

## Toddler Development Project: Parent Permission Form

Hi ITC Parents,

I hope you're doing well! I'm Isha, a rising senior at Hathaway Brown, and I've been working at the ITC since last August. I've loved getting to know the toddlers and seeing them grow, develop, and learn new things!

Through Hathaway Brown's Strnad Fellowships program, Upper School students at HB have the opportunity to pursue a project relating to their interests outside of the classroom and produce an output about it, like a book or a report.

For my Strnad project, I'm focusing on toddler development. Over the summer, I researched the physical, linguistic, and social-emotional development of 12-18 month old toddlers, and created three rubrics (one for each category I researched) about sequential developmental milestones that toddlers reach at this age. Each week from August to March, I'll anonymously record where each toddler (I plan to observe 5-6 kids in the Toddler 1 classroom where I work) falls on all three developmental rubrics. In March, I'll use my scorings on these rubrics to start writing my final report for the ITC staff, in which I'll discuss how the toddlers grew over time, and report any developmental trends I see. My project mentor is Ms. Dawn Keske, the director of the Hathaway Brown Infant and Toddler Center.

In terms of privacy:

- I won't record the names of the toddlers at any stage: they'll each be assigned a number, and this is the only way I'll refer to them as I observe their development.
- I'll only record the birthdates of the toddlers to know exactly how old they are when they reach certain developmental milestones. No birthdays will appear in the final report.
- After I write my final report, I'll delete all of the weekly rubric scores from the school year.
- I will not take any pictures, videos, or audio recordings of the toddlers.
- My final report is for internal use by the HB Infant Toddler and Center staff **only**, and it will not be going anywhere else. It will be used to

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instruct future Upper School students who are about to start working at the ITC what to expect from the toddlers.

- I will not begin scoring any toddler on the rubric until their parent gives me permission to do so. In addition, at any point in the year, parents of toddlers can request that their child stop being observed for any reason, and their request will be honored. Any observations of their child that have already been recorded will be deleted.

If you are okay with your child participating in the project, please return the first form listed below to your child's ITC teacher. The second form only needs to be turned in if you no longer want your child to participate in the study at any point this school year.

Thank you for helping me carry out my project! I look forward to working with your toddlers this year.

Sincerely,

Isha B, Hathaway Brown Class of 2021

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### **Form for Allowing Participation in Project**

By signing below, I give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in this Hathaway Brown research project. Their name (as well as other identifying information) will not be used or recorded, and their birthday will not appear in the final report. All data collected will be deleted after the final report is complete, and the final report will only be given to the Hathaway Brown Infant and Toddler Center.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Form For Ending Participation in Project**

By signing below, I indicate that I do not want my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to be observed as a part of this project any longer. Any anonymous observations about my child that have already been recorded will be deleted within 24 hours of this form being turned in.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_