

7004 Appendices

Jake Brimble – 2302336

Item A – Ethics form

Item B – Staff interview questions

Item C – Staff interview opening paragraph

Item D – Student questionnaire

Item E – Observation schedule

Item F – Methods of assent

Item G – Consent forms

Item A – Ethics form



PG2 / E1 FORM

APPLICATION FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL

RESEARCH STUDENTS

This form is to be completed by the student within **SIX** months for full-time students and **TWELVE** months for part time students, after the commencement of the research degree or following progression to Part Two of your course.

Once complete, submit this form via the **MyTSD Doctoral College Portal** at (<https://mytsd.uwtsd.ac.uk>).

This document is also available in Welsh.

RESEARCH STAFF ONLY

All communications relating to this application during its processing must be in writing and emailed to pgresearch@uwtsd.ac.uk, with the title 'Ethical Approval' followed by your name.

STUDENTS ON UNDERGRADUATE OR TAUGHT MASTERS PROGRAMMES should submit this form (and receive the outcome) via systems explained to you by the supervisor/module leader.

In order for research to result in benefit and minimise risk of harm, it must be conducted ethically. A researcher may not be covered by the University's insurance if ethical approval has not been obtained prior to commencement.

The University follows the OECD Frascati manual definition of **research activity**: "creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications". As such this covers activities undertaken by members of staff, postgraduate research students, and both taught postgraduate and undergraduate students working on dissertations/projects.

The individual undertaking the research activity is known as the "principal researcher".

Ethical approval is not required for routine audits, performance reviews, quality assurance studies, testing within normal educational requirements, and literary or artistic criticism.

Please read the notes for guidance before completing ALL sections of the form.

This form must be completed and approved prior to undertaking any research activity. Please see Checklist for details of process for different categories of application.

SECTION A: About You (Principal Researcher)

1	Full Name:	Jake Brimble			
2	Tick all boxes that apply:	Member of staff:	☐	Honorary research fellow:	☐
	Undergraduate Student	☐	Taught Postgraduate Student	☒	Postgraduate Research Student
3	Institute/Academic Discipline/Centre:	UWTSD			
4	Campus:	Swansea			
5	E-mail address:	2302336@student.uwtsd.ac.uk			
6	Contact Telephone Number:	[REDACTED]			
For students:					

7	Student Number:	2302336
8	Programme of Study:	Primary PGCE (QTS)
9	Director of Studies/Supervisor:	XXXXXXXXXX

SECTION B: Approval for Research Activity

1	Has the research activity received approval in principle? (please check the Guidance Notes as to the appropriate approval process for different levels of research by different categories of individual)	YES	☒	NO	☐
					Date
2	If Yes, please indicate source of approval (and date where known): <i>Approval in principle must be obtained from the relevant source prior to seeking ethical approval</i>	Research Degrees Committee	☐		
		Institute Research Committee	☐		
		Other (write in) XXXXXXXXXX	☒	14.03.2024	

SECTION C: Internal and External Ethical Guidance Materials

	Please list the core ethical guidance documents that have been referred to during the completion of this form (including any discipline-specific codes of research ethics, location-specific codes of research ethics, and also any specific ethical guidance relating to the proposed methodology). Please tick to confirm that your research proposal adheres to these codes and guidelines. You may add rows to this table if needed.	
1	UWTSD Research Ethics & Integrity Code of Practice	☒
2	UWTSD Research Data Management Policy	☒
3	Bera (2018) – Ethical Guidelines for Educational Research, fourth edition	☒

SECTION D: External Collaborative Research Activity

If there are external collaborators then you should gain consent from the contact persons to share their personal data with the university. If there are no external collaborators then leave this section blank and continue to section E.

1	Institution	
2	Contact person name	
3	Contact person e-mail address	
4	Is your research externally funded?	YES ☐ NO ☐
5	Are you in receipt of a KESS scholarship?	YES ☐ NO ☐
6	Are you specifically employed to undertake this research in either a	Voluntary YES ☐ NO ☐
7	paid or voluntary capacity?	Employed YES ☐ NO ☐
8	Is the research being undertaken within an existing UWTSD Athrofa	If YES then the permission question YES ☐ NO ☐

	Professional Learning Partnership (APLP)?	below does not need to be answered.				
9	Has permission to undertake the research has been provided by the partner organisation?	(If YES attach copy) If NO the application cannot continue	YES	☐	NO	☐

Where research activity is carried out in collaboration with an external organisation

10	Does this organisation have its own ethics approval system?	YES	☐	NO	☐
	If Yes, please attach a copy of any final approval (or interim approval) from the organisation (this may be a copy of an email if appropriate).				

