



Headteacher: **Mr J Grant**

Sackville School, Lewes Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 3TY

Tel: 01342 410140 Fax: 01342 315544

Email: secretary@sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk

www.sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk

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Dear Parent/Carer

Information Sheet for Parent/Carer

We have been approached by an ex-student, Andrew King, who is now a final year undergraduate student at Southampton Solent University studying BA (Hons) Sport Coaching and Development. For his dissertation project he wants to investigate the effects that ability grouping has upon enjoyment in physical education amongst year 9 students. As a department, we feel this would be beneficial for your child as it will give them the chance to tell the school how they feel about their physical education experiences.

This letter has been created to provide detailed information of what the study involves and to allow you to provide informed consent for your child to participate. Please be assured that we have completed appropriate ethical and moral discussion with Southampton Solent University, and this research project has had to pass through rigorous ethical clearances, to which we are now happy to progress with the project.

What will my child have to do?

There are two stages to the research. First of all your child will be asked to complete a questionnaire that seeks to assess their personal physical education experiences. Once the results of these questionnaires have been analysed a certain number of students from each class will be asked to take part in a one-off focus group interview. This will allow the researcher to further understand the student's experiences.

The research process will be structured in order to minimise any disruption to your child's education. Please note that a member of school staff will be present at all times and that the researcher is experienced in working with children, fully CRB/DBS checked and safeguarding/child protection trained.

Confidentiality

Throughout the study, and after the investigation, any information about your child will be treated in strict confidence and kept secure through the use of password protected documents on password protected computers. The information will only be held by school staff and the researcher. All names of the students and the name of the school will not be published in the final draft of the research. Please be aware that you have the right to know the overall research results as well as your child's individual results. These should be available in May 2015. If you wish to have the study emailed to you upon completion please provide your email address on the attached form.



If you are happy for your child to participate in the research please can I ask you to complete the 'Informed Written Consent Form' and ask your child to complete the 'Student Assent Form'. Both forms are enclosed with this letter.

Please ensure that the forms are returned to Mr Currie (Head of Boys' PE) by **Thursday 5th February 2015.**

Yours sincerely

Mr A Currie
Head of Boys' PE

Mrs L Richards
Head of Girls' PE

Parental Informed Consent Form

Please complete one per child. This form will be shredded upon completion of the study.

Research Project Title:

What effect does ability grouping have upon enjoyment in physical education?

Agreement:

I have read the 'information sheet for parent/carer' and I fully understand the purpose of the investigation and understand my rights as a parent of the child. I agree to allow my child to take part in this study and I understand that I may withdraw my child from the study at any point without fear of dissuasion.

Name of Parent/Carer:

Parent/Carer address:

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Parent/Carer email:

Name of child:

Child's date of birth:

Signature of Parent/Carer: Date:

Please return to Mr Currie (Head of Boys' PE) by Thursday 5th February 2015

Student Assent Form

Please complete one per student. This form will be shredded upon completion of the study.

Dear Student

An ex-student, called Andrew King, wants to study how ability grouping in PE affects enjoyment of PE. This is a great chance for you to tell us PE teachers how you feel about PE. We hope to use this research to make your PE experiences more enjoyable.

What will I have to do?

You will have to complete a questionnaire and then, if you are selected, take part in a group interview with your classmates.

Do I have to take part?

No. If you do not want take part you do not have to.

What if I say yes but then I want to stop?

If you change your mind that is okay. You can ask to stop being involved in the study at any point. You will not get in any trouble for stopping.

If you are happy to take part please read the statement below and sign to say you agree to take part.

I understand that my parent/carer(s) have given permission for me to take part in a study about physical education enjoyment and ability grouping. I understand that this will involve me completing a questionnaire and that I may be asked to take part in a group interview with other classmates.

I am taking part because I want to. I understand that I can stop at any time and that I will not get in any trouble if I want to stop.

Student name:

Form:

Student signature:

Date:

Please return to Mr Currie (Head of Boys' PE) by Thursday 5th February 2015