

Participant Information Sheet – for parents and guardians

Project title	De-anthropomorphising LLMs through experiential learning: building workshops with young people
Principal investigator	Prof Fiona McNeill – f.j.mcneill@ed.ac.uk
Researcher collecting data	Rayo Verweij – rayo.verweij@ed.ac.uk
Funder	UKRI AI Centre for Doctoral Training in Designing Responsible Natural Language Processing (Grant EP/Y030656/1).

This information sheet is for parents and guardians. It explains the research project at the University of Edinburgh in which we would like your child to participate. It gives information about the project in the form of questions you might have and their answers. If you have further questions, we are happy to discuss them and give you more information.

This study was certified according to the Informatics Research Ethics Process, reference number 735546. Please take time to read the following information carefully. A shortened version of this information will be provided to your child should you agree to their participating in the project. You should keep this sheet for your records.

Who are the researchers?

The researcher collecting data is Rayo Verweij, a PhD student at the School of Informatics of the University of Edinburgh. He is supervised by Prof Fiona McNeill, School of Informatics, who serves as the principal investigator (PI) on this project; as well as Dr Cara Wilson, Moray House School of Education and Sport; and Dr Valentina Andries, Moray House School of Education and Sport.

What is the purpose of the study?

The study aims to develop new methods for young people to learn about Large Language Models, a type of AI technology used in, for example, chatbots such as ChatGPT.

How can my child help?

Your child has been invited as they attend a school or youth group that is participating in the study. They can help by attending a workshop (details below) at their school or youth group.

Does my child have to take part?

No – participation in this study is entirely up to you and your child. You can withdraw your child from the study at any time, without giving a reason. Your child may also withdraw at

any time by saying that they do not want to take part any more. Your rights will not be affected. If you wish to withdraw, contact the PI. We will stop using your child's data in any publications or presentations submitted after you have withdrawn consent. However, we will keep copies of your and your child's original consent, and of your withdrawal request.

What will happen if my child takes part?

Your child will be asked to take part in one workshop about Large Language Models at the school or youth club they've been recruited through, with other children of around their age. They will be asked about their experiences in the workshop in conversation with the researchers as well as by filling out questionnaires.

Your child may be photographed while taking part in the workshop. No audio or video will be recorded.

Are there any risks associated with taking part?

There are no significant risks associated with participation.

Are there any benefits associated with taking part?

Your child will receive an educational experience on the inner workings of LLMs.

What will happen to the results of this study?

The results of this study may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. Quotes, photographs, and key findings will be anonymised: we will remove any information that could, in our assessment, allow anyone to identify your child. With your consent, information can also be used for future research. Your child's data may be archived for a maximum of 3 years.

How will personal information be protected?

Your child's data will be processed in accordance with Data Protection Law. All information collected about your child will be kept strictly confidential. Your child's data will be referred to by a unique participant number rather than by name. Your child's data will only be viewed by the research team: Rayo Verweij, Fiona McNeill, Cara Wilson, and Valentina Andries.

All electronic data will be stored on a password-protected encrypted computer, on the School of Informatics' secure file servers, or on the University's secure encrypted cloud storage services (DataShare, ownCloud, or Sharepoint) and all paper records will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in the researcher's office. Your and your child's consent information will be kept separately from your child's responses in order to minimise risk.

What are my and my child's data protection rights?

The University of Edinburgh is a Data Controller for the information you and your child provide. You have the right to access information held about your child. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance Data Protection Law. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure and objection. For more details, including the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit www.ico.org.uk. Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the University Data Protection Officer at dpo@ed.ac.uk.

Who can I contact?

If you have any further questions about the study, please contact the researcher collecting data, Rayo Verweij, at rayo.verweij@ed.ac.uk.

If you wish to make a complaint about the study, please contact inf-ethics@inf.ed.ac.uk. When you contact us, please provide the study title and detail the nature of your complaint.

Alternative formats.

To request this document in an alternative format, such as large print or on coloured paper, please contact the researcher collecting data, Rayo Verweij, at rayo.verweij@ed.ac.uk.

General information.

For general information about how we use your data, go to <https://research-office.ed.ac.uk/about/privacy-notice>.

Once again, **this study is completely voluntary and you and your child are under no obligation to take part**. Even if you say yes now, you may withdraw your child from the study at any time and for any reason by contacting us. Your child may also withdraw at any time by say that they do not want to take part anymore.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

If you decide to allow your child to take part, please fill out the attached consent form and have your child take it with them to the workshop.