SECTION E: Details of Research Activity

1	Indicative title:	What is the relationship between the use of technology and independent learning in a year 1 and 2 classroom?		
2	Proposed start date:	08.04.2024	Proposed end date:	31.07.2024
	Introduction to the Research (maximum 300 words per section) Ensure that you write for a <u>Non-Specialist Audience</u> when outlining your response to the points below: <i>Purpose of Research Activity</i> <i>Proposed Research Question</i> <i>Aims of Research Activity</i> <i>Objectives of Research Activity</i> Demonstrate, briefly, how <u>Existing Research</u> has informed the proposed activity and explain <i>What the research activity will add to the body of knowledge</i> <i>How it addresses an area of importance.</i>			
3	Purpose of Research Activity The purpose of this research is : - To inform my practise as an educator through gaining a deeper understanding of how technology can be effectively utilised within the classroom to develop independent learning. - To improve my approach as a research practitioner. (this box should expand as you type)			
4	Research Question What is the relationship between the use of technology and independent learning in a year 1 and 2 classroom? (this box should expand as you type)			
5	Aims of Research Activity To explore the relationship between the use of technology and independent learning in a year 1 and 2 mixed age classroom. (this box should expand as you type)			
6	Objectives of Research Activity			

	- Investigate the current level of technology utilisation within the chosen classroom. - Identify the technology commonly used within year 1 and 2 classrooms. - Engage with literature to conduct a review of current, relevant material from a variety of sources and perspectives. - Select an appropriate representative sample from the year 1 and 2 classroom, ensuring validity and generalisability of data. - Develop a suitable research methodology for exploring the relationship between technology use and independent learning within the classroom, considering the more unique context of a mixed year classroom. - Gain consent from participants appropriately. - Implement the proposed methods. - Continuously review ethical considerations surrounding the research, ensuring that all ethical implications are acknowledged and addressed consistently. (this box should expand as you type)
	Proposed methods (maximum 600 words) Provide a brief summary of all the methods that may be used in the research activity, making it clear what specific techniques may be used. If methods other than those listed in this section are deemed appropriate later, additional ethical approval for those methods will be needed. You do not need to justify the methods here, but should instead describe how you intend to collect the data necessary for you to complete your project.
7	- I will implement an electronic questionnaire for staff members with around 10 questions. The staff involved in this questionnaire will be x4 year 1/2 class teachers, x4 year 1/2 teaching assistants, deputy head-teacher and the headteacher. These staff members have been selected as the teachers and teaching assistants work closely with the year group the students I am focusing on belong to, the deputy headteacher and headteacher have been selected in order to provide draw upon a wider range of feedback from staff members who more closely handle decision-making, policies and school development plans. These questionnaires will be handed out for staff members to fill in within a 48 hour window, they can be filled in at home or in school. - I will implement a whole-class student paper questionnaire with around 10 questions. Only those who provide consent will be able to take part in the questionnaire. These questionnaires will be handed out once consent has been received, they will be implemented during an appropriate time in the school day for students to fill in when in class. - I will undertake semi-structured focus group interviews with students in small groups (<i>audio recordings will be taken for reference post-interviews</i>). Interviews will take place in one of two easily accessible areas in the school that the children are familiar with, one is a small classroom area next door to one of the year 1/2 classes, this is used typically as a reading area, the other area is a small classroom a few paces away from the previously listed room, it is next door to the deputy headteacher's office and is used as an activity room for students. If one room is in use, I will conduct interviews in the other room. I will adhere to safeguarding protocols. Students will be provided the opportunity to opt out by using a two-sided card (one side green, the other side red). The children can keep the card on green if they want to continue or flip the card to red if they want to opt out. Names will be anonymised through any written discussion post-interview (for example, Student A, Student B). These interviews will be conducted once consent has been received for each student. - I will undertake semi-structured individual interviews with several staff members in the school (<i>audio recordings will be taken for reference post-interview</i>). Interviews with staff members will be conducted in their classrooms after school or if they are available during the school day. The interviews will be conducted in the staff room, deputy headteachers office or a quiet classroom that is not in use depending on availability during the school day, or in their classrooms after school. Staff members can opt out by verbally stating so if they wish to.

