

Applicant Name:	[REDACTED]
Applicant email:	[REDACTED]
Academic Unit	School of Computing Science
Supervisor email (if available)	[REDACTED]
Category	Student Project
Project Title:	An investigation into natural language processing and discreet evidence gathering in a bid to raising the awareness of cyber abuse
Start / End Date	12-12-2014 - 08-05-2015
MyProjects Reference (if available)	
Reviewer 1	
Name:	
Date sent:	
Date comments received:	
Reviewer 2	
Name:	
Date sent:	
Date comments received:	
Date comments provided to researcher:	
Date researcher confirmed amendments made:	
Faculty final approval date:	
Notes	

Best wishes

Policy & Information Team, Newcastle University

The following answers were given by the participant:

Response ID

151

Date submitted	02-12-2014 13:11:27
Last page	13
Start language	English
Date started	02-12-2014 12:42:03
Date last action	02-12-2014 13:11:27
Applicant Details	
Is this approval for a:	Student Project [A2]
What type of degree programme is being studied?	Undergraduate Degree (e.g. BA / BSc) [A1]
Name of Principal Researcher	[REDACTED]
Please enter your email address	[REDACTED]
Please select your school / academic unit	School of Computing Science [AA6]
Please enter the module code	CSC3095
Please enter the supervisor email:	[REDACTED]
Please enter the supervisor's school / unit	School of Computing Science [AA6]
Project Details	
Project Title	An investigation into natural language processing and discreet evidence gathering in a bid to raising the awareness of cyber abuse
Project Synopsis	The project aims to discuss ways in which new technologies may be used to combat and raise awareness of cyber bullying. More specifically, I will be investigating the uses of natural language processing to detect forms of abuse in streams of text. As a result of these discussions, I hope to develop a prototype application which processes information gathered in a discreet manner, to combat cyber bullying.
Project start date	12-12-2014
Project end date	08-05-2015
Is the project externally funded?	No [A3]
Does your project involve collaborators outside of the University?	No [N]
High risk areas flagged at preliminary review	
Animals	
NHS	
Humans in a non-clinical setting	Yes [Y]
Environment	
Data	Yes [Y]
International (outside the EEA)	
Existing Ethics, Sponsorship & Responsibility	

Has ethical approval to cover this proposal already been obtained?	No [N]
Will anyone be acting as sponsor under the NHS Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care?	No [N]
Do you have a Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital (NUTH) reference?	No [N]
Will someone other than you (the principal investigator) or your supervisor (for student projects) be responsible for the conduct, management and design of the research?	No [N]
Project Outline & Proposed Research Methods	
<p>Project Outline & Aims</p> <p>In everyday language, briefly explain the aims of this research including the anticipated benefits and risks. In cases where the use of technical or discipline specific terms is unavoidable, please explain their meaning clearly.</p>	<p>During project research, I will be making use of a number of research articles and past papers to study the correlation between smartphone use and cyber bullying within a range of societies. Part of the research for this project will require me to carry out surveys within schools across the United Kingdom.</p> <p>The aim of this research will be to provide a better understanding of smartphone ownership figures, bullying statistics (including forms of bullying experienced, sexual, discrimination, flaming etc.) and communication methods used if/when experiencing cyber bullying. (Text messaging, Email, phone calls etc.). In turn, the research will aid me in designing the prototype application which will function in such a way as to combat cyber bullying.</p> <p>Using surveys as a research method poses various risks to both the survey participants, as well as myself and Newcastle University, all of which I will be addressing fully throughout this application.</p> <p>Surveys will be designed using the Newcastle University survey builder. One potential risk of this is maintaining the confidentiality of participant’s identities. All questionnaires will remain completely anonymous and I will not be disclosing any information about the schools of pupils who participated during the research for this project.</p> <p>All data gathered through the research should be kept secret and stored in a secure location to</p>

