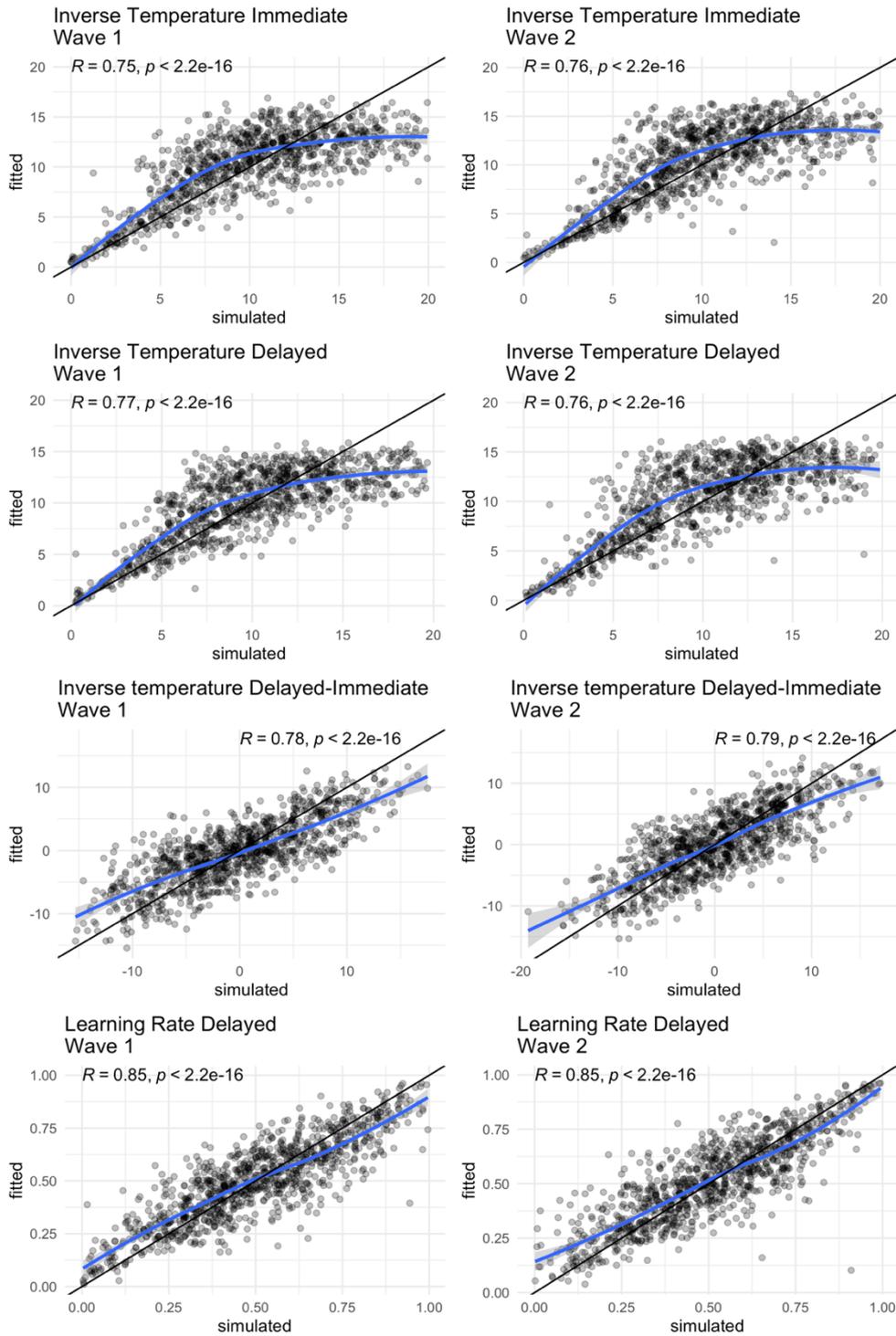


**1 Supplementary Material 1: Parameter and Model recovery**

2 We simulated 1000 datasets (50 groups, 20 datasets each) using a wide distribution within the  
3 boundaries for learning rate (boundaries =  $[0,1]$ ,  $Mean = 0.5$ ,  $SD = 0.25$ ) and inverse temperature  
4 (boundaries =  $[0,20]$ ,  $Mean = 10$ ,  $SD = 5$ ). We first performed a parameter recovery to see how well the  
5 winning model recovers the simulated parameters (Supplementary Figure 1). Both inverse temperature  
6 and learning rate were recovered overall well, with correlations of 0.75 – 0.77 for the inverse  
7 temperature, their condition differences correlating 0.78 – 0.79, and the learning rates correlating at  
8 0.85. Inverse temperature values were slightly overestimated until a value of 12 and clearly  
9 underestimated above 12. The underestimation was less pronounced for the inverse temperature  
10 condition differences. Learning rate was also less biased – here, values below 0.5 slightly overestimates  
11 and underestimated with values above 0.5. This means that more extreme values, i.e. those closer to the  
12 boundaries, were recovered closer towards the group mean. We next performed model recovery to see  
13 how well the model evidence is recovered compared to other models that were used during model  
14 comparison. Of all 10 models that were used, we performed model recovery on the two best models  
15 (winning model  $vbm_3, 1\alpha, 2\tau$  and second-best model  $vbm_7, 1\alpha, 2\rho$ ), our value-based baseline model  
16 ( $vbm_1, 1\alpha, 1\tau$ ) and our heuristic strategy model (Supplementary Figure 2). We examined recovery on  
17 the group and individual level. On the group level, we used the model weight *Pseudo-BMA+* model for  
18 relative model evidence using Bayesian model averaging. On the individual level, we used model fit  
19  $elpd_{100}$ , which is the individual summed expected log pointwise predictive density of all trials. On the  
20 group level, model recovery was excellent, as all models were recovered with model weights of 0.99 –  
21 1.00. On the individual level, model recovery was lower for the value-based models, with model weights  
22 of 0.58-0.83. Specifically, the models  $vbm_1$  and  $vbm_3$ , which only differed in whether inverse  
23 temperature was estimated separate by learning condition (immediate and delayed feedback) or across  
24 learning condition, were affected. Here, 35 % of the datasets that were simulated using separate inverse  
25 temperature fitted best on the model with one inverse temperature (and 30 % vice versa), and likely  
26 reflects the noisy property of the inverse temperature.