	Names will be anonymised through any written discussion post-interview (for example, Teacher A, Teaching Assistant B). - I will observe several lessons in the chosen classroom and take notes. I will create an observation schedule and let the children know they are being observed before any observation is conducted. - Students will be given frequent opportunities for assent once consent has been approved through the form of a card (one side, green, one side red). Students can flip the card to red if they wish to opt out of the research project, or keep it on green if they wish to continue. (this box should expand as you type)					
	Location of research activity Identify all locations where research activity will take place.					
8	A primary school in the South Wales area. The observations will be conducted in the year 1/2 classrooms and in the area the children go to work surrounding the classroom (there is a 'challenge zone' where Teaching Assistants work with the students more closely, as well as several tables in the corridor outside the classroom). Student interviews will take place in one of two easily accessible areas in the school that the children are familiar with, one is a small classroom area next door to one of the year 1/2 classes, this is used typically as a reading area, the other area is a small classroom a few paces away from the previously listed room, it is next door to the deputy headteacher's office and is used as an activity room for students. If one room is in use, I will conduct interviews in the other room. Interviews with staff members will be conducted in their classrooms after school or if they are available during the school day. The interviews will be conducted in the staff room, deputy headteachers office or a quiet classroom that is not in use depending on availability during the school day, or in their classrooms after school. (this box should expand as you type)					
	Research activity outside of the UK If research activity will take place overseas, you are responsible for ensuring that local ethical considerations are complied with and that the relevant permissions are sought. Specify any local guidelines (e.g. from local professional associations/learned societies/universities) that exist and whether these involve any ethical stipulations beyond those usual in the UK (provide details of any licenses or permissions required). Also specify whether there are any specific ethical issues raised by the local context in which the research activity is taking place, for example, particular cultural and/or legal sensitivities or vulnerabilities of participants. If you live in the country where you will do the research then please state this.					
9	N/A. (this box should expand as you type)					
10	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Use of documentation not in the public domain: Are any documents NOT publicly available?</td> <td>NO</td> <td>☒</td> </tr> <tr> <td>YES</td> <td>☐</td> </tr> </table>	Use of documentation not in the public domain: Are any documents NOT publicly available?	NO	☒	YES	☐
Use of documentation not in the public domain: Are any documents NOT publicly available?	NO		☒			
	YES	☐				
11	If Yes, please provide details here of how you will gain access to specific documentation that is not in the public domain and that this is in accordance with the current data protection law of the country in question and that of England and Wales. (this box should expand as you type)					

	Does your research relate to one or more of the seven aims of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?	YES	NO
12	A prosperous Wales	☒	☐
13	A resilient Wales	☒	☐
14	A healthier Wales	☐	☒
15	A more equal Wales	☒	☐
16	A Wales of cohesive communities	☐	☒
17	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	☐	☒
18	A globally responsible Wales	☒	☐
19	If YES to any of the above, please give details:		
	A prosperous Wales: - Through investigating how technology implementation can enhance independent learning, research contributes through the potential to improve educational outcomes. Students with a strong understanding of how to learn to effectively utilise technology to learn stand a better chance of gaining future employment. A resilient Wales: - Independent learning through technology can improve problem-solving skills and adaptability. A more equal Wales: - This research has the potential to showcase how technology can be used to support independent learning for all students, regardless of their background or circumstances. A globally responsible Wales: - Supporting independent students equipped with technological skills can lead to more effective critical thinking, collaboration and digital literacy. (this box should expand as you type)		

SECTION F: Scope of Research Activity



	Will the research activity include:	YES	NO
1	Use of a questionnaire or similar research instrument?	☒	☐
2	Use of interviews?	☒	☐
3	Use of focus groups?	☒	☐
4	Use of participant diaries?	☐	☒
5	Use of video or audio recording?	☒	☐
6	Use of computer-generated log files?	☐	☒
7	Participant observation with their knowledge?	☒	☐
8	Participant observation without their knowledge?	☐	☒
9	Access to personal or confidential information without the participants' specific consent?	☐	☒
10	Administration of any questions, test stimuli, presentation that may be experienced as physically, mentally or emotionally harmful / offensive?	☐	☒
11	Performance of any acts which may cause embarrassment or affect self-esteem?	☐	☒

