

August 2016

Dear Life Study participant,

I am writing to thank you for giving of your and your family's time so generously to help us with Life Study. Unfortunately we have received the very disappointing news that the Research Councils are stopping financial support for Life Study, due to serious challenges encountered in recruiting families to the Study.

Although this is very disappointing and means we will not collect any new data from you or anyone else for Life Study, we would still like to use the information that you have already provided for the benefit of children and families. Any research using your information would be to understand the health and development of children and their families as was explained in the information booklet that you received when you joined Life Study. There is more information about research using Life Study data on the new Life Study website - www.lifestudy.ac.uk - that will be available by July 2016.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter or about the use of your data you can visit the new Life Study website that will be available in July 2016. Alternatively you can get in touch by email to info@lifestudy.ac.uk or by writing to me at the address given at the top of the letter. I will get back to you as soon as possible. Sometimes letters come at a difficult time for families and if this is the case for your family, I apologise.

We greatly valued your participation in Life Study. We all hoped Life Study would continue for much longer to support research aimed at giving children the best start in life. This kind of research is only possible with the generous involvement of parents, children and families – in other words people like you. I very much hope that you and your family do not feel discouraged about taking part in research in the future. If you do want to find out more about supporting or being involved in research, please take a look at <http://www.invo.org.uk/>.

Thank you again for all your help and support for Life Study.

Yours sincerely

Professor Carol Dezateux
Scientific Director of Life Study