27

28



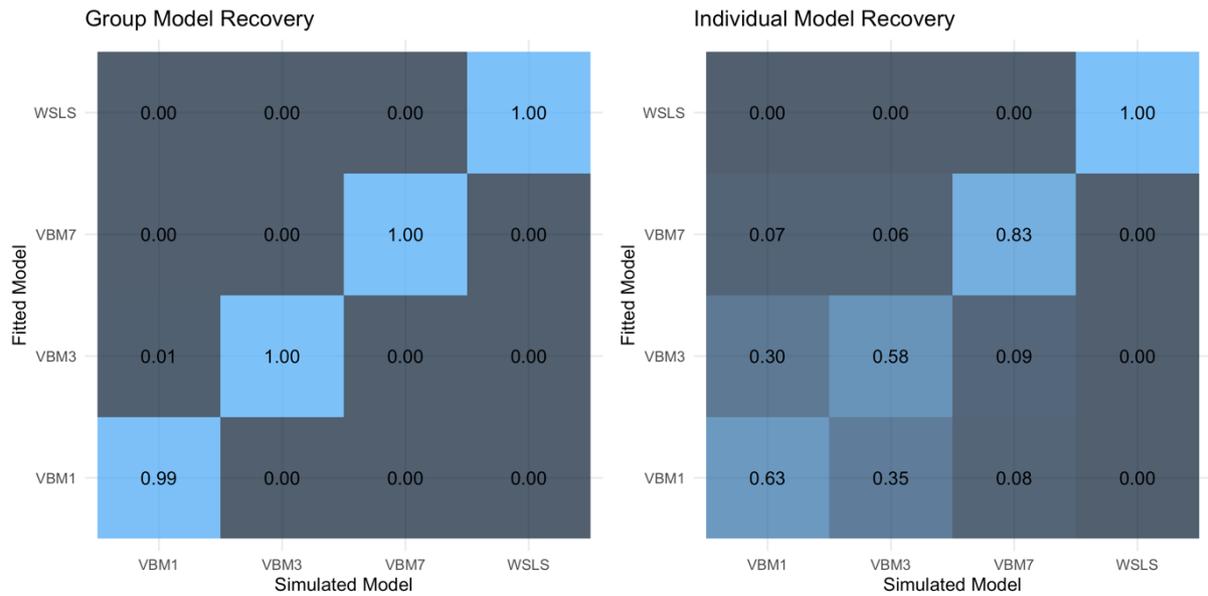
29

30 Supplementary Figure 1. Parameter recovery of the winning model, the black line represents the identity  
 31 line, whereas the blue line is loess regression line, Correlations are calculated by Pearson's r.

32

33

34



35

36 Supplementary Figure 2. Model recovery on the group (left) and individual level (right). Group-level  
 37 recovery values are the average model weights (across 20 groups, 50 datasets each) *Pseudo-BMA+* using  
 38 Bayesian model averaging stabilized by Bayesian bootstrap using 100,000 iterations. Individual-level  
 39 recovery values are the average model fits (across 1,000 datasets)  $elpd_{loo}$ , which is the individual  
 40 summed expected log pointwise predictive density of all trials.

41

42 **Supplementary Material 2: Model structure and detailed results of generalized linear mixed**  
 43 **models (GLMM)**

44 *GLMM Random effects model structure*

45 We ran four GLMMs with the dependent variables accuracy (1 = correct, 0 = incorrect), win-stay  
 46 behavior (1 = win-stay, 0 = win-shift), lose-shift behavior (1 = lose-shift, 0 = lose-stay) and reaction  
 47 time (in milliseconds) as the dependent variable (Supplementary Table 1). As fixed effects, we included  
 48 within-subject factors wave (1 = wave 1, 2 = wave 2) and feedback type (1 = immediate, 2 = delayed)  
 49 as well as the covariate sex (1 = girl, 2 = boy). The contrasts of the categorical variables were set using  
 50 the `contr.sum` function to keep the mean intercept at the global mean. We first tested whether including  
 51 the main effects of wave, feedback type and sex improved the model fit. We then tested whether  
 52 including interaction terms between these three variables, and the model had to improve the overall  
 53 model fit to be reported as the winning model. As random effects, data were clustered at the participant  
 54 and learning block level, allowing fixed intercept for each of the 4 blocks (32 trials each) of each  
 55 individual. As random slopes, we included within-subject factors wave and feedback type.

56

57 Supplementary Table 1. Mixed effects model structure and fixed effects results for the models using the  
 58 dependent variables Accuracy (ACC), win-stay (WS), lose-shift (LS) and Reaction time (RT).

Fixed effects	GLMM <sub>ACC</sub>	GLMM <sub>WS</sub>	GLMM <sub>LS</sub>	GLMM <sub>RT</sub>
Feedback=Delayed	.013	.023	-.030	14.0*
Wave=2	.550**	.586**	-.252**	-218**
Sex=Girls	-.172*	-.177*	.062	23.5
Wave 1 Age	.142*	.163*	-.100*	-24.5
Wave=1*Sex=Girls	not included	not included	.068*	not included
Random slopes				
Feedback Type	X	X	X	X
Wave	X	X	X	X
Random intercepts				
Participant ID	X	X	X	X
Block	X	X	X	X
Model fit				
ICC	0.44	0.45	0.12	0.23
Observations	33460	22013	10383	33460
Marginal R <sup>2</sup>	0.056	0.063	0.021	0.036
Conditional R <sup>2</sup>	0.472	0.482	0.138	0.258

59 *Note.* \*\* denotes significance at  $\alpha < .001$ , \* at  $\alpha < .05$ . X indicates which random effects were included  
 60 in the final model. ICC = intraclass correlation. Marginal R<sup>2</sup> = variance explained by fixed effects,  
 61 Conditional R<sup>2</sup> = variance explained by random effects.