12	Investigation of participants involved in illegal activities?	☐	☒
13	Use of procedures that involve deception?	☐	☒
14	Administration of any substance, agent or placebo?	☐	☒
15	Working with live vertebrate animals?	☐	☒
16	Procedures that may have a negative impact on the environment?	☐	☒
17	Other primary data collection methods. Please indicate the type of data collection method(s) below.	☐	☒
	Details of any other primary data collection method: (this box should expand as you type)		

If NO to every question, then the research activity is (ethically) low risk and **may** be exempt from **some** of the following sections (please refer to Guidance Notes).

If YES to any question, then no research activity should be undertaken until full ethical approval has been obtained.

SECTION G: Intended Participants

If there are no participants then do not complete this section, but go directly to section H.

	Who are the intended participants:	YES	NO
1	Students or staff at the University?	☐	☒
2	Adults (over the age of 18 and competent to give consent)?	☒	☐
3	Vulnerable adults?	☐	☒
4	Children and Young People under the age of 18? (Consent from Parent, Carer or Guardian will be required)	☒	☐
5	Prisoners?	☐	☒
6	Young offenders?	☐	☒
7	Those who could be considered to have a particularly dependent relationship with the investigator or a gatekeeper?	☐	☒
8	People engaged in illegal activities?	☐	☒
9	Others. Please indicate the participants below, and specifically any group who may be unable to give consent.	☐	☒
	Details of any other participant groups: (this box should expand as you type)		

	Participant numbers and source Provide an estimate of the expected number of participants. How will you identify participants and how will they be recruited?	
10	How many participants are expected?	Under the age of 18: - 24 students will undertake the questionnaire. - A maximum of 8 (from the group of 24) students will participate in total to form two focus groups of 4 – consent

		forms will be provided to the parents/guardians, children will be verbally asked if they would like to participate. Adults: - There will be a maximum of 8 school staff participants. Interviews will be conducted – verbal discussion will provide recruitment, ongoing assent will be required. In total, 24 students under 18, 8 adult participants. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
11	Who will the participants be?	Primary school students in year 1 and year 2 (from a mixed age classroom) from School X. School staff (teachers, teaching assistants, headteacher, deputy headteacher) from School X. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
12	How will you identify the participants?	The school staff will be: - The class teacher for the chosen focus group. - Teaching assistants that work with the chosen focus group. - Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher can provide an oversight relating to their perspectives on technology use for independent learning in the classroom. Students will be selected based on considering a proportional representation of the class (for example, a selection of both boys and girls, students with EAL/ALN). The class teacher will identify appropriate students who may wish to participate considering diversity of the group. A consent form with a description of the research project and expectations will then be sent to the parents/guardians. Once informed consent has been authorised, these students will be identified as participants. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>

	Information for participants:	YES	NO	N/A
13	Will you describe the main research procedures to participants in advance, so that they are informed about what to expect?	☒	☐	☐
14	Will you tell participants that their participation is voluntary?	☒	☐	☐
15	Will you obtain written consent for participation?	☒	☐	☐
16	Will you explain to participants that refusal to participate in the research will not affect their treatment or education (if relevant)?	☒	☐	☐
17	If the research is observational, will you ask participants for their consent to being observed?	☒	☐	☐
18	Will you tell participants that they may withdraw from the research at any time and for any reason?	☒	☐	☐
19	With questionnaires, will you give participants the option of omitting questions they do not want to answer?	☒	☐	☐
20	Will you tell participants that their data will be treated with full confidentiality and that, if published, it will not be identifiable as theirs?	☒	☐	☐

21	Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation, in a way appropriate to the type of research undertaken?	☒	☐	☐
22	If NO to any of above questions, please give an explanation			
<i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>				

Information for participants:		YES	NO	N/A
24	Will participants be paid?	☐	☒	☐
25	Is specialist electrical or other equipment to be used with participants?	☐	☒	☐
26	Are there any financial or other interests to the investigator or University arising from this study?	☐	☒	☐
27	Will the research activity involve deliberately misleading participants in any way, or the partial or full concealment of the specific study aims?	☐	☒	☐
28	If YES to any question, please provide full details			
<i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>				

