**GUIDANCE ON CHILD ASSENT**

The goal of the assent process is to provide children with sufficient information to make an educated decision to the best of their capacity about their participation in the research. The assent form serves as a starting point for the necessary exchange of information between the investigator, the parents, and each child and is only one part of the larger process.

The purpose of this template is to assist you in creating an assent document that meets the requirements of the 45 CFR 46.116 and § 46.408 as well as providing consistency and accuracy of the assent language for all human subjects research protocols. All of the elements that are required by federal regulations and institutional policies are included in bold capitalized headings. If you would like to omit a particular section, you will need to complete a waiver of some or all of the elements of informed consent form. The template is intended to be a guide; however, all investigators **must follow the template format, order and include all required sections.**