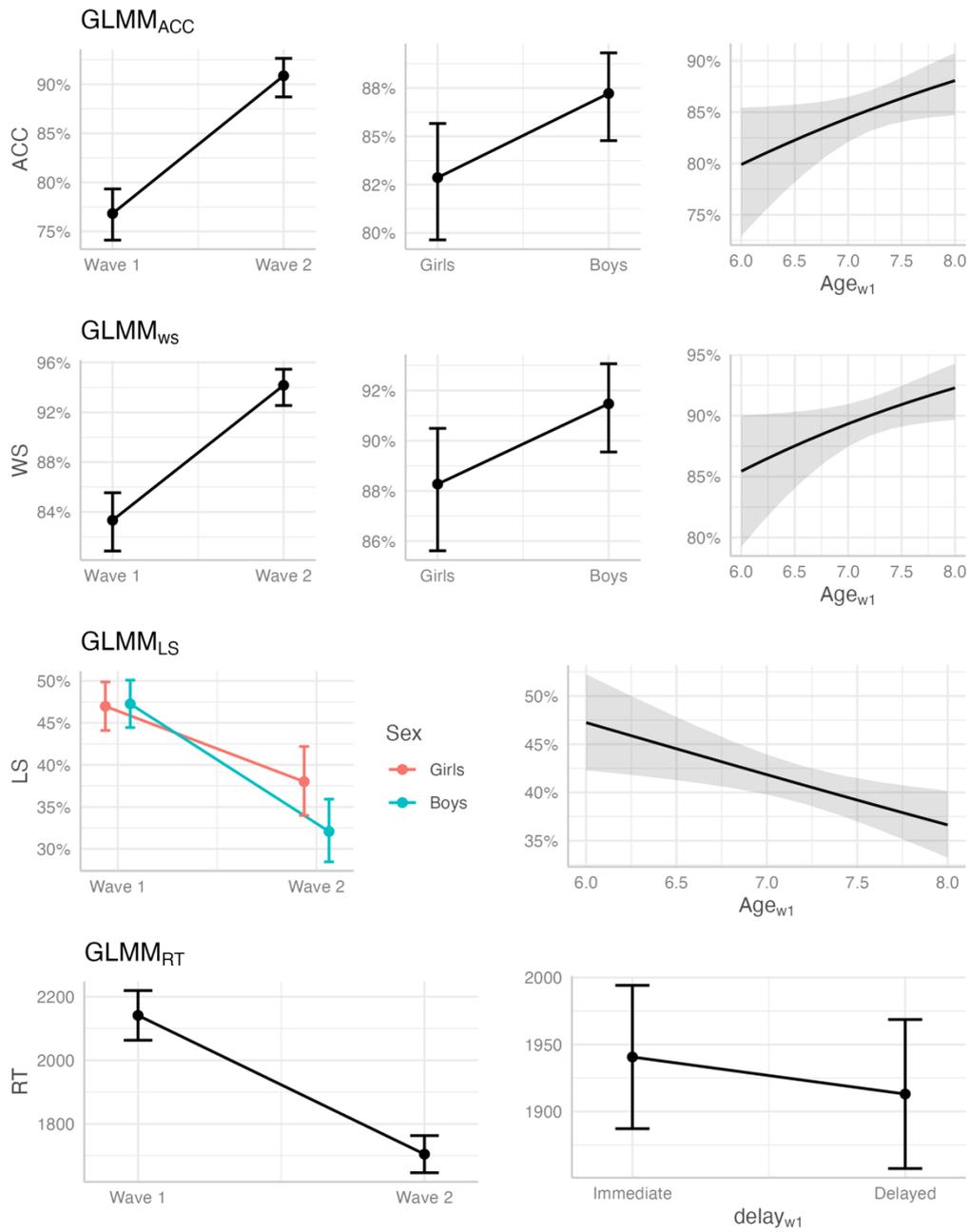
62

63 *Detailed GLMM results*

64 With the complete dataset, we found that increased learning accuracy was predicted at wave 2 compared  
 65 to wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = .550$ ,  $SE = .061$ ,  $z = 8.97$ ,  $p < .001$ ) and with higher age at wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave\ 1\ age}$   
 66  $= .142$ ,  $SE = .070$ ,  $z = 2.03$ ,  $p = .043$ ), but there were no differences in accuracy by feedback timing  
 67 ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .013$ ,  $SE = .024$ ,  $z = 0.54$ ,  $p = .590$ ). Girls were overall less accurate than boys  
 68 ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = -.172$ ,  $SE = .070$ ,  $z = 2.45$ ,  $p = .014$ ). Win-stay probability was predicted to be higher at  
 69 wave 2 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = .586$ ,  $SE = .071$ ,  $z = 8.22$ ,  $p < .001$ ) and with higher age at wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave\ 1\ age}$   
 70  $= .177$ ,  $SE = .078$ ,  $z = 2.27$ ,  $p = .024$ ), again without differences by feedback timing ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed}$   
 71  $= -.023$ ,  $SE = .032$ ,  $z = -0.69$ ,  $p = .489$ ). Win-stay probability was lower for girls compared to boys

72 ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = -.177, SE = .078, z = -2.27, p = .024$ ). The predicted Lose-shift probability was lower at  
73 wave 2 compared to wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = -.586, SE = .071, z = -8.22, p < .001$ ) and with higher age at  
74 wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave\ 1\ age} = -.177, SE = .078, z = 2.27, p = .024$ ), but did not differ by feedback type  
75 ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .036, SE = .020, z = 1.74, p = .081$ ) and sex ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = .063, SE = .036, z = 1.76,$   
76  $p = .079$ ). Taken together, children on average improved their accuracy, while win-stay probability  
77 increased and lose-shift probability decreased between waves. Girls were on average less accurate,  
78 showed reduced win-stay behavior and a smaller decrease in lose-shift probability between waves  
79 (Supplementary Table 1 and Supplementary Figure 3).

