BRIEFING / CONSENT SHEET

Practice makes perfect?

The purpose of this practical is to investigate some of the factors that affect our sensorimotor skills – or how we learn to move our bodies in response to information from our senses. You and your classmates will be the humans that we investigate.

SAFETY: There are no safety precautions for this practical.

In the investigation you are going to try to draw something you can only see in a mirror, try to draw a line of a fixed length and try to put a pencil down on a spot you can’t see. We want to collect all the class results together so we can see if there are any patterns. Once we know what happens, we can start to think about whether this investigation tells us anything about how we control our bodies, or about how we learn to do so.

Learning is sometimes described as ‘an adaptive change in behaviour resulting from experience’.

When we put all the information together, no one will know who has put in each result so only you will know how your personal result compares with the rest of your group.

- You are participating in a piece of scientific research.
- The activity is not a competition.
- The results will not show anything general about your own learning, because we are measuring responses on only one day, in unusual circumstances.
- If your results are very different from others in your group, don’t worry. There are lots of reasons why some people complete these tasks quickly, or slowly.
- If you are worried about the results at the end of the practical, please stay to talk to your teacher about it.
- You do not have to take part in the activity.
- You can stop at any time (but tell your teacher).
- You don’t have to put your results into the class set.
- There will be no long-term effects.

Please write your name and tick the boxes to show how you feel. Then return this slip to your teacher.

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Name: ..............................................................

☐ I am happy to start the activity.
☐ I do not have any conditions that affect my motor skills.
☐ I know I can stop at any time.
☐ I know I can leave my results out of the class set if I want to.