

Information for Research Participants

We would like to ask if you and your child would be willing to take part in a research project. In this document, you will find information about the project and what participation involves.

What is the project and why do you want us to participate?

The overall aim of the project is to contribute to the knowledge about language development, and to develop understanding that will enable us to provide better support to children with language impairment and to children learning Swedish as a second language. We want to study how children learn words and Swedish grammar. Such information could influence how teachers and speech therapists can help children with vocabulary learning, storytelling, and reading. We need to see children aged 6–9 in three different groups:

- Monolingual Swedish-speaking children who have not had any contact with a speech therapist
- Monolingual Swedish-speaking children who are, or have been, receiving support from a speech therapist regarding their language development
- Children learning Swedish as a second language

The organization responsible for the project is Linköping University. The application has been approved by the Swedish Ethical Review Authority, and the reference number for the review is 2023-05381-01.

What does participation involve?

If you and your child choose to participate, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire, which can be filled out either online or on paper. The questionnaire will include questions, for example, about your child's language development and whether more than one language is spoken at home.

Your child will meet with a speech therapist twice, for up to 1.5 hours each time, to take part in various tasks such as listening to words and pointing to pictures in books, naming pictures, repeating unfamiliar words, and listening to sentences and looking at pictures on a computer screen. These tasks are similar to activities children typically perform when seeing a speech therapist.

Your child's speech will be audio recorded so we can listen to it later. All recorded or collected information will be treated anonymously and will only be accessible to the research staff.

Possible consequences and risks with participation in the project

There are no risks associated with participation in the project, and you or your child can withdraw at any time if you wish. If there is an indication that your child would benefit from

contact with a speech therapist, due to worries regarding language development (and no such contact has been made), you the guardian will be informed.

What happens to my data?

The project will collect and record information about you and your child.

Your responses on a questionnaire, your child's responses and recorded speech during various tasks, will be handled to secure no unauthorised access. Collected data will be coded and handled securely and stored to secure no unauthorised access, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). No names or personal data will be mentioned in the audio recordings to protect personal information (names and birthdates). All collected information will be coded (pseudonymised), which means that it cannot be directly linked to you or your child. The code key will be stored in a locked cabinet in Christina Reuterskiöld's office at Linköping University. The code key will be handled to secure that unauthorised persons cannot access it.

At the end of the project, the results will be presented at the group level, and no individual results will be disclosed. Linköping University is responsible for your personal data. According to the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), you have the right to access your data, free of charge, and to have any errors corrected if necessary. You have the right to decline having your data stored without explanation. If you agree to data storage, you retain the right to withdraw your consent at any time without explanation. In such case, the information will be discarded or de-identified. If you wish to withdraw your consent, you should contact Christina Reuterskiöld at Linköping University, Campus US, building 511, entrance 76, phone: 013-291622.

The collected information may only be used in the way you have given consent for. If you agree that we may keep and use the results for future purposes, you must specifically consent to this. If new research projects arise that have not yet been planned, the Swedish Ethical Review Authority will decide whether you need to be asked for consent again.

You also have the right to request that your data be deleted or that the processing of your personal data be restricted. However, the right to deletion and restriction of processing does not apply when the data is necessary for the current research. If you wish to access the data, you should contact Christina Reuterskiöld at Linköping University, Campus US, building 511, entrance 76, phone: 013-291622. The data protection officer can be reached at dataskyddsombud@liu.se. If you are dissatisfied with how your personal data is handled, you have the right to submit a complaint to the Swedish Authority for Privacy Protection (Integritetsskyddsmyndigheten), which is the supervisory authority.

How can I access information about the results of the project?

The results from the study will be published (at the group level) in open-access journals, so they can be available free of charge. If the researchers discover that a child is having difficulty with language learning and would benefit from contact with a speech therapist, they will provide the guardian with recommendations. If you wish, you can also receive a brief written summary of your child's test results.

Insurance and compensation

If the child is tested at school, they are covered by the municipal accident insurance. Regular home insurance usually covers any potential damages that may occur during travel.

Participation in the project itself cannot cause any harm.

Your child will receive small rewards, such as stickers during the sessions with the speech therapist. Each child who participates will also receive a certificate showing that they have taken part and helped to increase knowledge about language learning.

Participation is voluntary

Your and your child's participation is voluntary, and you can choose to withdraw from the project at any time. If you choose not to participate or decide to withdraw, you do not need to provide a reason, and it will not affect any future care, treatment, or schooling.

If you wish to withdraw from the project, please contact the person responsible (details below).

Principal investigator

The person responsible for the project is Christina Reuterskiöld, Linköping University, Campus US, building 511, entrance 76, phone: 013-291622, email:

christina.reuterskiold@liu.se

Would you like to participate?

If you and your child would like to participate or if you have any questions, you can contact one of the research assistants:

Linköping

Jessika Rior,
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Norrköping

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