# Raising Voices: How can parents best support their children’s language development?

## **CONSENT FORM**Parenting and Family Support Centre

Participants: Parents of 2- to 3-year-old children experiencing delayed expressive language development

Investigators: Melinda McBryde, A/Prof Alina Morawska, Dr Cassandra Dittman
Dr Rebecca Armstrong

I have read the Information Statement and I agree to participate in this research project. I understand that I am participating in a study to evaluate the relative effectiveness of two different parent-directed programs for toddlers with delayed expressive language.

I acknowledge that:

1. To participate in this project, I require a **laptop, personal computer, or tablet with webcam capabilities**.
2. I will be randomly assigned to one of three groups. Two groups involve an intervention (**either** the **Group Triple P** or **Dialogic Reading** program). One group is a wait-list control group (where no participation in a program is required throughout the study).
3. I am aware that:
	1. The program sessions will begin immediately (within days) after the initial/baseline assessments.
	2. I may be randomly assigned to a **waitlist control group** which means I will receive the program later than other participants (approximately 5 months after the initial assessments). I agree to inform the research staff of any alternative support I seek for my child during this time.
	3. If I am assigned to the wait-list control group, I will have a choice of programs after the study concludes (approximately 5 months from now).
4. The program I am assigned to will be delivered over **8 consecutive weeks** (with sessions lasting between **1-2 hours per week**). I will receive a session timetable after I am assigned to my program.
5. The programs will be recorded to ensure that they are delivered according to research protocol. These recordings will be kept in the strictest confidence, and will only be viewed by the research team.
6. I will be required to complete a **set of questionnaires** about myself and my child on **three separate occasions**: at baseline (before the 8-week-long programs start), post-test (after the program sessions conclude), and follow up (three months after the end of the programs).
7. At these three timepoints, I will also be required to participate in **three observational assessments with my child**. These sessions will involve me interacting with my child in some activities provided (by mail) by the research team. These observational sessions will be hosted via Zoom and will last under 20 minutes.
8. I will be required to participate in the above assessments regardless of group assignment (all those in Group Triple P, Dialogic Reading, and in the wait-list control group will complete assessments).
9. Recordings of the observational assessments will be kept private and secure, viewed only by those associated with this research project, and permanently deleted after completion of the project.
10. Prior to the observation sessions, I will be mailed items (i.e., books/simple activities) to open and use during the assessment. I will then be able to keep or discard the items as I wish. For my child’s safety, I agree to supervise them as they use the items, both during the observational testing and subsequently.
11. My participation in this study is completely voluntary and I am able to withdraw at any time. I have been assured that the information I provide will be held in strict confidence, and will be used for statistical purposes only. Confidentiality will only be breached when a child is deemed at risk for harm. Any publications emerging from this study will be devoid of any identifying information. To ensure confidentiality, I will be assigned a participant number, and all records will be kept in password protected files on the University of Queensland server.
12. I understand that other researchers, in the future, may request data obtained in this study to assist with community access to the outcomes, conduct similar studies, or similar. This data will not be freely available and may only be granted by the current research team. Access to deidentified data (encoded information that cannot be traced back to the actual participants or reveal their identity) may be granted for creditable projects.

*This study has been cleared in accordance with the ethical review processes of the University of Queensland and is within the guidelines of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. You are, of course, free to discuss your participation with project coordinator (contactable on: 07 3365 7689). If you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Officer on (07) 3365 3924, or email* *humanethics@research.uq.edu.au**.*

**Who should I contact?**

If you would like more information, please contact Melinda McBryde (Lead Researcher and Project Coordinator) on 0431 862 107, or email melinda.mcbryde@uqconnect.edu.au