



WISDOM Research Network – Information Sheet for Researchers

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What is the WISDOM Research Network

The WISDOM Research Network aims to bring together primary and secondary schools in England, and academic researchers to enable high quality mental health research that meets the diverse needs of school communities. The WISDOM Research Network is part of a wider project called [Mental Health in Development](#) (MHID). MHID is part of the Oxford Health Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), funded by the NIHR and is a partnership with the University of Oxford, alongside the Universities of Birmingham, Reading, Liverpool, Oxford Brookes, and York, and the Oxford Health, Berkshire Healthcare and Birmingham Women’s and Children’s NHS Foundation Trusts.

What we do

We are building a network of primary and secondary schools in England and aim to recruit >400 member schools from a range of geographical locations.

The WISDOM Research Network partners with mental health research activities and shares information about these research activities with school members via regular newsletters and our website. Interested schools can get in touch with research teams directly.

Research activities will help address the [Mental Health in Development](#) aims and will recruit participants through primary and/or secondary schools in England.



We plan to partner with research studies, and also PPIE (Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement) activities and practice evaluations.

The WISDOM Research Network team

Primary school Leads: Professor Lucy Bowes, Dr Tessa Reardon

Secondary school Leads: Professor Mina Fazel, Dr Julia Badger

Postdoctoral Researcher: Dr Zoe Ryan

Research Assistant: Clare Stothart

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Email: wisdom.network@psy.ox.ac.uk

How will the WISDOM Research Network benefit researchers

Research activities accepted by the WISDOM Research Network will benefit from support with school recruitment. This will include advertising in our termly newsletters sent to member schools and on our website. You will be able to use the WISDOM Research Network Logo on any research activity documentation, and also have the opportunity to engage in wider network activities and connect with the WISDOM Research Network community.

What is expected from WISDOM Research Network Partner Activities

Partner activities must:

- Aim to recruit participants through primary and/or secondary schools in England
- Help address the [Mental Health in Development](#) overall aims and objectives
- Demonstrate a benefit for schools and/or participants

- Provide feedback for schools (e.g. share findings, outputs or resources) at a time agreed with the schools
- Have appropriate ethical approval, consent procedures and safeguarding procedures in place (where applicable) before recruitment begins
- Adhere to the [Oxford University Research Concordat](#), particularly for evaluations of existing school practice and PPI activities where additional ethical approvals are not required
- Ensure any data is processed in accordance with requirements of data protection law, with appropriate approvals in place (where applicable)
- Have a named research activity lead (this cannot be a student).

Consent and ethical considerations:

- Where informed consent is not necessary (e.g. in the case of using aggregated/non-identifiable data in practice evaluation), researchers must ensure the use of best practice when sharing information, obtaining consent/assent, storing and managing data, etc.
- For PPI activities, we ask researchers to obtain informed consent for school staff, parent/carers and pupils ≥ 16 years or informed parental consent and pupil assent where pupils < 16 years
- For PPI activities where pupils will be recruited, we ask researchers to carefully consider the ethical considerations of youth involvement (see [NIHR INVOLVE](#)) and encourage attendance of relevant training in PPI (e.g. through the McPin Foundation)
- We ask researchers to consider unequal relationships between researchers and pupils and/or staff and pupils and encourage researchers to take steps to ensure that pupils' choice and autonomy are respected throughout the research study or evaluation

We will consider the following types of activities for partnership:

- Research studies (all study designs are considered). Research studies that are undergraduate or postgraduate research projects will be considered but the student supervisor / principal investigator must be the named research activity lead.
- Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement Activities
- Practice Evaluations