80 Reaction times were predicted to be faster at wave 2 compared to wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = -218, SE = 22.7, t$   
81  $= -9.61, p < .001$ ), but did not differ by wave 1 age ( $\beta_{age\ wave\ 1} = -42.5, SE = 25.7, t = -1.66, p = .100$ ),  
82 and they were faster for delayed compared to immediate feedback trials ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = -14.0, SE$   
83  $= 6.61, t = -2.12, p = .036$ ). Girls were not different compared to boys ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = 23.5, SE = 25.7, t =$   
84  $0.91, p = .362$ ). To summarize the reaction time results, children were able to respond faster to cues  
85 paired with delayed feedback, compared to cues paired with immediate feedback, and they became faster  
86 in their decision making across waves.



87

88 Supplementary Figure 3. Fixed effects plots of significant predictors across behavioral variables  
 89 accuracy (ACC), win-stay (WS), lose-shift (LS) and reaction time (RT).

90

91

92

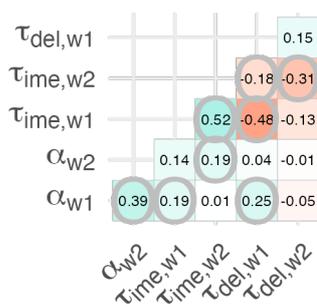
93 **Supplementary Material 3: Winning model parameter correlations**

94 *Parameter correlations of the winning model*

95 Correlations between the model parameters learning rate and inverse temperature were only small ( $r =$   
 96  $0.19 - 0.25$ ), which suggests relative independence of these parameters (Supplementary Figure 4).  
 97 Negative correlations between feedback conditions ( $r = -0.31 - -0.48$ ), captured by the inverse  
 98 temperature, suggest individual differences feedback timing modulation. Positive correlations of the  
 99 parameters across waves ( $r = 0.39 - 0.52$ ) were moderate to large which suggest temporal stability and  
 100 showed the appropriateness of our modeling endeavour to incorporate the within-subject data structure.  
 101 Only inverse temperature for delayed feedback learning was not correlated across waves, which suggests  
 102 greater temporal instability. Taken together, children’s learning behavior was best described by a value-  
 103 based model, where feedback timing modulated individual differences in the choice rule during value-  
 104 based learning. Interestingly, differences in the choice rule and reaction times were correlated.  
 105 Specifically, more value-guided choice behavior (i.e., higher inverse temperature) was related to faster  
 106 responses during delayed feedback relative to immediate feedback, suggesting a link between model  
 107 parameter and behavior in relation to feedback timing.

108

Parameter correlations



109

110 Supplementary Figure 4. Parameter correlations of the winning model. Significant correlations are  
 111 circled,  $p$ -values were adjusted for multiple comparisons using bonferroni correction.

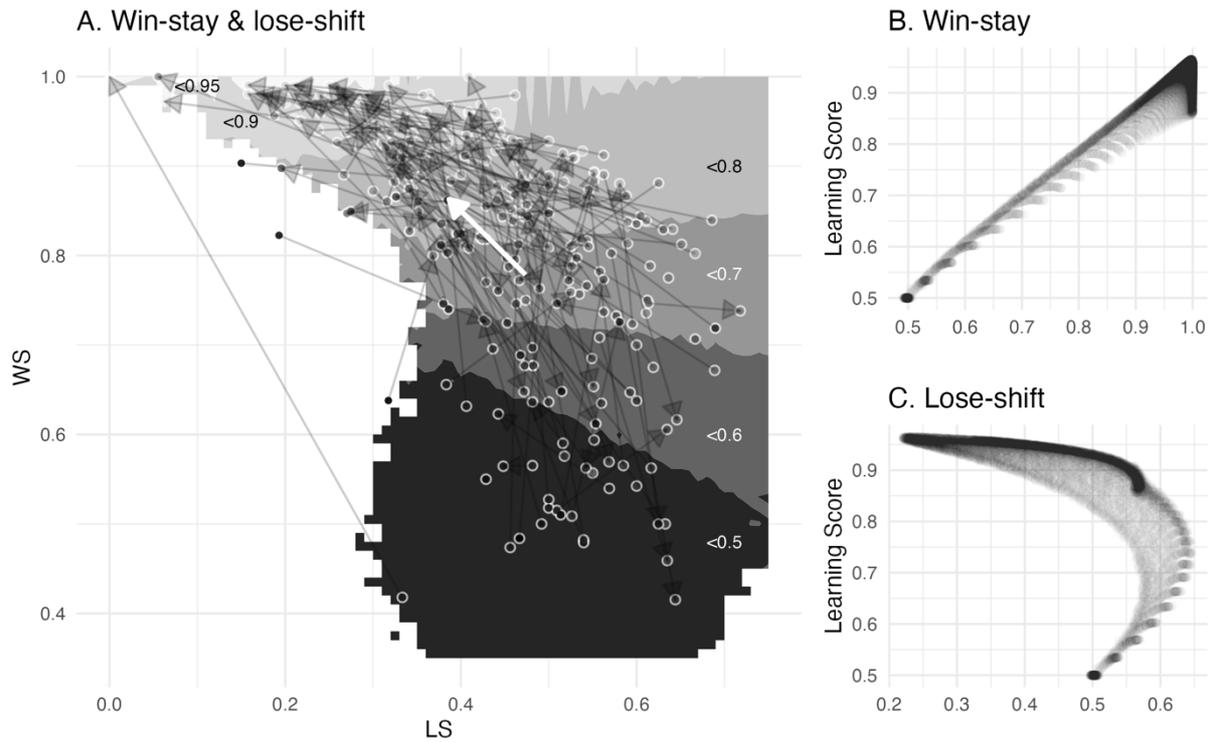
112

113 **Supplementary Material 4: Longitudinal change in Win-Stay and Lose-Shift Proportion**

114 *Children’s switching behavior became more optimal*

115 In addition to our finding that the change in children’s learning rate and inverse temperature became  
 116 more optimal according to the value-based learning model, we explored whether their change towards  
 117 optimality is also reflected in children’s switching behavior.

