



## Information for parents/guardians

We would like to ask for your consent to allow your child, who is about to start preschool class, to participate in a research project. In this document, you will find information about the project and what participation entails.

### About the project

We want to investigate Swedish language ability in children who have just started school. By participating in the study, you and your child contribute to new and important knowledge. We hope that this knowledge can lead to changes that give all children the same opportunity to learn Swedish, and thereby the same opportunity to succeed in school in the best possible way. We are interested in children from different areas and districts, both monolingual and multilingual. That is why we are contacting you to ask if you give your consent for your child to take part in the study. The research principal for the project is the Department of Linguistics, Stockholm University. The research has been approved by the Swedish Ethical Review Authority. The reference number for the review is **2025-02873-01**.

### How does the project work?

We will meet your child for about 30–45 minutes at school, during school hours or “fritids” time, in September or October. A member of the research team will meet your child in a separate room, where the child will be given different language tasks such as conversing, storytelling, listening, and understanding. We will only meet children whose parents/guardians have given consent and who themselves wish to participate. The session will be video- and audio-recorded. In the spring, we will meet some of the children again to follow their development in Swedish.

For your child to participate, you need to sign the consent form attached at the end of this document. If you agree, you will also be asked to fill out a questionnaire about your child’s language and family background.

### Possible consequences and risks of participating in the project

Participation means that the children meet a new person and complete tasks in Swedish. For some children, this may feel enjoyable and exciting, but others may feel shy, uncomfortable, or find the tasks difficult. The research team is very experienced in working with children and adapts communication so that the child has a positive experience. If the child says or shows that they no longer want to participate, the session will be stopped.



We use video recordings to analyze the child's language and communication in the best way possible. Only the research team has access to the recordings. For example, we will not show the videos to your child's teachers.

## **What happens with your information?**

The project will collect and register information about your child in the form of results from language tests and video recordings of conversations with the researcher. We will also collect information via the questionnaire you complete as guardian. The legal basis for processing personal data is public interest.

All data is handled so that no one outside the research team can access it. Paper documents are stored in locked cabinets at the Department of Linguistics and are only accessible to project researchers. Data from tests and questionnaires will be compiled in files where each child's name is replaced with a code. The key to the code is kept locked away and accessible only to the researchers. Video and audio files are stored on the department's encrypted, password-protected servers in a locked room. Research data will, according to Stockholm University's guidelines, be stored for at least 10 years. Your child's name and school name will not appear in any publications or presentations.

The data controller is Stockholm University. Under the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), you have the right to access the information stored about your child, correct errors, and request deletion or limitation of data processing. However, the right to deletion or limitation does not apply if the information is necessary for the research. To access the data, contact the responsible researcher **Signe Tonér** (signe.toner@ling.su.se; 08-16 20 00). For questions about data handling, you can contact Stockholm University's Data Protection Officer at dso@su.se; 08-16 41 91. If you are dissatisfied with how your personal data is handled, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Swedish Authority for Privacy Protection ([www.imy.se](http://www.imy.se)).

## **How will you get information about the results?**

The results of the study will be presented at national and international conferences and published in scientific journals, which you may access if you wish. You can request a copy of upcoming publications by contacting the Department of Linguistics at Stockholm University.

## **Insurance and compensation**

Since we meet the children at school or after-school care, the school's regular insurance



applies. Children will receive a diploma as thanks for their valuable contribution. No financial compensation is provided for participation.

### **Participation is voluntary**

Participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw your consent at any time. If you choose not to participate or want to withdraw your child, you do not need to state a reason. To withdraw, please contact project leader **Signe Tonér**.

### **The research group**

**Signe Tonér** (project leader), **Tove Nilsson Gerholm** (researcher), **Ghazaleh Vafaeian** (researcher).

We also have three assistants who will help with testing at the schools.

For more information about participating in the project, contact [signe.toner@ling.su.se](mailto:signe.toner@ling.su.se) or visit our website (in Swedish) via the QR code.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read!





Stockholms  
universitet

An assessment of language ability at school start: Which factors explain variation in Swedish among monolingual and multilingual children?



## Consent to participate in the project

I have received oral and/or written information about the study and have had the opportunity to ask questions. I may keep the written information.

- I consent to my child participating in the project “*An assessment of language ability at school start: Which factors explain variation in Swedish among monolingual and multilingual children?*”

|                             |                                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Place and date:             | Child's school:                         |
| Child's first and last name | Child's date of birthe (year-month-day) |
| <b>Signature guardian 1</b> | <b>Signature guardian 2<sup>1</sup></b> |
| Printed name guardian 1     | Printed name guardian 2                 |

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<sup>1</sup> If the child has two guardians, both need to sign. If the child has one guardian, one signature is sufficient.