	<p>protect against theft or data loss. Questionnaires should also be designed in such a way as to not cause distress to survey participants. Since the topic of bullying can be a sensitive subject for some, all questions should be optional and participants must first give consent before taking part. Survey questionnaires will offer advice to participants on how to tackle bullying.</p> <p>Advice should be taken from an official source such as Anti-Bullying-Alliance.com and should be checked by supervisors and gatekeepers before being sent to survey participants.</p>
<p>Proposed Research Methods (Experimental Design).</p> <p>In everyday language, please provide an outline of the research methods in a clear step by step chronological order. Noting any pertinent information such as whether the research involves overseas partners and how you will handle the research data.</p>	<p>Statistical research should be carried out in a careful and controlled manner as to not pose risks to participants and other parties.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Paper based questionnaires will be designed together with a covering letter to be sent to the Head of schools. Questionnaires will consist of scalar, multiple choice and open based questions. An introduction at the start of the questionnaire will provide participants with information about the project and how their participation will contribute to the project. 2) Both the questionnaire and covering letter will be sent to the projects supervisor for review. 3) Any changes required should be made to both the questionnaire and covering letter. 4) The questionnaire will be transcribed into Forms.ncl. 5) A copy of this ethical approval form, together with the questionnaire and covering letter inviting schools to take part in the research, will be sent to the head of schools. 6) Schools that are willing to take part in the research will be sent the digital version of the survey which may be viewed on mobile phones. A closing date will be also be arranged where by all survey questionnaires should be completed. 7) All data gathered will be carefully analysed using the tools available through the Newcastle University survey builder tool, Forms.ncl. All data will be stored within a secure location for the duration of the project. See data management plan for more information.
<p>Humans in a Non-Clinical setting</p>	

Participant Details	
Does the research specifically target participants recruited who are:	
Adults (over 18 years old and competent to give consent)	Yes [A1]
Children / Legal minors (anyone under 18 years old)	Yes [A1]
People from non-English speaking backgrounds	No [A2]
Persons incapable of giving consent	No [A2]
Prisoners or parolees	No [A2]
Recruited through a gatekeeper	Yes [A1]
Welfare recipients	No [A2]
How many participants do you plan to recruit?	240
From which source and, by what means do you plan to recruit your participants?	Pupils aged 13-20 from 4-6 schools based in the United Kingdom. The online survey may also be sent to University students aged 18+ who are able to give consent.
Participant Information	
Will you inform participants that their participation is voluntary?	Yes [A1]
Will you inform participants that they may withdraw from the research at any time and for any reason?	Yes [A1]
Will you inform participants that their data will be treated with full confidentiality and that, if published, it will not be identifiable as theirs?	Yes [A1]
Will you provide an information sheet which includes the contact details of the researcher / research team?	Yes [A1]
Will you obtain written consent for participation?	Yes [A1]
Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation (i.e. give them an explanation of the study aims and hypotheses)?	Yes [A1]
Will you provide participants with a written debriefing too?	Yes [A1]
Participant Information II	
If you are using a questionnaire, will you give participants the option of omitting questions that they do not want to answer?	Yes [A1]

<p>If your work is experimentally based, will you describe the main experimental procedures to the participants in advance so that they are informed about what to expect?</p>	<p>Not applicable [A3]</p>
<p>If the research is observational, will you ask participants for their consent to being observed?</p>	<p>Not applicable [A3]</p>
<p>Participant Consent</p> <p>Please describe the arrangements you are making to inform potential participants, before providing consent, of what is involved in participating in your study and the use of any identifiable data, and whether you have any reasons for withholding particular information. Due consideration must be given to the possibility that the provision of financial or other incentives may impair participants' ability to consent voluntarily.</p>	<p>All participants should be given the option to participate in the survey. This choice should be made by both the gatekeeper and the pupil. In this case, the gatekeeper for the research will be the Head of school or Head Teacher who may act on behalf of pupils. Written confirmation of the invitation acceptance should be received from the gatekeeper before carrying out any research. All participants will be asked to read through and agree to the consent form if they wish to partake in the study.</p>
<p>Participant Consent II</p> <p>Participants should be able to provide written consent. Please describe the arrangements you are making for participants to provide their full consent before data collection begins. If you think gaining consent in this way is inappropriate for your project, please explain how consent will be obtained and recorded. (A copy of your consent form must be provided with your submitted application)</p>	<p>The questionnaire will state within the introduction that participants should not disclose any personal information about themselves, other pupils within the school or the school in general. The questionnaire will brief pupils with the aim of the project and provide contact details for the lead scientist. The questionnaires will also inform pupils on how specific answers given may be used for research within the project during the introduction and debriefing sections. All participants are reminded that they are able to withdraw from the research at any time and may skip questions they do not wish to answer during the survey.</p>
<p>Participant Debriefing</p> <p>It is a researcher's obligation to ensure that all participants are fully informed of the aims and methodology of the project, that they feel respected and appreciated after they leave the study, and that they do not experience significant levels of stress, discomfort, or unease in relation to the research project. Please describe whether,</p>	<p>At the end of the questionnaire, the debriefing section should describe how the answers provided will contribute to the projects research. It should also explain that project aims to build on the results by developing an application that combats instances of bullying as witnessed by participants. Participants will again be reminded that they are able to withdraw from the research at any time and that all data will remain anonymous and confidential. If in any way</p>