SECTION H: Anticipated Risks

Outline any anticipated risks that may adversely affect any of the participants, the researchers and/or the University, and the steps that will be taken to address them. If you have completed a full risk assessment (for example as required by a laboratory, or external research collaborator) you may append that to this form.	
1	Full risk assessment completed and appended? Yes ☐ No ☒
2	Risks to participants For example: sector-specific health & safety, emotional distress, financial disclosure, physical harm, transfer of personal data, sensitive organisational information
Risk to participants: a) Physical or psychological harm.	<i>How you will mitigate the risk to participants:</i> a) Child protection and safeguarding regulations will be adhered to. I will implement informed consent and assent processes. I will establish positive communication with parents/guardians and gatekeepers of provision that the participants attend. I will proceed in a collaborative manner with them and seek to promote an appropriate comprehension of the research project along with the rights of the participants. I will ensure interviews are conducted in small focus groups in a safe, private space on school grounds, providing an environment for participants to express

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a) Allegations while conducting interviews. b) Accusations of fabrication or falsification of data. c) Concerns of coercion. d) Participants may wish to withdraw. e) A possible conflict of interests between the myself and participants. f) A confidentiality breach due to data being released accidentally. g) Risks relating to the possibility of unexpected negative emotions of the interviewees. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>	a) I will ensure access to a suitable space that secures confidentiality of the participants, whilst also being visibly to other colleagues. b) I will clarify with participants regarding access to transcripts of interviews or field notes. I will ensure debriefing with participants to include recapping on and clarifying where necessary the contributions that they have made. I will work with gatekeepers to promote a comprehensive understanding of the nature of the research project. c) It will be made explicit that participants are free to disengage with the project and that in that event, this will not impact on assessment or outcomes of their programme of study. d) In the case of withdrawal from the student group, discussions would be conducted with the remaining participants and new participants will be recruited, if required, who will be fully briefed, and whose informed consent will be sought. For the case of a withdrawal from the staff group, a nominee will be sought in the relevant department/specialism. e) Where there is a potential conflict of interest between myself and participants, I will not assess that participants work. f) The research will be stored on the UWTSD cloud and any recordings, data or transcript will be password protected in electronic folders on UWTSD systems or on my personal password-protected Macbook and subject to university protocols. GDPR statements will be included in any participant information and consent. I have also completed training on GDPR and will ensure that all records are kept in secure location. g) I will be cautious about the interview locations and select quiet, public spaces. Participants will be assured that all their personal data will be securely stored in the UWTSD cloud or on my password protected MacBook.
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		I will ensure all the related laws and regulations are carefully studies before the research takes place to avoid unintentional misconduct. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
5	University/institutional risks For example: adverse publicity, financial loss, data protection	
	Risk to the University: a) Reputational damage. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>	How you will mitigate the risk to the University: a) I will ensure I adhere to the UWTSD code of ethics and research standards and commonly agreed standards of good practise. I will ensure compliance with data storage regulations and university guidelines and security procedures. I will ensure appropriate methods and a robust research methodology. I will adhere to the UWTSD code of conduct and the EWC code of conduct. I will establish clarity regarding procedures on reporting of disclosures in field work settings. I will work to promote a comprehensive understanding regarding the nature of the research in order to avoid misunderstandings and manage expectations. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
6	Environmental risks For example: accidental spillage of pollutants, damage to local ecosystems	
	Risk to the environment: a) Use of paper, travel – carbon footprint. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>	How you will mitigate the risk to environment: a) This research project will mostly use electronic systems, working to reduce the requirement for paper and travel. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>

Disclosure and Barring Service				
	If the research activity involves children or vulnerable adults, a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate must be obtained before any contact with such participants.	YES	NO	N/A
7	Does your research require you to hold a current DBS Certificate?	☒	☐	☐
8	If YES, please give the certificate number. If the certificate number is not available please write "Pending"; in this case any ethical approval will be subject to providing the appropriate certificate number.	001680508552		