118



119

120 Supplementary Figure 5. (A) The arrows depict mean change (bold white) and individual change  
 121 (transparent black) of the empirical win-stay and lose-shift proportions. The greyscale gradient-filled  
 122 dots, that are connected by the arrows, depict the individual learning score, while the the greyscale  
 123 gradient in the background depicts the simulated average learning score. The mean change reveals an  
 124 overall change towards the higher, i.e., more optimal, learning scores, with higher win-stay and lower  
 125 lose-shift behavior. (B-C) Win-stay and Lose-shift behavior plotted against the learning score depict  
 126 their separate effects on learning optimality. While Win-stay showed a positive linear relationship with  
 127 the learning score, Lose-shift showed a negative nonlinear relationship with a larger optimal range.

128

129 We simulated 10,000 parameter combinations and created a learning score map according to each  
 130 combination of win-stay and lose-shift proportions (Supplementary Figure 5). The optimal proportion  
 131 for win-stay and lose-shift were at 100 % and 24 %, respectively. Therefore, both the average

132 longitudinal increase in win-stay proportion (wave 1: 80 %, wave 2: 88 %) and the average decrease in  
 133 lose-shift proportion (wave 1: 48 %, wave 2: 42 %) reflect a change towards more optimal value-based  
 134 learning.

135

136 **Supplementary Material 5: Confirmatory and exploratory brain-cognition links**

137 This section provides further details on the latent change score (LCS) models from the analysis and  
 138 provides further LCS models to explore brain-cognition links in the second-best fitting model and to  
 139 explore the associations with the model parameters learning rate and inverse temperature.

140 *Univariate LCS models*

141 The model fit and model parameters of the univariate LCS models of our variables of interest (striatal  
 142 volume, hippocampal volume, immediate learning score, delayed learning score) are summarized in  
 143 Supplementary Table 2. Of note, learning scores were negatively covaried with sex at wave 1,  
 144 suggesting reduced immediate learning scores ( $\phi_{sex=girls,LS_{i,w1}} = -0.20, z = -2.39, SE = 0.08, p = .017$ )  
 145 and reduced delayed learning scores in girls ( $\phi_{sex=girls,LS_{d,w1}} = -0.17, z = -2.01, SE = 0.08, p = .044$ ).

146

147 Supplementary Table 2. Model fit and parameter estimates of the univariate LCS models for immediate  
 148 and delayed feedback learning score as well as for striatal (STR) and hippocampal (HPC) brain volumes.

	$LS_{immediate}$	$LS_{delayed}$	STR	HPC
$\chi^2 (df)$	1.75 (4)	1.25 (4)	1.61 (6)	1.77 (6)
RMSEA (CI)	0.08 (0 – 0.08)	0 (0 – 0.07)	0 (0 – 0)	0 (0 – 0.02)
SRMR, CFI	0.03, 1.00	0.03, 1.00	0.03, 1.00	0.03, 1.00
Mean change $\mu_{\Delta}$	0.74** (0.09)	0.73** (0.08)	0.06* (0.03)	0.37** (0.05)
w1 variance $\sigma_{\beta}$	0.99** (0.08)	0.99** (0.07)	0.51** (0.07)	0.46** (0.06)
Change variance $\sigma_{\Delta}$	0.94** (0.10)	0.89** (0.10)	0.07** (0.02)	0.18* (0.08)
Intercept-change regression $\delta$	-0.69** (0.08)	-0.73** (0.08)	-0.04 (0.04)	-0.12* (0.04)
Age onto Intercept	-0.07 (0.08)	0.11 (0.08)	0.02 (0.09)	0.15 (0.08)

Sex onto Intercept	-0.20* (0.08)	-0.17* (0.08)	-0.05 (0.09)	-0.09 (0.09)
eTIV onto Intercept	–	–	0.67** (0.09)	0.62** (0.10)

149 Standard errors in parentheses. \*\* denotes significance at  $\alpha < .001$ , \* at  $\alpha < .05$ . sex coded as 1 = girls,  
 150 -1 = boys.

151

152 *Confirmatory brain-cognition links with learning scores using the second best fitting model*

153 We fitted a fourvariate LCS model using the second best fitting model to check whether separating  
 154 outcome sensitivity by feedback timing would show results comparable to those of the winning model  
 155 that separated inverse temperature by immediate and delayed feedback condition. Using the model-  
 156 derived learning scores from the second best fitting model, our LCS model again provided a good data  
 157 fit ( $\chi^2(27) = 10.1$ ,  $CFI = 1.00$ ,  $RMSEA(CI) = 0(0 - 0)$ ,  $SRMR = .042$ ). However, the brain-cognition  
 158 links at baseline were not significant for both striatal volume ( $\phi_{STR_{w1},LS_{i,w1}} = 0.14$ ,  $z = 1.66$ ,  $SE = 0.09$ ,  
 159  $p = .098$  and  $\phi_{STR_{w1},LS_{d,w1}} = 0.14$ ,  $z = 1.55$ ,  $SE = 0.09$ ,  $p = .121$ ) and hippocampal volume ( $\phi_{HPC_{w1},LS_{i,w1}} =$   
 160  $0.09$ ,  $z = 1.04$ ,  $SE = 0.09$ ,  $p = .297$  and  $\phi_{HPC_{w1},LS_{d,w1}} = 0.11$ ,  $z = 1.22$ ,  $SE = 0.09$ ,  $p = .222$ ), suggesting  
 161 no brain-cognition links at wave 1. Longitudinally, striatal volumes predicted larger gains in immediate  
 162 learning scores ( $\beta_{STR_{w1},\Delta LS_i} = 0.17$ ,  $z = 1.97$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p = .049$ ), but this effect diminished when  
 163 excluding poor learners ( $\beta_{STR_{w1},\Delta LS_i} = 0.11$ ,  $z = 1.35$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p = .177$ ). The failure to capture brain-  
 164 cognition links and the relatively lower model evidence compared to the winning model during model  
 165 comparison overall suggests that modulations by feedback timing could be captured better by the  
 166 decision-related parameter inverse temperature rather than by the valuation-related parameter outcome  
 167 sensitivity.

