

At 3e, there is continuous study to help us better understand how children acquire a second and/or third language. Assessment is conducted by observing children closely in both Western and Chinese classrooms, taking field notes on how they interact with one another and with their teachers throughout the school year, assessing growth in their English and Mandarin vocabulary, and comparing work samples to understand their concept of print in both languages. This is all part of the usual assessment that goes on at 3e for the child's benefit and for planning instruction. Your family may be asked to complete parent questionnaires. You are also asked to agree to have your child participate in the ongoing research.

Participation in research at 3e International is purely voluntary. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without penalty, that is, without this affecting any relationships with your child's teachers. You may otherwise refuse to participate in any procedures or respond to any questionnaires.

Potential benefits from participation include gaining additional information about progress your child may be making in language acquisition and interaction with others in the classroom. We do not see any risks for you or for your child in participating in this study.

All information provided will be kept confidential and be available only to your child's teacher, since teachers will be involved in the assessment procedures. Information obtained through questionnaires would be protected by eliminating identifying information when results are analyzed for publication and presentation. Your privacy, and your child's privacy, will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law.

Participating in the research includes the possibility of having your child appear in some of the video taping and photographs to provide examples to other educators about how children acquire second languages. Pictures of your child responding to other children, to adults, and participating in classroom activities designed to promote second language acquisition will be taken. Your signature below indicates your voluntary agreement to have your child video taped or photographed.

If you have any questions about research here at 3e, please contact the Department of Research & Curriculum Development by emailing research@3einternationalschool.org.

Statement of Consent

Parents: By signing below, we agree to participate in the ongoing research being conducted within 3e International to learn about acquisition of second languages in young children. Your signature below indicates your voluntary agreement for you and your children to participate in this study.

Name: _____ Date: _____