All the Year 4 and Year 3 classes in academic year 2016-7 and all Year 2 and Year 3 classes in academic year 2017-8 in Bradford primary schools have been / or will be invited to take part in this study. Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be invited to take part during 2018-9.

What is the purpose of this study?
The purpose of this study is to find out how a child’s cognitive development and levels of well-being and life satisfaction is linked and how this affects their later educational attainment. We will link this assessment information to the data already gathered about children in the Born in Bradford cohort to investigate how early life factors such as parenting, health and socioeconomic position also influence a child’s development.

Do the children have to take part?
We plan to assess all pupils in Year 5, Year 4, and Year 3 classes in cognitive skills and levels of well-being but the childrens’ participation in these assessments is voluntary. We ask that you send an information sheet home to parents so that they can decide whether or not they would like their child to participate. If the parents wish to withdraw their child they are asked to complete a consent refusal form and return that to school.

How will the children be assessed?
We will spend 40 – 45 minutes with every Year 5, Year 4 and Year 3 child in a class, not just those in the BiB project. The researchers will administer hand/eye co-ordination tests and memory tests etc. to groups of 8 - 10 children at a time, in order to collect information on competency in early motor skills and early cognitive development. All children will also complete a questionnaire (30 - 40 minutes) about well-being and life satisfaction ideally as a whole class using the school’s IT facilities. Children will complete these assessments only once.

Year 5, Year 4 and Year 3 Teachers will be asked to complete a short questionnaire (~ 5 minutes) on the behavioural and emotional development of each child in their class. Teachers will complete a questionnaire for each child one time only.

Will the school and child information be kept confidential?
Yes. No information about any individual child will appear in any public report. Reports will refer to the combined scores taken from all the children. We plan to link the results of these assessments to pupils’ later education attainment via our partnership with Bradford Education using UPNs. All personally identifiable information will be destroyed at the end of the project in accordance with our strict information governance policy.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?
Each school will be given the results of these assessments and this will help in the diagnosis of individual pupil difficulties so that schools can make specific interventions to improve attainment.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact us.

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