



Department
for Education

**Five
to Twelve**

Continue being part of Five To Twelve

Information for participants



What is the study about?

Five to Twelve is a national study of around 8,000 children and their families attending primary school in the 2020s. It is part of an exciting series of studies about different stages of childhood, from birth through to young adulthood. By following children and their mothers and fathers over time, the study aims to understand how children's early years, school, home life and relationships shape their education and development. We will be interviewing mothers, fathers and/or other parental carers once each year throughout primary school. One of our interviewers visited your family around a year ago and we are inviting you again to take part now that your child is a year older.



Thank you for your help so far!

Last year, your family took part in the first stage of Five to Twelve - thank you! You are contributing to a vital project which will help us understand how to give children the best start in life. We can only run this study with the participation of families like yours.

It is vital that we hear from every father, mother and parental carer living with or in contact with each child. This helps us ensure that all perspectives about the lives of children and their school experiences are represented.



Who is carrying out the study?

This study is being carried out by the National Centre for Social Research, the largest independent social research organisation in Britain, in collaboration with the National Children's Bureau (NCB) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). Five to Twelve is funded by the Department for Education (DfE).

What does taking part involve?

Last year one of our interviewers visited your family at home. This year, we are following up with an online questionnaire. Details on how to access the questionnaire can be found on the accompanying letter.

We'd like to invite you and your partner (if you have one) to take part in the survey online. You will each have your own access code in a personally addressed letter, email or text. The survey should take up to 30 minutes (and some will be shorter). There will also be the opportunity for any parents of your child who live elsewhere to do a similar survey. Each person taking part will not see the responses given by anyone else in your child's family.

We also have the option to do this survey over the phone. We may call you to invite you to take part in this way, or you can call us on **0800 652 4568** to let us know if you would prefer to do this questionnaire by phone.

If you agree, we would also like to invite your child's teacher to complete a questionnaire about your child.



Frequently Asked Questions

How was I chosen for this study?

Your child was selected at random from the Department for Education's National Pupil Database to take part in the study. One of our interviewers visited your family last year to conduct the first stage of the study. We are getting back in touch with you to continue your and your child's involvement in this important study now that your child is a year older.

Do I have to take part?

Taking part is completely voluntary, but we do hope you'll be able to help. You can change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time and you do not have to provide a reason.

Who has approved this research?

The study has been reviewed by the Department for Education and an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee, to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. This study has been given ethical approval by the NatCen Research Ethics Committee (Reference no. P17959).

What will happen to the information I give?

All information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence in accordance with UK data protection legislation. Taking part in Five to Twelve will not impact your child maintenance payments or any state benefits you receive. The data is collected and used for research purposes only. The answers you provide to the study will be anonymised (all identifying information is removed). DfE will securely provide anonymised data to researchers conducting legitimate research on children's education and wellbeing. You can read the study's Privacy Notice here fivetotwelve.org.uk/privacy-notice.

If you'd like more information

You can visit our website at fivetotwelve.org.uk.

You can contact us at FiveToTwelve@natcen.ac.uk or call us on freephone **0800 652 4568**.