168

169 *Exploratory brain-cognition links with model parameters*

170 The model parameters all showed significant mean change and variance (learning rate:  $\mu_{\Delta\alpha} = 1.29$ ,  $z =$   
 171  $7.41$ ,  $SE = 0.17$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $\sigma_{\Delta\alpha} = 3.73$ ,  $z = 6.77$ ,  $SE = 0.55$ ,  $p < .001$ ; immediate inverse temperature:  $\mu_{\Delta\tau_i}$   
 172  $= 0.82$ ,  $z = 9.65$ ,  $SE = 0.09$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $\sigma_{\Delta\tau_i} = 0.97$ ,  $z = 4.12$ ,  $SE = 0.24$ ,  $p < .001$ ; delayed inverse  
 173 temperature:  $\mu_{\Delta\tau_d} = 0.84$ ,  $z = 3.91$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $\sigma_{\Delta\tau_d} = 0.84$ ,  $z = 3.91$ ,  $SE = 0.22$ ,  $p < .001$ ). To  
 174 further understand how the found links between striatal volumes and immediate learning and between

175 hippocampal volumes and delayed learning could be understood as effects of the model parameters, we  
 176 compiled a five-variate model including brain volumes, learning rates ( $\alpha$ ) and inverse temperature ( $\tau$ )  
 177 for immediate and delayed learning. The LCS again provided a good data fit ( $\chi^2(25) = 15.8$ ,  $CFI = 1.00$ ,  
 178  $RMSEA(CI) = 0(0 - .023, SRMR = .040)$ .

179 For hippocampal volume, we found a positive covariance with delayed inverse temperature at wave  
 180 1 ( $\phi_{HC_{w1}, \tau_{del, w1}} = 0.13$ ,  $z = 2.30$ ,  $SE = 0.06$ ,  $p = .021$ ), whereas striatal volume positively covaried with  
 181 learning rate at ( $\phi_{STR_{w1}, \alpha_{w1}} = 0.15$ ,  $z = 2.05$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p = .041$ ). The striatal link to learning rate  
 182 however was diminished when excluding children below the learning criterion. Longitudinally, striatal  
 183 volume at wave 1 further predicted positive gains in learning rate ( $\beta_{STR_{w1}, \Delta\alpha} = 0.44$ ,  $z = 2.25$ ,  $SE = 0.20$ ,  
 184  $p = .024$ ). Changes in learning rate covaried positively with changes in immediate inverse temperature  
 185 ( $\phi_{\Delta STR, \Delta\tau_i} = 0.35$ ,  $z = 2.46$ ,  $SE = 0.14$ ,  $p = .014$ ), while changes in immediate inverse temperature  
 186 covaried negatively with changes in delayed inverse temperature ( $\phi_{\Delta\tau_i, \Delta\tau_d} = -0.28$ ,  $z = -3.60$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  
 187  $p < .001$ ). Immediate inverse temperature at wave 1 predicted negative striatal volume change  
 188 ( $\beta_{\tau_{i, w1}, \Delta STR} = -0.09$ ,  $z = -2.38$ ,  $SE = 0.04$ ,  $p = .017$ ), while delayed inverse temperature at wave 1 predicted  
 189 negative change in hippocampal volume ( $\beta_{\tau_{d, w1}, \Delta HPC} = -0.08$ ,  $z = -2.06$ ,  $SE = 0.04$ ,  $p = .039$ ) in the  
 190 reduced sample, but not in the full sample. Taken together, while hippocampal volume was only linked  
 191 to delayed inverse temperature at wave 1, striatal volume was linked to learning rate at wave 1 and was  
 192 predictive of learning rate development. Further, there was evidence that inverse temperature was  
 193 predictive of brain volume change in line with the hypothesized brain-cognition links. The inverse  
 194 temperature between delayed and immediate feedback showed diverging changes, in which the change  
 195 in immediate inverse temperature was similar to that of learning rate, but dissimilar to that of delayed  
 196 inverse temperature. This suggests that the hippocampus might be uniquely associated with inverse  
 197 temperature during delayed learning, whereas the striatum was linked to learning rates, inverse  
 198 temperature and suggest a stronger contribution to the longitudinal change of learning function in  
 199 general.

200

201

202

203 **Supplementary Material 6: Results when using the reduced dataset**

204 To validate our results, we examined whether the poor learning performance of some of the children in  
 205 the reinforcement learning task influenced our findings. Therefore, we repeated the analyses with a  
 206 reduced dataset that excluded children performing below 50 % accuracy in their last 20 trials. 13 out of  
 207 140 children at wave 1 (54% girls), as well as 6 out of 126 at wave 2 (67% girls) did not reach the  
 208 learning criterion (above 50% learning accuracy during the last 20 trials of the task) and were excluded  
 209 in the reduced dataset. In this section, the results are structured into behavioral results, computational  
 210 modeling results and latent change score modeling results at the end. Whenever there were differences  
 211 between using the complete and reduced dataset, they were mentioned in the main text and referred to  
 212 this section for further details.

