

Parents and Children Together (PACT) Project: Schools Newsletter 3

Dear PACT Leads

We hope that you and your loved ones are keeping safe and well. We have very much been thinking of you all during these challenging times. As mentioned in our email update mid-October, the ongoing UK restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic have meant we have had to rethink our plans for the project again. We really appreciate your continued support and wanted to get in touch to give you further updates on next steps.



PACT Questionnaires

The Durham team have just contacted all parents taking part in the project with an online survey about the home learning environment. We also plan to ask Reception class teachers to complete a short school readiness questionnaire about each child participating in PACT. The Durham research team will be in touch with you about this **early next year (2021)**.

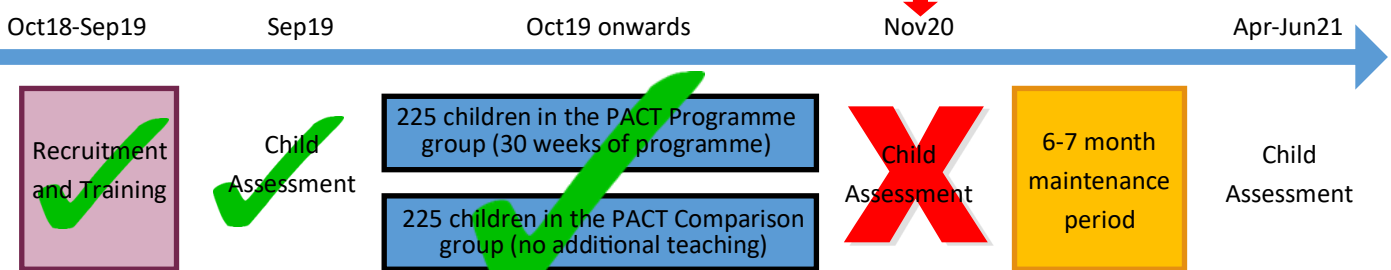
PACT Child Assessments

As you know we were planning to complete the language assessments with children in November 2020, after we were unable to do them in June. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey about potential for doing the assessments remotely — your feedback was extremely useful! After taking all of your feedback into account, we have decided that it isn't possible to do this at this time. We are sad that we won't be able to see children this year as we had planned to, but we are extremely sensitive to the additional pressures schools are currently facing and are keen to ensure that we don't add to the burden.

We plan to do the assessments again next year in **April-June 2021**. We still hope to do this and have been exploring different ways that could be done. We will keep you updated!

New project timeline:

This is where we're up to



In other news....

Because the current trial has been affected by COVID-19, our funders have asked us to think about whether we could start a new trial next September. We are very much in the early stages of thinking about this and will keep you updated as we know more. Schools on the current project (i.e. you!) will be the first to know whether we are starting a new trial and would be given first offer of a place on the project if we do—so watch this space! Whatever happens, **it will not affect the current trial**.



As always, please update us with any changes that affect the project (including school contact information, contact details of families taking part, project drop-outs, etc.).

Thank you for everything you have contributed to the project—it would not be possible without your support.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email us:

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Stay safe and take care