

## Language learning research at a distance: data from adults and preschoolers

*Professor Paula Escudero, Western Sydney University*

I will first present our recent attempts to move our projects to online testing mode. We had been thinking about it for a while before COVID, but were only forced to operationalise our protocol ideas starting in April last year. Our results show better performance in the same tasks for online than face-to-face participation in university psychology students and in four-year-old children. With these positive results, I will then show how we have taken advantage of testing children in the comfort of their homes to make our Little Multilingual Minds (LMM) program accessible and feasible for busy parents and children who attend long day cares and preschool settings during the week. In the talk, I will introduce our LMM home language extension and foreign language learning program (<http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/lmm/>), our battery of online tasks, children's experience, preliminary results, and next steps.

**Paola Escudero** is Professor in Linguistics and Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow at the MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, Western Sydney University where she started in 2011, after a research position at the University of Amsterdam and a Visiting Assistant Professorship at the University of California in Los Angeles. She is also a Chief Investigator within the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of language. Her work focuses on speech and visual processing in monolingual and multilingual infants, children, and younger and older adults. She is an expert in first and second language acquisition and a champion of Australia's cultural diversity and multilingual potential. She is a member of the editorial board for *Bilingualism, Language and Cognition*, *Second Language Research* and *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*.

See also: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=bEGQfLgAAAAJ&hl=en>

[https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/marcs/our\\_team/researchers/professor\\_paola\\_escudero](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/marcs/our_team/researchers/professor_paola_escudero)

<http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/team/chief-investigators/>

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