

Participant Information Leaflet

Languages and Parenting in Europe

Dear Parent/Guardian,

My name is Maria Dimitropoulou, and I am a PhD researcher at Trinity College Dublin. You are being invited to take part in a research study that I am conducting as part of my PhD degree.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to take part, please read this information sheet carefully. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Why is this study being done?

I am doing this study to explore languages and parenting in the European context. This project is being carried out as part of my PhD research work at Trinity College Dublin. I hope that study findings will help support families and contribute to the development of better-informed language policies.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part because:

- ✓ you live in Ireland
- ✓ you have decided to raise, are raising, or have raised your child/children with Irish
- ✓ neither you nor your partner or other members of your immediate family have been raised with Irish yourselves

or

- ✓ you have been raised with Irish BUT by parents/other primary caregivers who have NOT been raised in Irish-speaking households themselves

Do I have to take part? What happens if I change my mind?

You don't have to take part in this study. You can decide not to take part or change your mind about taking part in the study and opt out at any time even if the study has started without any consequences of any kind. You don't have to give a reason for not taking part or for opting out. If you wish to opt out, please contact me at dimitrom@tcd.ie to organise this for you.

What will happen to me if I decide to take part? What will I need to do?

The study will take place within one or more sessions within a period of two weeks, depending on your preferences. If you decide to participate, you and/or your partner/other primary caregiver in your family will be interviewed either online via zoom or in person, at a time of convenience to you.

Once you agree to participate, you will be sent an online 15-minute background questionnaire which you will be asked to complete at least two days prior to the interview.

You may also consent for your child/children to participate in the study by completing a language portrait and being interviewed either online or in person at a time of convenience to you and your child/children. It's up to you to decide whether your child/children will be asked to take part, although your child/children's participation will significantly help the research.

All interviews will last between 30-60 minutes and will be either video-recorded or audio-recorded depending on your choice.

Are there any risks or benefits to taking part in this research?

You will be asked to give up some of your time to complete the questionnaire and take part in the interview. I will be very flexible and try to accommodate your needs. If you feel tired or uncomfortable, you will be free to skip questions or withdraw from the study at any time.

Taking part in this study will not directly benefit you. However, research using your data and information may help us to better understand bilingual and multilingual parenting and, in the long term, result in better informed official and family language policies.

How will my data be used?

Data from this research project may be published in future in scientific / linguistic / educational journals. You will not be able to be identified in any reports or publications. The original recording and all copies will be available only to the present investigators or to investigators in other academic institutions engaged in similar work if you agree to this.

If you agree to your data being used in the future, your consent form will be held until the data is no longer in use.

What information about me (personal data) will be used as part of this study?

I will collect information including your name, contact details, city of residence, and information about the languages you use in your household. Any information or data which is obtained from you during this research and is identifiable with you will be treated confidentially. No names or information which inadvertently allow you to be recognized will be published in the thesis or elsewhere. This will be done by transcribing the recording, taking extra care to avoid all details about the location of your home etc. and giving you a coded number or a pseudonym.

Will my personal data be kept confidential? How will my data be kept safe?

Your privacy is very important to me as a researcher.

Any information or data which is obtained during this research which identifies you will be treated confidentially. All the data collected will be stored on my laptop in an encrypted and password protected file. The data will then be made anonymous so as to hide your identity. All files will be accessible only by me, Maria Dimitropoulou, and my PhD supervisor. There will be no paper copies of any data. If you agree to us sharing the information you provide with other researchers (e.g., by making it available in a data archive) then your personal details will not be included.

Due to the nature of this research, it is very likely that other researchers may find the data collected to be useful in answering future research questions about multilingualism. We will ask for your explicit consent for your data to be used in this way. You do not have to agree to have your data available for future research. Future research will only take place if it has research ethics approval.

Has this study been approved by a research ethics committee?

Yes, this study has been approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the School of Linguistic, Speech & Communication Sciences on 23/05/2022.

Who is funding this study?

The study is funded by a Trinity College Dublin Postgraduate Research Studentship.

Is there any payment for taking part?

No, we are not paying participants to take part in the study.

Who should I contact for information or complaints?

If you have any concerns or questions, you can contact:

- Investigator: Maria Dimitropoulou. PhD Student, Centre of Language and Communication Studies, School of Linguistic Speech and Communication Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. Email: dimitrom@tcd.ie.
- Academic Supervisor: Prof Lorna Carson. Professor in Applied Linguistics and Head of the School of Linguistic Speech and Communication Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. Email: carsonle@tcd.ie
- Data Protection Officer, Trinity College Dublin: Data Protection Officer, Secretary's Office, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2, Ireland. Email: dataprotection@tcd.ie. Website: www.tcd.ie/privacy.

Will I be contacted again?

If you would like to take part in this study, you will be asked to sign a Consent Form. If you consent, we will contact you to arrange a time to conduct the interview. If you agree to your child's/children's participation, you will be asked to sign a separate Consent Form for each of your children.

Thank you for your participation!