
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Forest School National Survey

Creator: Mel McCree

Principal Investigator: Dr Mel McCree

Data Manager: Dr Mel McCree

Project Administrator: Dr Mel McCree

Affiliation: Bath Spa University

Funder: Bath Spa University

Template: BSU Data Management Plan

ORCID iD: 0000-0001-9477-790X

Project abstract:

I am undertaking a small survey about the state of Forest School in the UK. This builds on my previous research about equality, diversity and inclusion in FS practice, and its governance or lack of. Specifically I am interested in how land is accessed for FS, as a key under-researched area but one of great impact upon the availability of provision (McCree, 2014; McCree, Cutting and Sherwin, 2018).

With the Natural Start Alliance in the US, data collected through my survey can be compared effectively with the nationwide US surveys achieved in 2022.

The survey will be sent to forest school practitioners across the UK. For effective promotion, data collection and analysis is happening in stages, region by region. The first stage is in SW England with an immediate deadline ahead of the worlds' first Forest School research symposium on 26-28 June. I will continue nationwide over Summer and Autumn 2024.

The survey will be on Jisc online surveys. It will be shared via online advertising, via social media, professional networks and email invitation. People can self-select if they wish to take part in the survey e.g. data collection. Indicative survey questions are included below in the appendix. The approach used is both convenience and snowball sampling, as the most appropriate to the context.

ID: 153986

Start date: 08-05-2024

End date: 31-12-2024

Last modified: 14-06-2024

Copyright information:

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Forest School National Survey

Overview

Name of Principal Investigator(s)

Dr Mel McCree

ORCID ID

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9477-790X>

Investigator(s) contact details

m.mccree@bathspa.ac.uk

Funding application title

IAA fellowship 23-24

Funding body

Bath Spa University

Total funding required

n/a already achieved

Project description

A survey sent to forest school practitioners across the UK. For effective promotion, data collection and analysis is happening in stages, region by region, over summer and autumn 2024
Beginning of a proposed longitudinal open data set for evidence building and comparative purposes.

Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

Survey answers, qual and quant, closed and open questions.

How will the data be collected or created?

The survey will be on Jisc online surveys.

The survey will be shared online using snowball and convenience sampling.

It will be sent to forest school practitioners across the UK.

Data analysis will be undertaken with basic statistical and thematic analysis.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

I will keep password-protected records of the survey data set. I will gather publicly available information about the topic, including a basic background context. Survey outline, project Information Forms, consent form and BSU Ethical approval forms will accompany the data.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

I do not anticipate this project to raise significant ethical concerns. Full informed consent will be sought as an essential beginning to filling in the survey.

Analysis and excerpts, as per informed consent, will be published as in project reports and future publication. No details that could further identify any participant will be requested beyond what is given and data can be anonymised at any stage prior to publication. The project is being reviewed for ethical concerns and approved by School of Education research ethics committee at Bath Spa University.

The data is intended to become the beginning of a longitudinal data set, so it is essential that participants know that the survey will be looked at by researchers in future other than myself. This is made clear in the information sheet and consent form.

Should any one have a query, further information or wish to complain, my contact details and that of an impartial contact at the university are on the information.

How will you manage copyright and intellectual property (IP) issues?

Informed consent will include that Intellectual property rights will be held by the PI and BSU. This is made clear prior to publication with all participants. We will include the Bath Spa University brand on the final report. Bath Spa University and the PI will retain control over the data so that the PI can publish further e.g. in academic journals/conference presentations. This includes permission for the data to become part of an open data set for use by other researchers.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

In this phase, the national survey, the data will be stored on a password protected computer and hard drive back up.

The data will be reviewed for accuracy and anonymity. The data will be reviewed by the researcher Dr Mel McCree at the end of the first phase.

Consideration is taken as to storage for future use, as part of a as-yet unfunded second phase to create a longitudinal data set in collaboration with other researchers. The option to use BathSpaData is being considered, with the condition to support collaboration with other researchers. The long term solution will be secure and password-protected.

How will you manage access and security?

In this first phase, all project details, including the data and analysis will be stored on a password protected computer provided by BSU. This is accessible only by the PI.

The long term solution will be secure and password-protected.

Selection and Preservation

Which data should be retained, shared and/or preserved?

The PI will retain and preserve the anonymised survey responses. Data will be anonymised to such an extent that no identifiable information may be gathered or indirectly gathered from the data.

This will be explained to the participants who will give consent on a fully informed basis.

JOS is GDPR compliant and its usage is in line with BSU policy.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

Project reports and outputs will remain in the public domain. The anonymised data will be made available for future use by the PI and collaborators through BathSPAdata. Pending review for longitudinal design, it is proposed that raw data will be destroyed after 30 years (31 December 2054).

JOS is GDPR compliant and its usage is in line with BSU policy.

Data Sharing

How will the data be shared?

Through publication and collaboration with other researchers.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

As PI I will respect the request for anonymity with professional conduct. Beyond the eyes of researchers involved only in the first phase or subsequent phases, survey responses will not be available in their entirety outside of that, in order to protect the anonymity of participants.

JOS is GDPR compliant and its usage in line with BSU policy.

I will ensure that as much of the data set as possible is made available. I may also provide some anonymous contextual information as an addition as necessary, if substantial data redaction renders the context unclear.

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

PI

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

BSU computer (provided)

JOS log in (provided)

Hard drive (tbc)

Time to promote the survey, collect, analysis and disseminate data

This is budgeted for in my IAA fellowship funded budget

Signoff

I confirm that I have read the Bath Spa University Research Data Policy and any relevant policy for my research funder.

Dr Mel McCree, 13 June 2024

Planned Research Outputs

Book chapter - "Presentation "

<https://forestschoollassociation.org/forest-school-research-symposium>

I will make an initial presentation on 27 June at this world first symposium on the topic. This will include tentative data on the first region, along with previous round table findings, background, rational and future aims for collaboration.

Planned research output details

Title	DOI	Type	Release date	Access level	Repository(ies)	File size	License	Metadata standard(s)	May contain sensitive data?	May contain PII?
Presentation		Book chapter	Unspecified	Open	None specified		None specified	None specified	No	No