

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH?

Nationally and globally, childhood vaccinations have been highly effective in reducing the incidence of, and associated morbidity and mortality from, a range of infectious diseases. However, for vaccinations to be effective in protecting the whole population against diseases a high level of coverage is needed both to protect as many vaccinated individuals as possible, and to achieve 'herd immunity' – where the reservoir of people who can harbour infection is minimised to the extent that unvaccinated individuals are also effectively protected.

Many factors have been found to be associated with uptake of childhood vaccinations such as; socioeconomic status, relationships with health professionals etc... This project is interested the acceptability and effectiveness of the introduction of incentives (such as financial gains for immunising) and quasi-mandatory schemes (such as requiring a child to be vaccinated before school entry) to increase uptake of childhood vaccinations.

WHAT WILL THE RESEARCH INVOLVE?

If you decide that you would like to participate in this research, we would like to talk to you about your opinions on the acceptability of different methods that could be employed to increase uptake of vaccinations. This discussion will be arranged at a time that is convenient to you and will, with your permission, be recorded for accuracy. Only members of the research team will listen to these recordings. You may change your mind about answering any of the questions and can stop the discussions at any time. If you decide, up to one week after the discussions, that you would like to remove the information you have given you may do so by quoting your name and the date of the discussion.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE INFORMATION THAT IS COLLECTED?

If you take part in the discussions (interview) the recording of your interview with the researcher will be written up and used, along with other interviews to form the basis of a report. No personal details (name, address etc) will be disclosed in the reports we will write; however, we may use quotations of what you have said to illustrate points made in the report. However, you will not be identified as you will be assigned a number or a name and we will leave out any details that may

identify you. The recordings of interviews and all paper documents relating to them will be held securely at Teesside University in accord with the Data Protection Act (1998). Only staff directly involved in this research will hear and see these. All data will be anonymised and held for a minimum of 20 years and may be used for future study but only in research projects that have received ethical approval from an appropriate committee.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If you have any questions or queries about the research please contact [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] and she will be happy to talk to you. [REDACTED] will be in contact within the next week to see if you would like to participate. If you do not want her to contact you please email or phone her using the details above to let her know. You do not have to give a reason.