



**Lockerbie
Academy**



*Dumfries
& Galloway*
COUNCIL

04 September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Hear Today- Gone Tomorrow Project

Your child, at Lockerbie Academy, has a unique opportunity to be involved with a cutting edge research project in association with Dr Graham Naylor (Medical Research Council/Chief Scientist Office Institute of Hearing Research – Scottish Section) and his team on **hearing**, for which the school has received a Royal Society Partnership Grant of approximately £3000.

The research project is called "Hear today - gone tomorrow." We want to investigate the effects on hearing of listening to music through headphones and earbuds. Under the training of professionals from the University of Nottingham Medical Research Council and teacher supervision we would like to train our senior students with an interest in the medical "industry" to conduct hearing tests on all students in the school, including your child. This **will not** involve playing sounds to your child that could potentially be at a damaging level. We would also request that during one month the students record their typical music listening habits, including time of exposure to the music and volume levels. If you would like to join in, we would love your comments in the students' log books to see if you agree that what they are recording represents is their typical listening habits.

Our partners have also acquired, and are building a device to test the volume of the music players that your child uses, to investigate if there are likely to be any health implications of this level of listening.

If, in the unlikely event we detect an anomaly in our results we will send a card home with your child advising a hearing test through your GP.
The experiments are fully risk assessed.

We need your permission for your child to be involved so we ask you to sign the sheet at the bottom of this letter and return it to the school by 15th September 2017.

If your child has a known hearing problem we feel that we cannot test the hearing of your child, but we would still love them to be involved in recording their listening habits and maybe they wish to be involved in helping with the tests.

cont/



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THE ROYAL SOCIETY



It is also hoped that there will be an opportunity to meet the Scientists who are involved in this project as they hope to give a talk to all interested students and members of the public before the start of the hearing tests, and you are more than welcome to attend. If you would like to know more about the project then please arrange to contact Mrs Hargreaves at the school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hargreaves
Physics Teacher



Name of student: _____

Register class: _____

I **do/do not*** wish my child to be involved in the hearing test

I **do/do not*** wish my child to be involved with the music level

My child **does/does not*** have a recognised hearing condition.

Child's permission, I _____ agree to participate in the

Hear Today - Gone Tomorrow Project.

Parent/ carer signature: _____