Participant Information Sheet for Experts

Good day,

My name is Nabeelah Bemath. I am a PhD student that is part of the Wits-Edinburgh Sustainable African Futures Doctoral Programme- a joint degree through the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Edinburgh. My supervisors are Prof. Kate Cockcroft and Dr Nicolas Chevalier. I am conducting a research study about the structure and assessment of executive functioning in pre-schoolers; the study is titled *"***The structure and measurement of young children's executive functioning in South Africa.**"

Part of my study involves investigating the psychometric properties of a touchscreen, performance-based assessment of EF for pre-schoolers. As an expert in the field of child neuropsychological assessment and/or research, I would like to invite you to participate in this study to help establish the content validity of this assessment.

Should you consent to participate, we will arrange a time and date to meet in person at your rooms or office during office/lunch hours to conduct the research. The research involves three aspects to be completed in the research session and will take approximately 45 minutes in total to complete. Firstly, you will be asked to complete a brief demographic questionnaire. You will then be taken through the assessment – this will include being provided with the assessment instructions, being taken through the assessment on an electronic tablet, and an explanation of the scoring of the assessment. Lastly, you will be asked to complete a content validity questionnaire that will ask you to provide feedback on different aspects of the assessment.

As we will meet in person, anonymity cannot be guaranteed. However, I will not disclose your name or other identifying information in any reports on the study, unless you would prefer otherwise. All information will be safely stored using a password protected device and software which my supervisors and I will have access to. All hard copies will be stored in a locked cupboard that is only accessible to the supervisors. With your permission, the data collected from this study may be re-analysed or secondary analysis by other local or international researchers and for teaching purposes; however, this data will not contain any personal information such as names and no personal information will be passed on. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to. You are not forced to participate in the study and can choose to stop participating in the study any time you wish to before data is anonymised. Please note that there will be no risks or direct benefit to you by participating in this study,

and that there will be no negative consequences associated should you choose not to participate in the study.

This study will help us better understand and assess how pre-school children think and may hopefully help us identify how we can facilitate pre-school children's healthy learning and development. Should you choose to participate in this study, I ask that you please complete the below consent form to indicate this. Please note that your signature will indicate that you understand the study's aims and requirements, and that any questions you had have been answered appropriately.

This research study will be written up as a dissertation, and may be published in articles, books and presented at conferences. The dissertation will be available on the university library website. If you would like to receive a summary of this report, I will be happy to send it to you once the research has been completed.

Please feel free to contact me or my supervisor using the details listed below if you have any questions before of afterwards about this study. If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical procedures of this research study, you are welcome to contact the University Human Research Ethics Committee (Non-Medical), telephone +27(0) 11 717 1408, email hrecnon-medical@wits.ac.za.

Yours sincerely,

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