



## To all parents

Språksterk 1-6 is a research project led by The University of Oslo that will investigate how daycare facilities in multilingual areas can contribute to children's language development before they start school.

The project is financed by The Research Council of Norway and Oslo Municipality.

We are contacting you to ask whether you would like your child to participate in this research project.

On the next page, you can find more information about the study. We know that this letter contains a lot of information and that it is often better to talk to researchers directly. We therefore encourage you to contact us if there is anything you are wondering about.

All parents that agree to their child participating in the project will receive information about what we find out in the study.

We reserve the right to make changes to the schedule due to COVID-19. In this event, you will receive information about this.

Kind regards

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# Would you like to participate in the Språksterk 1-6 research project?

## **Purpose**

In the Språksterk 1-6 project, researchers at the Department of Education and The Norwegian Centre for Science Education at The University of Oslo would like to learn more about how daycare staff can support children's language learning. The project has been developed in collaboration with educational leaders in five city districts and the Pedagogical and Psychological Counselling Service in Oslo.

In the project, we will collect information about the daycare staff and about the children who attend the daycare facilities. The knowledge we gain from the project will be used to develop a more complete Språksterk-model that more daycare facilities can benefit from. The project will then be continued by the participating districts, in collaboration with the Pedagogical and Psychological Counselling Services.

The project therefore consists of two phases:

In the first phase, participating daycare facilities will be randomly divided into two groups: Group A and Group B. These groups will try two different models of support for the daycare staff over a period of two years from autumn 2021 to spring 2023.

Group A: Staff in these daycare facilities will participate in several courses and be observed interacting with children in their unit. Based on these observations, staff will receive feedback from the Pedagogical and Psychological Counselling Services on which areas the unit works well and which areas the unit should focus to improve.

Group B: Staff in these daycare facilities will do the same as described for Group A. In addition, they will try out different activities such as play and conversations about books with the children, with support from supervisors from the Pedagogical and Psychological Counselling Services and The Norwegian Centre for Science Education.

In the second phase, all daycare facilities in Group A and Group B will be offered the chance to work according to a more complete model aimed at supporting staff and collaboration with parents. We will follow this phase for one year from autumn 2023 to spring 2024.

The daycare staff can inform you which group they belong to.

## **Who is responsible for the research project?**

The Department of Education at the University of Oslo is responsible for the project. Professor Veslemøy Rydland and Associate Professor Ratib Lekhal are the project leaders.

## **Why have you been asked to participate?**

The project has recruited ca 900 children in ca 60 daycare facilities from five city districts in Oslo. We ask you to participate in the study because your child's daycare facility has agreed to participate.

Considering that many of the children who joined the project last year have now left the daycare unit (and moved to other units), we wish to recruit more children to participate in some parts of the project this year and next year (autumn 2022-spring 2024).

### **What does participation involve?**

We ask the pedagogical leader to report on your child's participation in various activities approximately once a month between the autumn of 2022 and the spring of 2024.

We will also visit your child in their daycare facility at two different occasions (spring 2023 and spring 2024). The extent of this will depend on how long your child attends the daycare facility.

In the daycare facility, we will:

- 1) Observe your child in everyday situations with other children and adults in the unit, for example when they are playing.
- 2) Make two audio recordings (of 5-10 minutes each) where the adult plays and reads a book with your child in a small group.

### **It is voluntary to participate**

It is completely voluntary to participate in the project. If you choose to participate, you can withdraw your consent at any time without giving any reason. All your personal information will then be deleted. It will not be any negative consequences for you if you do not wish to participate or later choose to withdraw. It will not, for example, affect your relationship with the daycare facility if you choose to withdraw.

### **Your privacy - how we store and use your information**

We will only use the information about you and your child for the purposes we have described in this document. We treat the information confidentially and in accordance with the privacy regulations. This means, among other things, that we have strict requirements for how we store the material we collect. Only those who work in the research project will see the material, and yours and your child's name will not be saved with the material. It will not be possible to recognize individual children or daycare facilities when information from the study is shared as data files (for example, in journals that request this) or reproduced as written examples for teaching purposes. It will also not be possible to recognize individual children or daycare facilities when the results from the project are presented as scientific articles, in master's theses and doctoral dissertations. Analyzes and results will focus on how children's development is related to how adults interact with children over time.

The Department of Education at the University of Oslo is responsible for the information collected. To ensure that no one else has access to the information about you and your child, the information is stored on a secure server and protected by UiO's security systems. EngageLab and Services for Sensitive Data (TSD) at UiO are the data security providers.

### **What happens to your information when the research project ends?**

The information will be anonymized when the project ends, which is scheduled to happen by the end of 2027. At this time, personal information that can be linked to other information will be deleted. Video- and audio recordings will also be deleted. We may wish to do follow-up studies of children further in the school years. In this case, we will contact you before the end of the project to request a new consent.

### **Your rights**

As long as you or your child can be identified in the data material, you have the right to:

- access what personal information is registered about you and your child, and to receive a copy of the information,
- have personal information about you and your child corrected,
- have personal information about you and your child deleted, and
- to send a complaint to the Data Inspectorate about the processing of your and your child's personal data.

### What gives us the right to process personal information about you?

We process information about you based on your consent.

On behalf of the [Department of Education at UiO](#), NSD - Norwegian Centre for Research Data AS has assessed that the processing of personal data in this project is in accordance with the privacy regulations.

### Where can I find out more?

If you have questions about the study, or want to exercise your rights, please contact:

- [Veslemøy Rydland \(veslemoy.rydland@iped.uio.no\)](mailto:veslemoy.rydland@iped.uio.no) or [Ratib Lekhal \(ratib.lekhal@iped.uio.no\)](mailto:ratib.lekhal@iped.uio.no) at The Department of Education at UiO
- Our privacy representative: [Roger Markgraf-Bye \(personvernombud@uio.no\)](mailto:personvernombud@uio.no)

If you have questions related to NSD's assessment of the project, you can contact:

- NSD – Norwegian Centre for Research Data on email ([personverntjenester@nsd.no](mailto:personverntjenester@nsd.no)) or telephone: 55 58 21 17.

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## Declaration of consent

I have received and understood the information about the Språksterk 1-6 project and have had the opportunity to ask questions.

- I agree to participation in the Språksterk 1-6 research project which means that my child is observed in the daycare facility and participate in audio recordings of small groups of children. I also agree that my information will be processed until the project is completed.
- I also agree that the pedagogical leader reports on my child's participation in various pedagogical activities approximately once a month from autumn 2022 to spring 2024. I agree that this information will be processed until the project is completed.

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(signed by project participant, date)

Name of the daycare facility in block capitals: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of daycare unit in block capitals: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name in block capitals:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's telephone number:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's email:

\_\_\_\_\_

Child's name in block capitals:

\_\_\_\_\_

Child's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's sex: \_\_\_\_\_ boy \_\_\_\_\_ girl

Does the family use another mother tongue in addition to Norwegian at home? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

If yes, which language \_\_\_\_\_

Written forms to be returned to the daycare facility.