**Project Title:**
Exploring the role of language specific and universal factors in bilingual language processing

**Key Words:**
Reading, psycholinguistics, orthographies, lexical processing, bilingualism

**Brief Description:**
The current study will aim to shed light on the lexical and semantic processes involved in typical as well as atypical language processes such as reading, writing and spelling amongst the largest minority languages in the UK. This is driven by the knowledge that research regarding typical acquisition of two or more writing systems is in its infancy whilst only a limited number of studies explore the difficulties in acquiring more than one writing system (Zeigler & Goswami, 2005; Wydell & Butterworth, 1999).

It is currently accepted that orthographic transparency, i.e. the ease with which the sounds of a spoken language are represented by print, has an impact on lexical processing including reading (Seymour, Aro & Erskine, 2003).

Each of the bilingual’s languages has been shown to be affected differentially depending on the characteristics of the language in both typical and atypical language processing (Raman & Weekes, 2005; Wydell & Butterworth, 1999).

This research is important to both the theoretical debates ongoing within the domain and from an applied perspective to aid the creation of programmes to assess and enhance bilinguals’ reading and writing skills.

**Relevant Publications:**

**Further Details:**
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