

School MOVES

The School Mobility Outcomes, Voices and Experiences Study



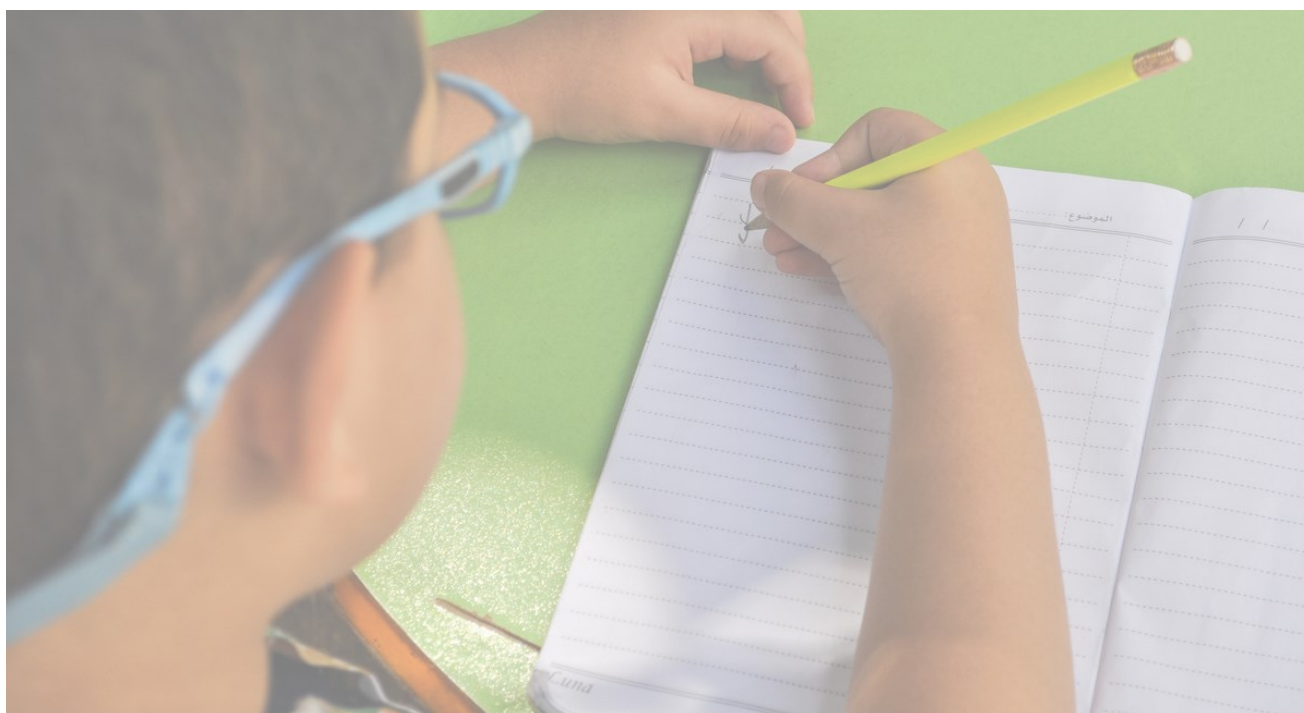
We are a team of researchers from the School of Education at the University of Birmingham and the Department of Education at the University of Warwick. We are carrying out a study on pupil school mobility, looking at the effects of pupils moving school outside standard age-based (e.g., primary to secondary) moves. Of central importance for the research is understanding how schools and families can best manage and support children and young people when they move school.

We are writing to your school to see whether you will consider participating in the study.

Participating in the project would involve the following activities:

◆ Holding a staff workshop at your school:

- Staff would be invited to a *group discussion workshop* to discuss their perspectives on pupil school mobility, its effect on your school and current and potential policies or practices in place to address it.
- Staff would be invited via a *brief recruitment advert* distributed by your school office and, if expressing an interest, be sent a more detailed information leaflet and consent form.
- To make attendance as convenient as possible for staff, we would like to conduct the workshop at *your school premises* and would choose a time which suits your school's timetabling.
- The workshops would be *expected to last approximately 1 ½ hour*, but the exact time and place would be discussed and agreed with you in advance.



- ✦ **Prior to the workshop** we will invite you, or a member of your senior leadership team, to provide some *background information about pupil mobility at your school and any policies or practices that you have in place to manage it.* You may also be able to share relevant school policy documents in confidence. This would be of great help to the research team in conducting our analysis of school approaches to pupil school mobility.
- ✦ **Invitation to an online cross-school workshop** – Later in the project, we will invite staff participating in the initial workshop to an *additional online workshop* with staff at other participating schools to identify key issues in the findings from the project and discuss how *an online resource* can best be developed and put to use in schools to enable better and more tailored support around pupil school mobility. This workshop would last approximately 1 ½ hr and would be facilitated over Teams or Zoom.
- ✦ **Option to support piloting and development of the online resource and feedback** - All participating schools would be given the opportunity to *pilot the online resource* with your school community during a period of approximately four months. Following this period, we would send you *a short questionnaire* to evaluate your experience of using the resource and follow up with a brief phone-call to explore any recommendations you might have for improvements and further roll-out of the resource.



All data recorded as part of the study relating to individuals or school policy, practices or perspectives will be anonymized to remove all names or clearly identifying features of any participating schools or research participants. Staff will be asked to keep the name and locality of their school confidential when participating in the online workshop with other school staff and no group emails will be sent, enabling identification of schools from staff email addresses. This is to ensure that no identifiable information about pupils who have moved school is shared. The one exception to confidentiality is that we would like, with their consent, to name participating schools as having supported the development of the online resource, without this being connected to any identifiable information.

Based on the information provided above, we very much hope you will consider participating in the project. To enable you to ask any questions you may have, we will follow up our email with a phone call in approximately a week's time. In the meantime, you are welcome to contact Dr Laura Cristescu (Research Fellow) at: a.l.cristescu@bham.ac.uk.

Thank you for considering this request. We hope that you will be able to support our research and help us generate more knowledge about pupil school mobility and how to better support children, families, schools and local authorities.