213 *Behavioral results*

214 We kept the same model structure to directly compare the results. The fixed effects remained unchanged  
 215 in all models. All model results remained consistent when using the reduced dataset, with no differences  
 216 compared to the results obtained using the complete dataset. An overview of the fixed effects and their  
 217 comparison to the results of the complete dataset are shown in Supplementary Table 3. Using the  
 218 reduced dataset, the learning accuracy model did not differ in the results, accuracy was predicted by  
 219 wave ( $\beta_{wave=2} = .492, SE = .062, z = 7.88, p < .001$ ) and by wave 1 age ( $\beta_{age\ wave\ 1} = .174, SE = .071,$   
 220  $z = 2.48, p = .013$ ), there were no differences by feedback timing ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .009, SE = .025,$   
 221  $z = 0.35, p = .727$ ), and girls were less accurate ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = -.157, SE = .071, z = -2.18, p = .027$ ). The  
 222 win-stay model also did not differ in the results using the reduced dataset. Win-stay probability was  
 223 again predicted to be higher at wave 2 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = .534, SE = .073, z = 7.27, p < .001$ ) and by higher  
 224 wave 1 age ( $\beta_{age\ wave\ 1} = .186, SE = .079, z = 2.36, p = .018$ ), there were no differences by feedback  
 225 timing ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .022, SE = .035, z = 0.63, p = .531$ ), and girls had a lower win-stay  
 226 probability ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = -.161, SE = .080, z = -2.02, p = .043$ ). The lose-shift model did not differ using  
 227 the reduced dataset, lose-shift probability was lower at wave 2 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = -.252, SE = .037, z = -6.87,$   
 228  $p < .001$ ), did not differ by feedback type ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .030, SE = .022, z = 1.38, p = .169$ ) and  
 229 sex ( $\beta_{gender=girls} = .062, SE = .038, z = 1.63, p = .102$ ), but the decrease in lose-shift behavior between

230 waves again was smaller for girls ( $\beta_{sex=girls \times wave=2} = .068, SE = .034, z = 2.02, p = .044$ ). The  
 231 reaction times were faster at wave 2 compared to wave 1 ( $\beta_{wave=2} = -221, SE = 23.5, t = -9.42, p < .001$ ),  
 232 they were not predicted by wave 1 age ( $\beta_{age \ wave \ 1} = -38.0, SE = 26.5, t = -1.43, p = .154$ ), and they  
 233 were faster at delayed compared to immediate feedback ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = -16.8, SE = 6.72, t = -$   
 234  $2.50, p = .014$ ). Girls were not different compared to boys ( $\beta_{sex=girls} = 20.6, SE = 26.3, t = 0.78, p$   
 235  $= .436$ ). The magnitude of the fixed effects were overall comparable, only in the accuracy and win-stay  
 236 model, marginal  $R^2$  and fixed effects were slightly weaker, which is to be expected when excluding poor  
 237 learners. To conclude, the behavioral effects remained the same when using the reduced dataset.

238

239 Supplementary Table 3. Comparison of the fixed effects results for the models with the reduced and  
 240 with the complete dataset, each with the dependent variables accuracy (ACC), win-stay (WS), lose-shift  
 241 (LS) and reaction time (RT).

Fixed effects	GLMM <sub>ACC</sub>	GLMM <sub>WS</sub>	GLMM <sub>LS</sub>	GLMM <sub>RT</sub>
<i>Reduced dataset (complete dataset)</i>				
Feedback=Delayed	.009 (.013)	.022 (.023)	-.030 (-.030)	-16.8* (-13.8*)
Wave=2	.492** (.550**)	.534** (.586**)	-.252** (-.252**)	-221** (-221**)
Sex=Girls	-.157* (-.172*)	-.161* (-.177*)	.062 (.062)	20.6 (20.5)
Wave 1 Age	.174** (.142*)	.186* (.163*)	-.100* (-.100*)	-38.0 (-37.8)
Wave=1*Sex=Girls	not included	not included	.068* (.068*)	not included
<i>Model fit</i>				
ICC	0.45 (0.44)	0.45 (0.45)	0.12 (0.12)	0.24 (0.23)
Observations	31857 (33460)	21212 (22013)	10383 (10383)	31857 (33460)
Marginal $R^2$	0.047 (0.056)	0.054 (0.063)	0.024 (0.024)	0.038 (0.036)
Conditional $R^2$	0.473 (0.472)	0.483 (0.482)	0.138 (0.138)	0.266 (0.260)

242 *Note.* \*\* denotes significance at  $\alpha < .001$ , \* at  $\alpha < .05$ . X indicates which random effects were included  
 243 in the final model. ICC = intraclass correlation. Marginal  $R^2$  = variance explained by fixed effects,  
 244 Conditional  $R^2$  = variance explained by random effects.

245

246 *Model results*

247 We repeated model comparison with the reduced dataset by excluding the  $elpd_{100}$  (expected log  
 248 pointwise predictive density) of the poor learners (Supplementary Table 4). One may argue that this

249 procedure is suboptimal, as the model parameters were fitted using the complete dataset so that poor  
 250 learners impacted the parameters of the remaining participants in hierarchical model estimation.  
 251 However, fitting the reduced dataset only would have required a different model structure, as the amount  
 252 of longitudinal datasets had been much smaller, and some participants would only have wave 2 data.  
 253 Since we used a wide prior for model estimation, the impact of poor learners on the group level is  
 254 reduced.