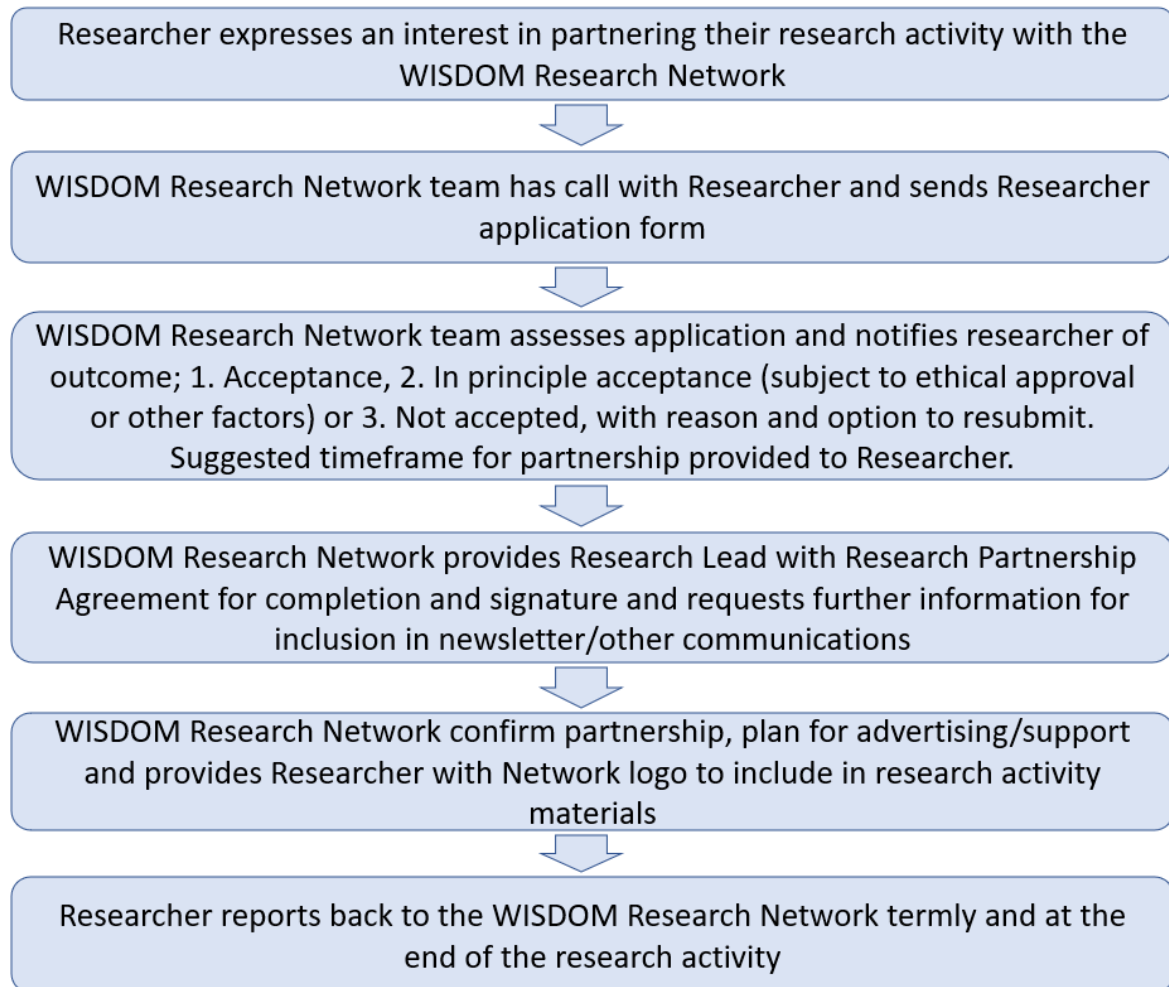
We ask the named lead for Partner activities to:

- Arrange for the WISDOM Research Network Application Form to be completed
- Complete and sign the WISDOM Research Network Partnership Agreement
- Provide information about the research activity to be included in WISDOM Research Network Newsletters and in other Network communication (e.g. social media, website)
- Comply with the following reporting requirements

Reporting requirements:

- Report the involvement of member schools in the Partnered activity to the WISDOM Research Network
- Complete a short termly survey regarding school involvement and feedback about your use of the Network
- Complete a short End of Research Activity report and notify the WISDOM Research Network of any future outputs that result from the partnered activity
- Acknowledge the WISDOM Research Network in any output that results from the partnered activity with the following statement: *“This work was supported by the WISDOM Research Network funded by the NIHR Oxford Health Biomedical Research Centre”*
- Notify the WISDOM Research Network of any issues or concerns related to member schools involved in the Partnered activities as soon as possible

How the Research Activity Partnership process works



The Network may also be limited in the number of activities that can be partnered at any one time, and will prioritize the following:

- Research activity from within the University of Oxford, Universities of Birmingham, Reading, Liverpool, Oxford Brookes, and York, and Oxford Health, Berkshire Healthcare, and Birmingham Women’s and Children’s NHS Foundation Trusts
- Research activities must closely align with the aims and objectives of [Mental Health in Development](#)

Data privacy notice

- Please see our privacy notice [here](#).

Network Membership

Anyone named on the application or agreement (i.e. the applicant, Research Activity Lead, second contact, student, collaborator) are all free to withdraw their identifiable contact information from the Network at any time without giving a reason, and without any adverse consequences or penalty. They can do this by emailing the Network team to let us know. We will then remove names and contact details for those who no longer wish to be partnered with the Network from our records. If a school has engaged in the research, a record of the research activity will be retained against their school record.

If you are interested in applying, please email us (wisdom.network@psy.ox.ac.uk) and we will be in touch to guide you through the Application process.

We encourage interested researchers to get in touch as early as possible and before an application for ethical approval is submitted.