RESEARCH NOTIFICATION

1. *Redesigning Early Foreign Language Learning through Multiliteracies (MultiELL)* and invitation to participate in research

We ask the teacher and her pupils to participate in the project *Redesigning Early Foreign Language Learning through Multiliteracies (MultiELL)*, which investigates what language teachers and learners think about language learning and teaching in grades one and two and how the teaching looks like. The study is being conducted in a few Finnish-medium schools, and it aims to develop early A1 language teaching.

The teacher is invited to participate in the study because they teach A1 language in grade one. The pupil is invited to participate in the study because they are in the first grade and participate in A1 language classes.

This research notification describes the study and related participation. The attachment provides information on the processing of your personal data. The pupil will also receive a separate "Information for participant in research" asking for the consent of the child and the guardian to participate in the study.

The study will involve approximately eight teachers and their classes with about 15-25 pupils.

This is a follow-up study with several phases. Data will be collected several times in spring 2025, autumn 2025 and spring 2026 from the teacher and the pupils unless the child, the guardian or the teacher cancels their consent for participation in this study.

2. Voluntariness

Participation in this study is voluntary. The teacher or the pupil can refuse to participate in the study, stop participating or cancel their previously given consent, without stating any reason for this and at any time during the study. This will have no negative consequences to you.

If you stop participating in the study or if you cancel your consent, the personal data, samples and other information collected on you up to that point will be used as part of the research material as far as it is necessary in order to ensure relevant research outcomes.

3. Progress of the study

We will **observe A1 language lessons** in the first and second grade in spring 2025, autumn 2026 and spring 2026. We will be present in a total of about 20-30 A1 language lessons. We will **take notes** on the lessons on a form and one researcher (a live illustrator) will take notes by drawing a picture of the lesson on a tablet. We will also **audio- and video record** a few A1 language lessons in each class. The recordings are only available to the research team. Still images of the videos will be discussed with the participating pupils and the teacher. The videos, audio recordings or still images will not be made available for viewing when the study is reported.

Pupil: In about four A1 language lessons, we will give pupils **a visual task** related to A1 language teaching, which they will do **in small groups**. We agree with the teacher in which lesson the task can be given to the pupils. We will **audio record** the small group discussions. After the task, we will ask the pupils to talk about the pictures they have made in their groups. We will **video record the discussion** so that we can see the pictures made by the pupils when they talk about them. The task is in Finnish, but pupils can also use other languages if they wish. We will also conduct two **group interviews** with a few pupils each year, each lasting about 15 minutes. The timing of the interviews will be agreed with the teacher so that it does not interfere with the school work of the pupils being interviewed. The interview will be conducted in Finnish and will be **video recorded** so that we can see the visual material used as prompts in the interview. In the interview, we want to know what pupils think about teaching and learning A1 language.

Teacher: The teacher will be asked to keep **a multimodal diary** (photographs and a short oral or written text) of their planning and implementation of teaching for some weeks in spring 2025 and two to three times in the academic year 2025-26. The teacher will also be **interviewed individually** for two one-hour interviews in each academic year. The interviews will be **audio recorded**. In addition, background information will be collected from the teacher using **a Webropol form**. In the 2025-26 school year, the teacher will also be invited to participate in up to four **planning meetings** of approximately one hour with other teachers participating in the project, for example via Teams or Zoom. These discussions will be **recorded**. Teachers will also be offered the opportunity to meet remotely in 2025-26 with teachers participating in a similar study in Valencia, Spain and Ontario, Canada.

4. **Possible benefits from the study**

The study will help develop methods for early language learning and teaching. It will allow pupils to express their perceptions and experiences of early language learning with images, words and actions. Teachers will gain insights into their pupils' perceptions and experiences. They can share their expertise and ideas with others interested in the subject and develop their own teaching with colleagues and researchers. Teachers will also have access to images drawn by a live illustrator of their lesson.

Early language learning and teaching in all schools only started in the early 2020s and the development of its methods is of societal importance. The study looks at language teaching from a multiliteracies perspective, which is a scientifically novel approach to research on language teaching. The study's scientific significance is also enhanced by the participatory and visual data collection methods it uses, including a wide range of visual expressions (collages, drawings, photographs, live illustrations).

5. **Possible risks, harm, and inconvenience caused by the study as well as preparing for these**

Participation in the study is not expected to cause any risks, harm or inconvenience.

6. **Study-related costs and compensations to the subject as well as research funding**

The teacher will be paid a monetary reward for their participation in the study. The reward is compensation for work, i.e. taxable income for the recipient, which the payer reports to the income register maintained by the tax administration.

The teacher can refuse from the reward or reimbursement.

Additional information about taxation https://www.vero.fi/henkiloasiakkaat/verokortti-ja-veroilmoitus/tulot/ansiotulot/gallupit-kyselyt-ja-tutkimukset/

The teacher is funded by the Research Council of Finland.

7. **Informing about research results and research outcomes**

The study will yield scientific and popular scientific publications, academic theses and dissertations, conference and seminar presentations as well as teaching material for the purposes of pre- and in-service teacher training. The examples of data used in presentations and research publications will be selected so that no individual research participant can be identified. No video or audio recordings will be shown during training sessions.

Research publications will be disseminated to participating schools via participating teachers once a year for the duration of the study (2024-2028). Research activities can also be followed via the project website: https://www.jyu.fi/en/projects/multiell

8. **Insurance coverage for research subjects**

The University of Jyväskylä has insurances for its activities and research subjects.

The set of insurance includes a malpractice insurance, an operational liability insurance, and an optional insurance against accidents. During the research activities, the subjects are covered by the insurance for accidents, damages and injuries inflicted by an external cause. The accident insurance is valid during measurements and on trips integrally connected to them.

9. **Contact person for further information**

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