255

256 Supplementary Table 4. Model comparison results obtained with the reduced dataset and the complete  
 257 dataset.

Model	Parameters	$\Delta elpd_{loo}$	<i>mean elpd<sub>loo</sub></i>	<i>pseudo-BMA+</i>
<i>Reduced dataset (complete dataset)</i>				
<i>step 1: heuristic strategy vs value-based learning model</i>				
<b><i>vbm<sub>1</sub></i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\alpha</math>, 1<math>\tau</math></i></b>	0 (0)	-0.47 (-0.45)	1 (1)
<b><i>ws</i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\tau_{ws}</math></i></b>	-1296.2 (-1327.7)	-0.51 (-0.49)	0 (<0.01)
<b><i>wsls</i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\tau_{wsls}</math></i></b>	-4164.3 (-4247.3)	-0.61 (-0.58)	0 (0)
<i>step 2: value-based learning model variants</i>				
<b><i>vbm<sub>3</sub></i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\alpha</math>, 2<math>\tau</math></i></b>	0 (0)	-0.47 (-0.45)	0.78 (0.73)
<b><i>vbm<sub>7</sub></i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\alpha</math>, 2<math>\rho</math></i></b>	-3.71 (-2.93)	-0.47 (-0.45)	0.19 (0.24)
<b><i>vbm<sub>6</sub></i></b>	<b><i>2<math>\alpha</math>, 1<math>\rho</math></i></b>	-24.34 (-24.34)	-0.47 (-0.45)	<0.01 (<0.01)
<b><i>vbm<sub>8</sub></i></b>	<b><i>2<math>\alpha</math>, 2<math>\rho</math></i></b>	-29.20 (-29.71)	-0.47 (-0.45)	0.02 (0.02)
<b><i>vbm<sub>4</sub></i></b>	<b><i>2<math>\alpha</math>, 2<math>\tau</math></i></b>	-43.86 (-43.34)	-0.47 (-0.45)	<0.01 (<0.01)
<b><i>vbm<sub>2</sub></i></b>	<b><i>2<math>\alpha</math>, 1<math>\tau</math></i></b>	-45.08 (-46.45)	-0.47 (-0.45)	<0.01 (<0.01)
<b><i>vbm<sub>5</sub></i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\alpha</math>, 1<math>\rho</math></i></b>	-57.65 (-59.01)	-0.47 (-0.45)	<0.01 (<0.01)
<b><i>vbm<sub>1</sub></i></b>	<b><i>1<math>\alpha</math>, 1<math>\tau</math></i></b>	-107.8 (-109.63)	-0.47 (-0.45)	<0.01 (<0.01)

258 *Note.* Model = Heuristic (*ws*, *wsls*) and value-based models (*vbm<sub>1-8</sub>*) that were compared against each  
 259 other. Parameters = corresponding model parameters learning rate ( $\alpha$ ), inverse temperature ( $\tau$ ) and  
 260 outcome sensitivity ( $\rho$ ).  $\Delta elpd_{loo}$  = differences in Bayesian leave-one-out cross-validation estimate of  
 261 the expected log pointwise predictive density relative to the winning model and its standard errors.  
 262 *mean elpd<sub>loo</sub>* = mean of expected log pointwise predictive density across all trials. *Pseudo-BMA+* =  
 263 model weight for relative model evidence using Bayesian model averaging stabilized by Bayesian  
 264 bootstrap using 100,000 iterations.

265

266 The model comparison of the reduced dataset did not differ from the results of the complete dataset. At  
 267 the first step, children’s learning behavior in the longitudinal data again can be better described by a

268 value-based rather than by a heuristic strategy model. At the second step, comparison different value-  
 269 based models, the winning model again suggests that feedback timing affected the inverse temperature,  
 270 but not the learning rate or outcome sensitivity. We did not find any deviations from the findings of the  
 271 winning model when using the reduced dataset. The mean model fit (*mean elpd<sub>loo</sub>*) was slightly worse  
 272 in the reduced dataset, which suggests that the additional poor learners in the complete dataset did not  
 273 fit worse to the model than the other children, despite their low accuracy. The correlations between  
 274 condition differences of inverse temperature and reaction times remained ( $r = -.288$ ,  $t(df = 125) = -3.36$ ,  
 275  $p = .001$  at wave 1 and  $r = -.352$ ,  $t(df = 118) = -4.09$ ,  $p < .001$  at wave 2). To conclude, the same winning  
 276 model from the computational analysis remained and was therefore used for further analyses.

277

278 *Confirmatory brain-cognition links with learning scores and episodic memory*

279 We fitted a fourvariate LCS model using the reduced dataset to check whether the reported results  
 280 remained the same. The LCS again provided a good data fit ( $\chi^2(27) = 18.7$ ,  $CFI = 1.00$ ,  $RMSEA(CI) =$   
 281  $0(0 - .030, SRMR = .053)$ ). Striatal volume at wave 1 again covaried with both immediate and delayed  
 282 learning score ( $\phi_{STR_{w1}, LS_{i,w1}} = 0.17$ ,  $z = 2.19$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p = .029$  and  $\phi_{STR_{w1}, LS_{d,w1}} = 0.16$ ,  $z = 2.04$ ,  $SE$   
 283  $= 0.08$ ,  $p = .041$ ). Constraining the striatal association to immediate learning to 0 worsened model fit  
 284 relative to the unrestricted model ( $\Delta\chi^2(1) = 3.96$ ,  $p = .047$ ), but not when constraining the striatal  
 285 association to delayed learning to 0 ( $\Delta\chi^2(1) = 3.58$ ,  $p = .058$ ). Hippocampal volume did not covary with  
 286 any learning scores in the reduced dataset ( $\phi_{HPC_{w1}, LS_{i,w1}} = 0.11$ ,  $z = 1.52$ ,  $SE = 0.08$ ,  $p = .130$  and  
 287  $\phi_{HPC_{w1}, LS_{d,w1}} = 0.14$ ,  $z = 1.93$ ,  $SE = 0.07$ ,  $p = .054$ ). We further examined whether in the reduced dataset  
 288 the hippocampal contribution at delayed feedback would selectively enhance episodic memory.  
 289 Episodic memory, as measured by individual corrected object recognition memory (hits – false alarms)  
 290 of confident (“sure”) ratings was indeed significantly enhanced for delayed feedback  
 291 ( $\beta_{feedback=delayed} = .011$ ,  $SE = .005$ ,  $t(df = 124) = 2.23$ ,  $p = .027$ ), which was not the case in the results  
 292 when using the complete dataset.

293 The results obtained from the reduced dataset suggest that the striatal associations to learning remained  
 294 unchanged, while the results for the hippocampus differed. The hippocampal volume was no longer  
 295 associated with the delayed learning condition. Furthermore, the hippocampal-dependent episodic

296 recognition memory was enhanced for items encoded during delayed compared to immediate feedback,  
297 which was not the case in the results obtained from the complete dataset.