

## PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION SHEET

### Section A: The Research Project

1. **Title of project:** Portuguese in the UK

2. **Brief summary of research:**

This research concerns the Portuguese spoken in the UK in London and the East of England. We are interested in the variety of Portuguese spoken in these places in particular its grammatical properties, and this will be investigated using some amusing linguistic activities. The research also concerns attitudes about speaking Portuguese, which will be recorded through an interview and a questionnaire.

3. **Purpose of the study:**

This research is being carried out as part of an award by the British Academy/Leverhulme Trust to Professor Michelle Sheehan (Principal Investigator, Newcastle University) and Dr Ioanna Sitaridou (Co-I, University of Cambridge).

4. **Why has my child been asked to participate?**

Your child has been asked to participate because they are what is known as a 'heritage' speaker of Portuguese. This means that they learnt Portuguese as their first language but now speak English as their main language, at school, for example.

5. **How many people will be asked to participate?**

A total of 120 people will be recruited for the study.

6. **What are the likely benefits of my child taking part?**

It is likely that the study will teach us more about heritage Portuguese varieties as spoken in the UK. Learning more about these varieties will allow us to make suggestions about how best to teach and support bilingual students in the UK.

7. **Can I refuse to take part?**

You can refuse to let your child take part in the study and you do not have to provide a reason. There is no pressure to take part in this study.

8. **Has the study got ethical approval?**

Yes, the study has ethical approval from an ethics committee at Newcastle University.

9. **What will happen to the results of the study?**

The results of this study will be written up for academic and non-academic audiences as journal articles and book chapters. It is possible that they will also be presented at conferences and training events for teachers.

10. **Contact for further information:**

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [michelle.sheehan1@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:michelle.sheehan1@newcastle.ac.uk).

## **Section B: Your Participation in the Research Project**

### **1. What will my child be asked to do?**

In addition to filling in a questionnaire with a little bit of information about him/herself, your child will be asked to take part in an online interview in Portuguese/English with one of the researchers on the project. In total, it should take no more than one hour.

### **2. Will my child's participation in the study be kept confidential?**

Your child's participation in the study will be kept confidential. This means that it will be kept private. It will not be possible to identify them in the study; they will be anonymous. Once they have completed the study, all of the data produced will be given a code, and their name will not be used. The data collected in the study will be shared between the researchers on the project and will be shared more widely once the project is over, but it will be fully anonymised, meaning that neither your child's name nor their school will be included.

### **3. Use of quotes:**

We may use some of what your child has said in an interview as a quote when writing up the findings of the study.

### **4. Use of recording equipment:**

The interviews will be recorded in order for a transcript to be produced.

### **5. Will I be reimbursed travel expenses?**

As the interview will take place online, there will be no reimbursement of travel expenses.

### **6. Incentives to participate:**

To thank them for their time, all participants will be given a £10 Amazon voucher.

### **7. Are there any possible disadvantages or risks to taking part?**

It is possible that your child may feel bored or tired during the study. To ensure their wellbeing, they are welcome to take as many rest breaks as they feel they need during the time. Agreement to participate in the study does not affect their legal rights.

### **8. Whether your child can withdraw at any time, and how:**

Your child is free to withdraw from the study at any time and without giving a reason. This can be done in person or via email.

They do not have to answer any questionnaire or interview questions that you do not wish to.

Once the research has been written up and published, your child will no longer be able to withdraw from the study.

**9. What will happen to any information/data that are collected from your child?**

**Online survey:** the information/data your child provides will be held securely initially in a password protected account at [onlinesurveys.ac.uk](http://onlinesurveys.ac.uk). Once downloaded, data will be stored on a password protected computer and a password protected USB stick. Before it is shared with other project members, all data will be anonymised.

**Interview:** video interviews will be recorded. Immediately after the interview, the video will be downloaded and stored on a password protected USB stick. Once transcribed and checked, the video recording of your child's interview will be deleted. All transcriptions will be anonymised before being shared between project members. When the project is complete, a fully anonymised version of the data will be shared on FigShare for other researchers to use. Personal identifiable information will be kept separately from the data. The two will be separated at the earliest opportunity.

**10. Summary of research findings:**

After the data from the study has been analysed, you and your child are welcome to a summary of the results. You can indicate this on the consent form.

**11. Contact details for complaints:**

If you have any complaints about the study, please contact Michelle Sheehan ([michelle.sheehan1@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:michelle.sheehan1@newcastle.ac.uk)), in the first instance. Should this not be possible, you are able to complain to Newcastle University ([res.policy@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:res.policy@newcastle.ac.uk)).

THIS INFORMATION SHEET IS YOURS TO KEEP, ALONG WITH A COPY OF THE  
CONSENT FORM.

Date 3.11.21  
V1.3