



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center and Great Hearts Academies are investigating the feasibility of implementing an early screening program to identify social challenges in students. Even subtle challenges may lead to more serious problems for children as they get older, so screening may help us provide children with the support they need to avoid more serious problems later. Both children with or without social differences will be helpful to this project.

Your child's teacher will complete a screening questionnaire for each student in his or her classroom. The teacher's responses will only be accessible by Great Hearts employees who are directly involved in the project. Researchers at SARRC will not have access to the data.

After the data is reviewed, students who score low on the questionnaire will be asked to participate in additional assessments at no cost to the family. If your child is selected, the school will contact you for your permission for an additional evaluation. At that time, you may volunteer to continue participating or decline further assessments.

**You may choose not to participate in this study by emailing Robynne Madigan at [RMadigan@greatheartsaz.org](mailto:RMadigan@greatheartsaz.org).** If you do not respond, your child's teacher will complete the questionnaire on your child in two weeks. If you choose to participate, you do not need to do anything at this time. Attached is a copy of the questionnaire for your review. You do not need to complete it; the teacher will do that for your child.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Smith, Ph.D.  
Vice President and Director of Research

# Social Challenges Screening Questionnaire

Student's ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please choose a response for each question and place the score in the box provided.

Check here if this characteristic/behavior negatively impacts the student's educational experience. ↓

	<b>Does the student:</b>	<b>1 =Yes</b>	<b>0 = No</b>
1	Have difficulty with fine or gross motor coordination ( <i>handwriting, drawing, using scissors, hand-eye coordination, seem clumsy</i> )?		
2	Have unusual speech at times ( <i>too slow or loud, formal or "little professor-like," monotone, robotic; this does not include articulation and disfluency</i> )?		
3	Have difficulty playing with others ( <i>disrupts play, controls the activity, trouble sharing or taking turns</i> )?		
4	Have trouble making or keeping friends?		
5	Seem socially awkward at times ( <i>rude, inappropriate comments, unaware of social cues</i> )?		
6	Have interests that seem overly intense and are expressed in conversation, play, and thoughts?		
7	Have trouble organizing or completing school work?		
8	Find jokes or sarcasm difficult to understand?		
9	Have few or unusual facial expressions?		
10	Often act without thinking ( <i>interrupts often, takes things from others without asking, talks at inappropriate times</i> )?		
11	Have difficulty following instructions or the flow of simple conversations?		
12	Become overly distressed when routines are changed at school?		
13	Have trouble following rules of personal space and boundaries ( <i>excessive touching, stands too close, touches other students' belongings</i> )?		
14	Have difficulty making and maintaining eye contact?		
15	Have exceptional skills ( <i>advanced language, mathematical abilities, memorization of facts</i> )?		
	<b>Total score</b>		

Please describe how the student's educational experience is impacted by the characteristics noted above:

Have you shared these concerns with the student's parent(s)? \_\_\_\_\_ When? Approximate date(s): \_\_\_\_\_