

Diversity in Education: The inclusivity of Black, Asian, and other minority related issues in the Merseyside school curriculum.

Version 1; December 2021

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You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask us if you would like more information or if there is anything that you do not understand. Please also feel free to discuss this with your friends or relatives if you wish. We would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to.

Thank you for reading this.

1. What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of the study is to investigate the issue of ethnic diversity in the Merseyside school curriculum. We would like to understand where and how Black, Asian and other minority ethnic (BAME) related issues feature in the curriculum, and the extent to which individual teachers or geographical location may influence curriculum content.

2. Why have I been chosen to take part?

Liverpool World Centre consider that you fit the participant criteria as someone involved in teaching in Merseyside.

3. Do I have to take part?

Although we would value your responses, your involvement is entirely voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw your participation at any time, without explanation, and without incurring a disadvantage.

4. What will happen if I take part?

The research process will include both a questionnaire stage, and a follow-up interview should you be interested in taking part further. We are looking for 15 - 20 participants to complete the questionnaire, and 3 – 5 participants to interview.

The questionnaire you will be asked to complete will contain around 10 questions and should take around 10 minutes. There will be a section of the questionnaire allowing you to indicate whether you would like to participate in an interview and space for you to provide an email address.

The interview process will include a series of broad questions about your experience of the curriculum and its representation of BAME issues. It will be conducted by Jessica Welch, a student at the University of Liverpool. With your permission, the interview will be audio recorded via Zoom/Microsoft Teams so

that it can be transcribed for later analysis. The interview itself will consist of 6 set questions, this may take approximately 20 to 30 minutes of your time.

You will be asked to give your fully informed consent prior to taking part in the study; this will ensure that you are aware of your rights throughout the entire process (e.g. that you are able to withdraw your participation at any time). As well as this, your responsibility as a participant is to answer honestly and to the best of your ability.

5. How will my data be used?

The University processes personal data as part of its research and teaching activities in accordance with the lawful basis of ‘public task’, and in accordance with the University’s purpose of “advancing education, learning and research for the public benefit”.

Under UK data protection legislation, the University acts as the Data Controller for personal data collected as part of the University’s research. Dr. Lynn Hancock acts as the Data Processor for this study, and any queries relating to the handling of your personal data can be sent to L.Hancock@liverpool.ac.uk

Further information on how your data will be used can be found in the table below.

How will my data be collected?	Via self-completed questionnaire and interview recording (audio recording to be transcribed)
How will my data be stored?	On a university password protected M drive
How long will my data be stored for?	Until the end of the academic year 2021-22
What measures are in place to protect the security and confidentiality of my data?	All data is anonymised and stored on a University password protected M drive
Will my data be anonymised?	Yes
How will my data be used?	In a report for the client which will also be assessed for academic credit.
Who will have access to my data?	The student and academic supervisor
Will my data be archived for use in other research projects in the future?	No
How will my data be destroyed?	All recorded files will be deleted, and anonymised transcripts and questionnaires will remain on a university password protected M drive until the assessment is completed. Student M drives are deleted after graduation.

6. Expenses and / or payments

There are no expenses or reimbursement for taking part.

7. Are there any risks in taking part?

We do not suspect that this topic of enquiry poses any risk of triggering distress in participants as it won't involve any disclosure of personal or sensitive information. However we do understand that there is a small risk of distress or the potential for emotional distress of being in an interview setting. Though all data will be anonymised, there is a small possibility that the link worker may be able to identify some of the participants based on the information you provide, based on this it is completely your choice whether or not to go ahead with the research.

Should you wish to pause or withdraw from the interview, at any time, please let the researcher know immediately. You can abstain from answering any question that you may be uncomfortable with. Any discomfort experienced as part of the research should be made known to the researcher immediately.

8. Are there any benefits in taking part?

There are no intended benefits of taking part.

9. What will happen to the results of the study?

Once the results have been analysed, and the Client Report has been finalised, Jessica Welch will submit the report to the Department of Sociology, Social Policy & Criminology as part of the assessment for their degree. Once the Client Report has been assessed, a copy will be made available to Liverpool World Centre.

10. What will happen if I want to stop taking part?

Participants can withdraw their participation in the research at any time, without explanation or consequences. Results up to the period of withdrawal may be used, if participants are happy for this to be done. If not, participants may request that the results are destroyed and no further use is made of them. It should be noted that results may only be withdrawn prior to anonymisation.

Participants who wish to withdraw their information during the data collection process should be in contact with the Principal Investigator (see question 12 for contact details).

11. What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?

If you are unhappy, or if there is a problem, please feel free to let us know by contacting Dr Lynn Hancock on 01517942980 and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Ethics and Integrity Office at ethics@liv.ac.uk. When contacting the Research Ethics and Integrity Office, please provide details of the name or description of the study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

The University strives to maintain the highest standards of rigour in the processing of your data. However, if you have any concerns about the way in which the University processes your personal data,

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it is important that you are aware of your right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office by calling 0303 123 1113.

12. Who can I contact if I have further questions?

Miss Jessica Welch (**Student Researcher**)

J.Welch@student.liverpool.ac.uk

OR

Dr Lynn Hancock (**Principal Investigator**)

Department of Law and Social Justice

University of Liverpool

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