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**Title of the study: “ Fathers’ and mothers’ reports of their attitudes and experiences of the home mathematical environment (HME)’”.**

Dear Parent,

We have contacted your school principal who has kindly agreed to send this information letter to you to ask if you would be willing to take part in our research. This study is about “Fathers’ and mothers’ reports of their attitudes and experiences of the home mathematical environment (HME)’”. We hope to gather information from **mothers and fathers of children 4-8 years old** and to find out about your attitudes to and expectations around maths learning and the types of maths activities that happen in your home. We are using a survey to do this, and your answers will help us to understand how home experiences relate to maths learning and achievement. Where possible, please complete one questionnaire per parent (mum and dad). Often the voice of fathers is missing in research of this kind and so we are encouraging fathers to participate as well as mothers. **It should take approximately 10 -15 minutes to complete.** You may access the survey using this link <https://qubpsych.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8vm3pC2rQ1j1J6R> or you may request a paper copy from your school.

Your participation is voluntary and will be confidential. It is your right to decide not to take part and you can withdraw at any time, even after starting the survey, by closing the browser window (online version). Any data that may have been provided up to that point will be withdrawn and destroyed as a matter of course. In order to keep paper copies anonymous, there will be no opportunity to record the names of schools or participants on these, therefore paper copies will not be able to be withdrawn once submitted.

Data will be stored on password protected computers and in the case of paper copies, locked cupboards in the School of Psychology Queen’s University, Belfast, for a period of five years after the study is completed, after which they will be destroyed. Anonymized data will be used in research publications and will be available to researchers associated with this study and other interested researchers by request. For more information about how we look after your information, how to access your rights and who to contact if you have any queries and concerns about data protection please visit the Queen’s University website: <https://qub.ac.uk/privacynotice/Research/ListofResearchPrivacyNotices/PrivacyNoticeforResearchParticipants.html>

There are no physical or psychological risks associated with completing this survey. If you have any ethical concerns please contact QUB (by phone at 02890972529 or via email at facultyreceps@qub.ac.uk ). Any other questions please contact Heather at hlyle04@qub.ac.uk

Thank you in anticipation for your help in our study which we hope will progress our understanding in how to help children’s mathematical development and outcomes. We would value your response by **Thursday 23rd November, 2023.**

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