SECTION I: Feedback, Consent and Confidentiality

1	Feedback What de-briefing and feedback will be provided to participants, how will this be done and when?
	I will provide an email address to participants (school staff and parents/guardians) to enable them to ask questions for further details or results. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
2	Informed consent Describe the arrangements to inform potential participants, before providing consent, of what is involved in participating. Describe the arrangements for participants to provide full consent before data collection begins. If gaining consent in this way is inappropriate, explain how consent will be obtained and recorded in accordance with prevailing data protection legislation.
	A form will be sent out with information describing what participants are involved in and how their data may be used for the research. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>
3	Confidentiality / Anonymity Set out how anonymity of participants and confidentiality will be ensured in any outputs. If anonymity is not being offered, explain why this is the case.
	Throughout my notes – I will refer to participants through letters (e.g. student A, teacher A). Through my research write-up, I will anonymise any names as listed above. I will ensure any personal information will be redacted immediately upon return on consent forms. All sensitive information will be kept in a secure password-protected folder on my Macbook or on the secure UWTSD cloud to ensure only I have access to it. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>

SECTION J: Data Protection and Storage

	Does the research activity involve personal data (as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 "GDPR" and the Data Protection Act 2018 "DPA")?	YES	NO
1	"Personal data" means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person. Any video or audio recordings of participants is considered to be personal data.	X	☐
	If YES, provide a description of the data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
2	Audio data will be recorded throughout the interviews, this will be kept anonymous where possible. The collection of this data is to ensure I can collect the information accurately and allows me to record exactly what participants said in their own words to avoid any fabrication/falsification of data. <i>(this box should expand as you type)</i>		
	Does it involve special category data (as defined by the GDPR)?	YES	NO
3	"Special category data" means sensitive personal data consisting of information as to the data subjects' – (a) racial or ethnic origin, (b) political opinions, (c) religious beliefs or other beliefs of a similar nature, (d) membership of a trade union (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992).	☐	X

	(e) physical or mental health or condition, (f) sexual life, (g) genetics, (h) biometric data (as used for ID purposes).		
	If YES, provide a description of the special category data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
4	 (this box should expand as you type)		

	Will data from the research activity (collected data, drafts of the thesis, or materials for publication) be stored in any of the following ways?	YES	NO
5	Manual files (i.e. in paper form)?	☒	☐
6	University computers?	☐	☒
7	Private company computers?	☐	☒
8	Home or other personal computers?	☐	☒
9	Laptop computers/ CDs/ Portable disk-drives/ memory sticks?	☒	☐
10	"Cloud" storage or websites?	☒	☐
11	Other – specify:	☐	☒
12	For all stored data, explain the measures in place to ensure the security of the data collected, data confidentiality, including details of backup procedures, password protection, encryption, anonymisation and pseudonymisation:		
	Questionnaires will be provided in a paper format, I will write students coded names (Student A, Student B) on the sheets prior to handing them out to ensure I can read the writing and that the names are anonymised. These will then be scanned before the paper copies are destroyed. All data will be stored on my MacBook, which is password protected, or uploaded to the UWTSD secure cloud storage. All participants will be provided a unique identifier as stated previously to ensure confidentiality, this list will be kept securely in a separate password protected folder. If any cloud storage is required, I will use the UWTSD Office 365 system, which will be encrypted and the data in the cloud is anonymised. The data will be stored until the receipt of the assignment result and then deleted. Participants will have the right to ask to see what data is held relating to them and this data will be deleted immediately if the participant requests this, in which case the data will not be used in the project. (this box should expand as you type)		

Data Protection			
	Will the research activity involve any of the following activities:	YES	NO
13	Electronic transfer of data in any form?	☐	☒
14	Sharing of data with others at the University outside of the immediate research team?	☐	☒
15	Sharing of data with other organisations?	☐	☒
16	Export of data outside the UK or importing of data from outside the UK?	☐	☒
17	Use of personal addresses, postcodes, faxes, emails or telephone numbers?	☐	☒
18	Publication of data that might allow identification of individuals?	☐	☒

