

School Name

28 May 2020

Epistemic Insight Initiative Information Sheet – for interview study

Dear Student,

I'm writing to let you know about some learning activities and research we are designing in collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University as part of the Epistemic Insight Initiative. The learning activities are being designed and given to students as part of their school curriculum and will consider ways to teach the nature and role of science in questions that students can investigate across curriculum subjects.

Our research usually begins with a survey. When we want to survey students in a school we ask for permission from the head teacher or senior leader. We provide an opt-out letter to go home. Students can choose whether to submit their responses into the survey by choosing whether or not to respond to each question. The data we gather through surveys has any names removed.

The next step is an interview or focus group study. Currently we are recruiting students to take part in interviews and focus groups and we hope you would like to be included. As such this letter is to give you the opportunity to opt in or out of taking part. If you choose to take part – an interview/focus group will take place with a researcher in our team and/or the teacher. The interviews and discussions are recorded and then transcribed. Any names, including your real name and the name of school are taken out at the point of transcription.

We sometimes replace names with pseudonyms and sometimes make the comments anonymous. No real names are used in our reports and publications. We hope the discussion will expand and enrich your thinking on this issue. At the same time, this work does not contribute to or affect your grades.

The Epistemic Insight Initiative

This encourages pupils and teachers to think about questions – including Big Questions – from single-disciplinary, cross-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary perspectives. Through engaging learning activities, your child will develop their disciplinary knowledge in ways that support and enrich the school's curriculum. Epistemic insight – or 'knowledge about knowledge' – refers to pupils' capacities to think about how knowledge is formed and tested in different subjects. Canterbury Christ Church University tutors and researchers are particularly interested in researching and developing pupils' ability to think about Big Questions that span science, religion and the wider humanities. The activities and research in schools informs publications and policy reports, and through your child taking part in this project, you will help us produce materials that will inform effective teaching and learning for the curriculum now and in the future. You can find more information on the Epistemic Insight initiative at www.epistemicinsight.com.

Yours Sincerely,
Teacher's name:



OPT IN – OPT OUT FORM

**Epistemic Insight Interview study
(Consent form for students over 16/ assent form for under 16)**

Name of Teacher-Researcher:

Contact Details:

Contact details for the Epistemic Insight Research Team:

Name and Address:	Prof Berry Billingsley (Principal Investigator) Canterbury Christ Church University North Holmes Road Canterbury
-------------------	---

Email:	Berry.Billingsley@canterbury.ac.uk Office: LASAR@canterbury.ac.uk
--------	--

Please initial box

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|----|---|---|--|
| 1. | I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet for the above study and have had the opportunity to ask questions. | | | | | | |
| 2. | I understand that I am free to withdraw from the study at any time until the end of the data collection phase, without giving any reason. | | | | | | |
| 3. | I understand that any personal information provided to the researchers will be kept strictly confidential. | | | | | | |
| 4. | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: top;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">I DO NOT consent to my data being used in the above study.</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table> | I DO NOT consent to my data being used in the above study. | | OR | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: top;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">I consent to my data being used in the above study.</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table> | I consent to my data being used in the above study. | |
| I DO NOT consent to my data being used in the above study. | | | | | | | |
| I consent to my data being used in the above study. | | | | | | | |

Full name of student

Name of Parent/Carer

date

Signature

Please send the form as an attachment to your teacher or simply email, "I have read the information provided about the Epistemic Insight research and my decision is to [opt in / opt out]"