<p>when, and how participants will be debriefed. (A copy of your debriefing sheet must be provided with your submitted application)</p>	<p>participants feel they have been affected by the study, contact details for the lead scientist, supervisors and school of computer science, have been listed within the debriefing section.</p>
<p>Potential risk to participants and risk management procedures</p> <p>Identify, as far as possible, all potential risks (small and large) to participants (e.g. physical, psychological, etc.) that may be associated with the proposed research. Please explain any risk management procedures that will be put in place and attach any risk assessments or other supporting documents. Please answer as fully as possible.</p>	<p>Possible risks to participants could include: Lost or theft of data - In the case of Forms.ncl undergoing a cyber-attack, the university or hosting company may be held responsible. Depending on the severity of the attack, the schools may be informed.</p> <p>All data should be anonymous, it should be impossible to deduce the identity of an individual by analysing survey results. Mental distress in answering questions - Although questions relating to bullying will be worded in such a way as to not cause mental distress, all questions will be optional and participants can withdraw from the survey at any time.</p> <p>In the case a participant feels they have been affected by the questions in anyway, contact details have been added to the survey for getting in touch with the lead scientist.</p> <p>Risk of individuals disclosing personal information of others - It will be clearly stated during the introduction to the survey that participants should not disclose any personal information about themselves, others or the school in general.</p> <p>Although the on-line survey should be designed in such a way to restrict individuals disclosing personal information, In the case personal information is provided, it should be ignored in the survey and the data may be destroyed.</p>
<p>Data</p>	
<p>Please describe how data will be accessed, how participants' confidentiality will be protected and any other considerations. Information must be provided on the full data lifecycle, from collection to archive.</p> <p>Alternatively please send a copy of your data management plan to the ethics committee. Please note that you plan to do this in the box below.</p>	<p>Please see the attached data management plan.</p>

Permissions	
Please use the table below to record details of any licenses or permissions required and / or applied for e.g. Local Authority District , Natural England etc. Ensure you include the reference, status and the date it was granted (if applicable).	
1.[Permission / License]	
1.[Award Body]	
1.[Reference Number]	
1.[Date of Permission]	
1.[Status e.g. Granted / Pending]	
2.[Permission / License]	
2.[Award Body]	
2.[Reference Number]	
2.[Date of Permission]	
2.[Status e.g. Granted / Pending]	
3.[Permission / License]	
3.[Award Body]	
3.[Reference Number]	
3.[Date of Permission]	
3.[Status e.g. Granted / Pending]	
4.[Permission / License]	
4.[Award Body]	
4.[Reference Number]	
4.[Date of Permission]	
4.[Status e.g. Granted / Pending]	
5.[Permission / License]	
5.[Award Body]	
5.[Reference Number]	
5.[Date of Permission]	
5.[Status e.g. Granted / Pending]	
Risk Considerations & Insurance	
What are the potential risks to the researchers themselves? This may include: personal safety issues, such as those related to lone working, out of normal hours working or to visiting participants in their homes; travel arrangements, including overseas travel; and working in unfamiliar environments. Please explain any risk management procedures that will be put in place and note whether you will be providing any risk assessments or other	Although the potential risks to project researchers are minimal, if visiting schools, the risks of travel accidents should be considered. This should not require a risk assessment as public transport will be rarely used to travel short distances.

supporting documents.	
Supporting Documentation	
Please specify which documents you will be supplying in support of your documentation.	
Participant consent form	Yes [Y]
Participant information sheet	Yes [Y]
Participant debriefing document	Yes [Y]
Questionnaire(s)	Yes [Y]
Outline protocol	
Project risk assessment	
Travel risk assessment	
Original ethical assessment / other ethical review forms	
Data management plan	Yes [Y]
Peer review evidence (internal / unfunded)	
Local permissions / licenses	
None	
Other	Research invitation covering letter
Summary and Submission	

Principle Investigator Name: Student
Project

Project title: An investigation into natural language processing and discreet evidence gathering in a bid to raising the awareness of cyber abuse

Your project has been flagged as requiring further assessment due to the following flag(s):

Humans in a non-clinical setting

Data

Your project has been identified as high risk and must be reviewed by the Faculty of Science, Agriculture & Engineering Ethical Review Committee before it begins.

Once you have submitted the application, please print it and send it together with any supporting documentation to SAGE.ethics@ncl.ac.uk

Declaration

I certify that:

the information contained within this application is accurate. Yes [Y]

the research will be undertaken in line with all appropriate, University, legal and local standards and regulations. Yes [Y]

I have attempted to identify the risks that may arise in conducting this research and acknowledge my obligation to (and rights of) any participants. Yes [Y]

no work will begin until all appropriate permissions are in place. Yes [Y]

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