19	Use of data management system?	☐	☒
20	Data archiving?	☐	☒
21	If YES to any question, please provide full details, explaining how this will be conducted in accordance with the GDPR and Data Protection Act (2018) (and any international equivalents, where appropriate):		
	(this box should expand as you type)		
22	List all who will have access to the data generated by the research activity:		
	The researcher (Jake Brimble). (this box should expand as you type)		
23	List who will have control of, and act as custodian(s) for, data generated by the research activity:		
	The researcher (Jake Brimble). (this box should expand as you type)		
24	Give details of data storage arrangements, including security measures in place to protect the data, where data will be stored, how long for, and in what form. Will data be archived – if so how and if not why not.		
	Each participant's electronic consent form and data from interviews, class observations and questionnaires will be stored in a secure place in a password protected MacBook or the UWTSD Office 365 system which will be encrypted. All personal identification information will be removed or anonymised during transcription. Signed informed consent forms in paper form will be kept in a locked file cabinet and will be unavailable to anyone except the researcher. On receiving the feedback and mark for this assignment, the signed informed consent forms will be destroyed and audio data will be deleted. (this box should expand as you type)		
25	Please indicate if your data will be stored in the UWTSD Research Data Repository (see https://researchdata.uwtsd.ac.uk/). If so please explain. (Most relevant to academic staff)		
	(this box should expand as you type)		
26	Confirm that you have read the UWTSD guidance on data management (see https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/)	YES	☒
27	Confirm that you are aware that you need to keep all data until after your research has completed or the end of your funding	YES	☒

SECTION K: Declaration

The information which I have provided is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have attempted to identify any risks and issues related to the research activity and acknowledge my obligations and the rights of the participants. In submitting this application I hereby confirm that I undertake to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice which is published on the website: https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/research/research-ethics/		
1	Signature of applicant: Jake Brimble	Date: 14.03.24

For STUDENT Submissions:

2	Director of Studies/Supervisor:		Date: 14.03.23
3	Signature:		

For STAFF Submissions:

4	Academic Director/ Assistant Dean:		Date:
5	Signature:		

Checklist: Please complete the checklist below to ensure that you have completed the form according to the guidelines and attached any required documentation:

☒	I have read the guidance notes supplied before completing the form.
☒	I have completed ALL RELEVANT sections of the form in full.
☒	I confirm that the research activity has received approval in principle
☐	I have attached a copy of final/interim approval from external organisation (where appropriate)
☐	I have attached a full risk assessment (where appropriate) ONLY TICK IF YOU HAVE ATTACHED A FULL RISK ASSESSMENT
☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice.
☒	I understand that before commencing data collection all documents aimed at respondents (including information sheets, consent forms, questionnaires, interview schedules etc.) must be confirmed by the DoS/Supervisor, module tutor or Academic Director.

RESEARCH STUDENTS ONLY

Once complete, submit this form via the **MyTSD Doctoral College Portal** at (<https://mytsd.uwtsd.ac.uk>).

RESEARCH STAFF ONLY

All communications relating to this application during its processing must be in writing and emailed to pgresearch@uwtsd.ac.uk, with the title 'Ethical Approval' followed by your name.

STUDENTS ON UNDERGRADUATE OR TAUGHT MASTERS PROGRAMMES should submit this form (and receive the outcome) via systems explained to you by the supervisor/module leader.

Item B – Staff interview questions

1. **How would you describe the overall impact of technology on the independent learning abilities of students in your classroom?**
2. **What challenges, if any, have you observed when students use technology for independent learning activities?**
3. **How do you adjust your teaching approach to support students who may face difficulties with technology during independent learning time?**
4. **Have you noticed any trends or patterns in the ways your students utilise technology for independent learning tasks?**
5. **What strategies do you use to support students who have limited access to technology outside of the classroom?**
6. **Can you describe your approach to ensuring technology fosters independent learning skills rather than over-reliance on external guidance?**
7. **How do you evaluate the effectiveness of technology-based independent learning activities compared to more traditional methods?**
8. **Please provide some examples of successful integration of technology to promote independent learning in your classroom.**
9. **Have you encountered any ethical concerns related to student technology use during independent learning sessions, and if so, how were they addressed?**
10. **In your experience, what changes or additions could be made to the current approach of incorporating technology into independent learning to better support student development and engagement?**

Item C – Staff interview opening paragraph

Before we begin the interview, I want to ensure you understand the purpose and ethical considerations of this process.

The questions I will be asking are part of a research study exploring the use of technology for independent student learning in the classroom.

Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you have the right to decline to answer any question or withdraw from the interview at any time without penalty.

