Dear Parents and Carers,

With your help we have managed to reach and surpass our target of seeing 200 children for the project. In fact we saw 209 children in our first round and 187 for the second time. Big thanks to parents for letting us know when they have moved and big thanks to our researchers who did everything to make contact with you all.

Although we know many children have problems in their early years and some will continue, our understanding of developments at this age has been limited. Through your willing participation, we have gathered unique information about children with early language difficulties. The VEPS project is the biggest clinical study of such young children ever undertaken.

Every child is important to us. The children are obviously too young to understand the long-term contribution they have made but we hope they found the sessions fun! We were certainly impressed by their level of cooperation.

Our research centred on new assessments looking not just at language, but at wider aspects of communication. These assessments have proved very informative about the nature of the children’s strengths and difficulties when they were 2-3, and importantly, their development when we saw them 18 months later. Our findings have attracted considerable interest, and therapists are starting to use the VEPS assessments in their clinical practice.

Most of all, we want to thank you for your cooperation. We hope to continue our research when our children are at primary school. In the mean time, if you want to contact us, see our new contact details below.

With best wishes
Shula and Penny

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If your phone number changes, please can you send us your new number by text, e-mail, or phone.