

The outline below represents the topics we aim to cover in the qualitative interviews and examples of questions we will ask. The language and way in which we get to the information will depend on the age and ability of the child/ young person, and interviews will be flexible and responsive.

Explain that we are interested in talking to children/ young people about sore throats

Getting participants used to talking and the microphone/ tape recorder etc.,

What do you like to do? Hobbies etc?

Do you like school, what's your favourite thing at school?

Have you got any brothers or sisters?

Experience of sore throats

What's it like to have sore throats?

- Do you get them often?
- **How does it make you feel?**
Probe self esteem, behaviour etc
- When did you last have a sore throat?
- What was that like?
- Who takes care of you when you have a sore throat?

- Have you been off school with your sore throat?
- Do you mind having time off school?

Treatments and surgery

- Do you have any treatment when you get a sore throat? (*medicines etc*)
- What is that like?
- Are there any good things and bad things about having treatment?
- Are you going to have any other sort of treatment either at home, at the doctors or at the hospital? (*What did the doctor say?*)
- How do you feel about that? (*looking forward to it? Worried about it?*)

- Have you had any operations on your throat?
- What was it like?
- Were there any good or bad things about having surgery?
- How did it make you feel?

Differentiating between severity of sore throats

- Are there different kinds of sore throats?
- In what ways are they different?

Impact on the individual

- Did having a sore throat stop you from doing anything you wanted to do?
- Does anything good come from having a sore throat?

Impact on others

- Has it affected the rest of the family in any way?