data will not be used for any purpose other than scientific publications. Data will not be sold, given, or pass in any other way to third parties that might use it with any other purpose than research. Even in this case, we will ensure that third parties cannot identify the person who provided data.

Information will be used to inform scientists and the public in general about the effects of the use of innovative science education methods based on performing arts in fostering young peoples' motivations and engagement with STEM. We will prepare publications in local languages to disseminate the lessons learned.

Isabel Ruiz-Mallén is the responsible for the project, and you might ask her any questions about the project or the procedures. You can also write to her at the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, 08860 Castelldefels, Spain. You may also call at 00 34 93 2535743 or send an e-mail to iruiz_mallen@uoc.edu. If you have questions about your legal rights as a research subject, you may contact: ceeah@uab.cat. To contact her, you can ask one of the project members at the school who will have complete instructions and will do it on your behalf at no cost to you.

You will be given a copy of this form to keep. By agreeing to participate and giving consent, you are not waiving any of your legal rights, claims, or remedies. You will keep the right to withdraw from the project at any moment, without explanations or further consequences. You may sign the form yourself or ask for someone else to sign on your behalf. If you prefer we can record your consent to participate by tape recording it.

I have read (or someone has read to me) the information in the consent form. I have had an opportunity to ask questions and all my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. By signing this consent form, I willingly agree to participate in this study.

Name of participant (type or print): FULBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

 24.06.16
Signature of subject or legal representative Date (must be signed prior to entry)

I have explained the research to the participant and answered all of his/her questions. I believe that he/she understands the information described in this consent form and freely consents to participate.

Name of Investigator/research team member (type or print): LEANNE GUNN

 24 June 16
Signature of investigator/research team member Date

headteacher@fulbrookmiddleschool.org.uk

Mrs S. Clancy.