

## Participating organisation leaflet

As part of a new project, researchers working at Bradford Teaching Hospitals are finding new and innovative ways to improve health services for patients.

### What are you researching?

Connected Bradford, part of the Connected Yorkshire programme, is conducting research into childhood diseases like asthma and autism.

### Why are you conducting the research?

The research is helping families in Bradford live healthier, happier lives. It will be used to help make care services more efficient and streamlined and to improve the health and wellbeing of children living in Bradford and its surrounding areas. .

### How is the research conducted?

Researchers safely and securely link information, often referred to as data that is routinely collected by different health and education organisations. For this project, the team are creating a new computer system, or database, that combines information from the health sector with information from the education sector.

Once all the data has been combined, researchers are able to understand more clearly the relationship between health and education and will seek to answer the following questions:

- How many children in Bradford have asthma? What effect does this have on school attendance?
- How many children in Bradford experience autism? What more could be done to help diagnose autism earlier?

- How can health services be delivered in ways that minimise the impact that treatments have on educational achievements

To conduct this research, the team will need to create a new database called the **Linked Healthcare and Education Research Database**.

## **What information is contained in the Linked Healthcare and Education Research Database?**

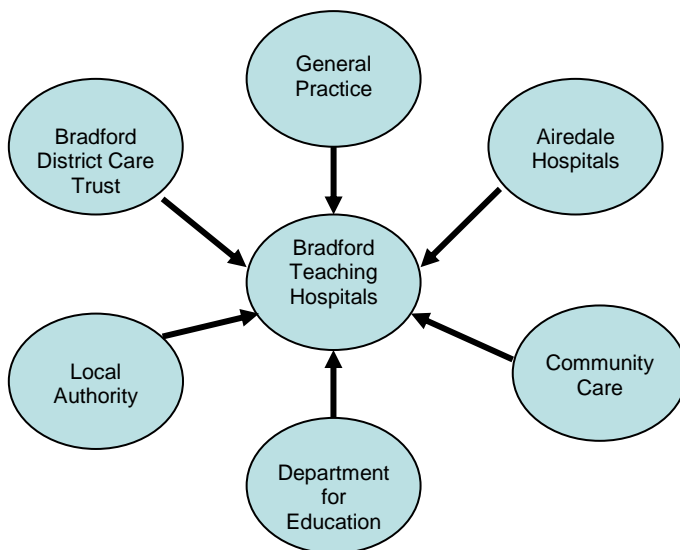
Unless a person has specifically opted-out of NHS data sharing initiatives the database will include:

- Information about children born in Bradford and Airedale from 1<sup>st</sup> January 1988 to all new school entrants. This may include information like any disease diagnoses, allergies, height and weight, blood type, prescription information and more. The information will have been recorded by GP practices, hospitals and community trusts.
- Information collected by schools including educational achievements, targets and attendance.

Name, date of birth, address and gender are used to link these two sets of information together. After the database has been created, identifiable information including name, address and date of birth will be removed and deleted. The information will effectively be anonymous.

### **No person can be identified from the research we do**

The diagram below shows the different organisations that we will contact to build the Linked Healthcare and Education Research Database.



## How will Connected Bradford keep my organisation's information safe?

All information will be treated confidentially, in-line with UK data protection regulations and stored safely by Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Information will be password protected and researchers will only have access to the minimum amount of information they need to do their work.

The research team working in Bradford will not have any information that can personally identify patients. Information will only be used for research and service planning that will benefit patients.

## Why should my organisation take part?

While there is no direct benefit to your organisation, we hope that what we will learn will make care services more efficient and streamlined and improve health, care and services through research and planning for everyone in Bradford.

### What if a parent/child doesn't want to take part?

If the parent/child has already opted-out of NHS data sharing initiatives then they do not need to do anything else. If they haven't opted-out and **do not** want their child's data included in the project, just let the project office know using the details below. The care they receive from the NHS will not be affected.

### How can I find out more about the project?

All information about the project including any findings will be published on the website at:

<https://www.bradfordresearch.nhs.uk/our-research-teams/connected-bradford/>

If you have any specific questions you can also get in touch with the research team using the contact details below.

### Contact details

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