

*University of*  
**HUDDERSFIELD**

**Participant Information sheet**

**Research project title:**

What type of health service do south Asian mothers who have a child diagnosed with autism receive?

**Introduction**

My name is Ikra Shabbir and I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Sociology degree student at the University of Huddersfield. I am inviting you to participate in my research project investigating whether a diagnosis of autism is helpful for mothers. The reason for carrying out this project is that it is part of my final year dissertation and I am looking to recruit Pakistani mothers who are carers of a child diagnosed with autism aged between 3 - 16 years old. I am interested in finding out about your experience of dealing with health and social care professionals for example, doctors, speech therapists and development paediatricians.

Before I ask for your participation, it is important that you are fully aware of the reason why I am carrying out the research and what taking part in the project will involve. Please read the information provided for below carefully in order to decide whether you are happy to take part. If there are any questions or further information that you would like to discuss I would be happy to clarify this.

**Why the project is being carried out**

There is little research that has been carried out about the experiences of Pakistani mothers when their child is first diagnosed. By carrying out this research I hope to fill the gap within the research field.

**What taking part would involve**

1. I would like to conduct an interview with you.
2. The interview will take place at a time that is most convenient for you during one of the parent group meetings.
3. A single interview will be carried out and I will ask questions about your experiences when your child was diagnosed with autism. The focus will be upon exploring what you found helpful or difficult during your medical appointments. As a research participant you also have the choice to withdraw at any time.
4. After the study is completed, the findings will be analysed and extracts from your interview may be used in my final year project. Your identity will also be protected as I will use a pseudonym for anonymity purposes. If you are interested in reading the findings I would be able to provide you with a summary of them.

**Duration of the interview**

The interview will take 15-20 minutes of your time. \_

### **How the information you provide will remain confidential**

If you agree to be involved, your name or any other personal information will remain anonymous through the use of pseudonyms (if you wish you can choose your own pseudonym). The interview will also be audio-recorded at the time. The audio recording will not be available to anyone else but I may choose to show the data to my project supervisor.

### **How to participate in the study**

If you wish to get involved, you can contact me via email: [U1461471@unimail.hud.ac.uk](mailto:U1461471@unimail.hud.ac.uk). I will also be available during parent group meetings. Alternatively, you can ask the manager to get into contact with me. I will then carry out the interview at a time that would be most appropriate for you. If you also have any questions about my research you can contact my supervisor on Dr Berenice Golding: 01484 473845 or by email: [b.golding@hud.ac.uk](mailto:b.golding@hud.ac.uk).