Any information you provide will be kept confidential, and your responses will be anonymised so that you cannot be personally identified.

There are no anticipated risks associated with participation. However, if you do feel uncomfortable or have any concerns during the interview, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns after the interview has concluded, you can contact my professional tutor at University of Wales Trinity Saint Davids – xxxxxxxxxxx or my senior mentor at the school - xxxxxxxxx.

Do you have any questions or concerns before we begin?

Questionnaire

Do you like using technology at school?



I don't like it



I don't mind



I like it



I really like it

Why?

.....

.....

Do you feel like you are learning when you use technology at school?

No

Not really

I'm not sure

I think so

Yes

Why?

.....

.....

How often would you like to use technology to learn in school?

Not at all

Sometimes

Keep it as it
is

More often

All the time

Item E – Observation schedule

Observation Schedule for Year 1 and Year 2 Mixed Age Classroom

Observer: Jake Brimble

Date:

Duration: 30-45 minutes

Objective: To observe student engagement with technology during independent learning time and to assess the relationship between independent learning and technology within the classroom.



<u>Student</u>	<u>Creative Area</u>	<u>Reading Area</u>	<u>Writing Area</u>	<u>Lego Area</u>	<u>Toy Play Area</u>	<u>On Chromebooks</u>	<u>On iPads</u>
Student A							
Student B							
Student C							
Student D							
Student E							
Student F							
Student G							
Student H							
Student I							
Student J							
Student K							
Student L							
Student M							
Student N							
Student O							
Student P							
Student Q							



Item F – Methods of assent

- Students were given frequent opportunities for assent once consent was approved through the form of a card (one side green, one side red). Students could flip the card to red if they wish to opt out of the research project, or keep it green if they wished to continue.
- Students were told that they could walk away at any time with no repercussions or if they wanted to verbally express their desire to leave.

Item G – Consent forms

Information Sheet:

Project Title:

What is the relationship between the use of technology and
independent learning in a year 1 and 2 classroom?

Dear Parent / Guardian,

My name is Jake Brimble and I am studying for a PGCE qualification at ~~Yr Athrofa~~ University of Wales Trinity Saint David. I am currently a student teacher within ~~xxxxxx~~ Primary School and am teaching in your child's class.

I would like to invite your child to participate in my research project. The title of the project is *"What is the relationship between the use of technology and independent learning in a year 1 and 2 classroom?"*. I aim to understand this aspect deeper to improve my teaching practise and support my students more effectively.

I will be conducting:

- A whole class questionnaire for each student (10 questions).
- Observations during lessons where I will take notes on the use of technology in the classroom.
- A brief interview with 2 small focus groups with the children discussing their use of technology in school and how they feel they learn through using it.
 - o The audio from these interviews will be recorded for reference when writing up my assignment (**no video will be recorded**).
 - o The audio will be stored safely behind password protected University drives and will be deleted as soon as my assignment has been marked (June 2024).

All names will be kept strictly confidential and will only be known by myself. Your child's participation in this study is completely voluntary so you or your child can withdraw from the study at any stage. Your child will also be asked to give their assent before the beginning of the study.

After careful and precise analysis of the data obtained from the lesson observation and group interview, I would be happy to provide you with a copy of the findings at your request. The results of the research will be discussed in a university assignment that will contribute to my PGCE course. The results of this study will be stored on a firewall protected University drive and all raw data will be destroyed once the assessment has been marked.

I thank you in advance for your time. If any questions do arise, feel free to contact me at your convenience at xxxxxxxResearchProject@gmail.com

Yours sincerely,

Jake Brimble.

Consent Form

Project Title:

What is the relationship between the use of technology and
independent learning in a year 1 and 2 classroom?]

Name of Researcher: Jake Brimble

Please initial box

1. I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet dated 10.04.2024
for the above study.

2. I understand that my child's participation is voluntary and that I am free to
withdraw my child from the study at any time, without giving any reason.

3. I understand that my child can choose to withdraw at any time, without giving a
reason.

4. I understand that the information given by my child will be used in a university
assignment.

5. I understand that my child's name will not appear at any time.

6. I agree for my child to take part in the above study.

Child's name

Parent signature

Date

When completed, please return to Mr Brimble by the 17th of April.

Thank you.