

Dr Cathy Manning
Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford
Anna Watts Building, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter
Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6GG
Tel: 01865 271 442 Email: catherine.manning@psy.ox.ac.uk



How do children with and without dyslexia combine visual information?

We are inviting you and your child to take part in a study about how children combine visual information. Before you decide, please take time to read the information carefully and discuss it with your child, and ask us if you have any questions.

What is the purpose of the study?

How children see things is important for learning to interact with the world. For example, in order to see the overall movement of a flock of birds, children need to be able to combine information about each bird's movement. We want to know if dyslexic children combine information in a similar way to children without dyslexia. Better understanding of how dyslexic children see the world around them is an important step towards understanding dyslexia, and could inform education programmes. We will also compare the pattern of results with that found in autistic children in a previous study, to understand more about how the two conditions differ and overlap.

Who can take part?

In this study, we are seeing dyslexic children and children with no developmental conditions aged 8 to 14 years. To take part, dyslexic children need a confirmed dyslexia diagnosis (or in the process of obtaining one) and should not also have an autism diagnosis.

Who is conducting this study?

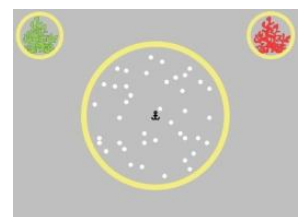
The research is being conducted by Heather Woods (undergraduate student) and Dr Cathy Manning (supervisor and research fellow).

Do my child and I have to take part?

No – it is up to you and your child to decide whether or not to take part. If you decide to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form. If you agree to participate, you are free to withdraw your consent at any time and without giving a reason.

What will happen if my child and I take part?

Your child will be seen individually at the University, school, or home. Children will play some simple computer “games” at a desk with a chin-rest. In some games, children will be asked to judge the direction of a moving shoal of fish. In other games, children will be asked to work out which way a group of jellyfish are facing. Children will also be given tests of their language, reasoning, reading and spelling skills and we will test their vision using eye charts. Children should bring their glasses if needed. The activities will take approximately 1.5 hours in total, and they can be split up into 2 or 3 sessions (e.g., to fit around school lessons). You will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire about you and your child. If you prefer, the researcher can complete this with you over the phone or in-person. Families will be given a £5 gift voucher for taking part. If you come to the University, we will also reimburse you for your travel expenses.



What are the possible disadvantages and benefits of taking part?

There are no risks or direct benefits involved. Children normally enjoy taking part. Our findings will help us understand dyslexia better and could help children in the future.

Dr Cathy Manning
Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford
Anna Watts Building, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter
Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6GG
Tel: 01865 271 442 Email: catherine.manning@psy.ox.ac.uk



What happens to the data provided?

The information you or your child provide during the study is the *research data*. Any research data from which you or your child can be identified (e.g., name, contact details), is known as *personal data*. Research data including information about your child's health and your ethnic group is *sensitive data*. *Personal / sensitive data* will be stored securely in locked filing cabinets in the University and in password-protected files on password-protected University computers/servers for 10 years after the study finishes. Information about your child's age, school, diagnosis and contact details will be detached from the consent form and shredded once stored digitally. Your contact details will only be retained past the project's duration if you indicate you would like to be contacted about future research. Hard copies of *other research data* (e.g., forms from standardised assessments with no identifying information) will be retained for 10 years after the project has ended in filing cabinets at the University and will then be destroyed. These data will only be accessed by the research team and authorised members at the University of Oxford for research monitoring and/or audit. *De-identified digital data* (where all personal information that could directly identify an individual has been removed) will be shared on a repository so that it can be used by other researchers for greater scientific benefit.

What happens to the results of the study?

Families will receive a report of the overall group results of the study. The results will be written up for Heather Woods' degree project and as a scientific journal article.

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the Central University Research Ethics Committee of Oxford University (ref: R45641/RE001).

What if there is a problem?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, please contact Heather Woods (heather.woods@magd.ox.ac.uk) or Dr Cathy Manning (catherine.manning@psy.ox.ac.uk), and we will do our best to answer your query. We will acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford who will seek to resolve the matter as soon as possible: Chair, Medical Sciences Inter-Divisional Research Ethics Committee; Email: ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD, UK.

Data Protection

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your child's personal data and, as such, will determine how your child's personal data is used in the study. The University will process your child's personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest. Further information about your rights with respect to your child's personal data is available from <https://compliance.web.ox.ac.uk/individual-rights>.

What should I do next?

If you would like to take part, please fill in the consent form and return it to the researcher (in person, or by secure email/post). If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (or if you have questions afterwards), please get in touch (heather.woods@magd.ox.ac.uk / catherine.manning@psy.ox.ac.uk / 01865 271 442).