



Participant information sheet

Thank you for considering taking part in our prototyping workshop for young people on the autism spectrum. This information sheet contains information about the workshop and the wider research project. Please read it carefully and if you are happy to participate in the workshop, complete and return the questionnaire.

About the project

Autism&Uni is a European project that aims to make it easier for autistic students to transition from school and college to university. We are in the process of creating an interactive toolkit to enable students to find out about the challenges they may encounter in higher education, and how they could be overcome.

The toolkit will cover topics like how to prepare for the Study Needs Assessment, how to find your way around university, and it will give examples of typical study situations you may encounter. We now have a prototype of this toolkit and would like your feedback so that we can improve it.

How can you participate?

We invite you to try out the toolkit prototype and give us feedback. In the workshop, you will be asked to use some of the tools and we will observe you and ask you questions about it. We would like to learn from how you use the toolkit, and your ideas for improvements.

If you are 16 or 17 years old, you must come with a parent or carer. If you are 18 or over, we encourage you to bring another person who you feel comfortable with, but it is optional.

Do you have to take part?

No. Any participation is voluntary and up to the point when the workshop closes, you are free to withdraw without any explanation or reason.

Where, when and how will the workshop take place?

The workshop takes place on 9 July 2015 at Headingley Campus, Leeds Beckett University. Attached to this information sheet are directions and photographs of the workshop room. We will ensure that noise and audio distractions in and around the room are kept to a minimum on the day. The workshop will last for about 4 hours including lunch, and there will be several breaks. A schedule is attached.

Who will run the workshop?

Marc Fabri and Penny Andrews will run the workshop. Marc is a researcher at Leeds Beckett University with experience in interactive software design and prototype evaluation. He leads the Autism&Uni project. Penny is the Autism&Uni Research Assistant. She is an Ambassador for the National Autistic Society and campaigns on issues affecting adults with autism. You can find out more about Marc at <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/marcfabri> and about Penny at <https://twitter.com/pennyb>.

What we will do with your information

At the workshop you will see a selection of the toolkit contents. We will use the understanding and knowledge gained from your feedback and from our observations to improve and further expand the toolkit. We will not be sharing information about you outside the research team. Where we ask for your name or contact details, it is for the administration of the research only. Your responses will be anonymous and it will not be possible to identify you from any published material.

Expenses and compensation

We recommend that you use public transport or a car to get to the workshop. We will reimburse your travel costs (car or public transport). Unfortunately we are unable to cover taxi costs.

In recognition of your time, we will give you a £20 high street shopping voucher at the end of the workshop. If you have travelled to our campus and decide to withdraw from the study at any point during the workshop, you will still receive the shopping voucher and be reimbursed travel costs.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions about the information we have given you, or about the way your contribution will be used, please contact us before completing the pre-workshop questionnaire.

Project website: www.autism-uni.org

Sponsor: Leeds Beckett University

Lead researcher: Dr Marc Fabri, m.fabri@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Workshop contact: autism-uni@leedsbeckett.ac.uk or 0113 81 23317

Thank you for taking the time to read this Information Sheet.