University of Southampton

NxtGen Researcher Programme

Participant information sheet (<18)

ERGO number: 100668
Version 1
17-10-2025



Why have I been chosen?

You're part of the NxtGen Programme, so we'd like you to help us evaluate how well it works and improve it for future researchers.

This Participant Information Sheet explains what data will be collected including any personal data.



Please ask the research team any questions

TURN OVER



What is the research about?

We are running the NxtGen researcher programme which trains diverse groups of people to become researchers.

We want to find out: How does taking part in this training affect you? Does it boost your confidence and change how you see your future?

What will I need to do?

1. Background survey - We'll ask basic questions about you (Contact details, age, gender, ethnicity, school/college, postcode, special needs status, care experience) to make sure we have a diverse group of participants.

2. Before and after activities (with a facilitator to support):

- **Questionnaire** - about your confidence, goals, wellbeing, community involvement.
- **Interview** - chat about your experience and what you have learnt (we'll audio record this with your permission on MS Teams)
- **Social network activity** - draw and map out your different social groups on paper

3. During the programme - We'll note how you interact with others (like decision-makers), track your attendance, and ask you to keep a reflection diary about your research journey which will be reviewed by the research team.

4. Long-term outcomes evaluation - We'll add your details to the Higher Education Access Tracker (H.E.A.T) to see if the NxtGen programme influenced your education or career path.

Remember: You can opt out of any activity at anytime by speaking to the NxtGen team - no questions asked.

TURN OVER

What risks are there?

This study is low risk.
Discussing wellbeing topics may bring up emotions, which is normal.

We will provide:

- Self-care guides
- Support information (like Kooth https://www.kooth.com: and No Limits: https://nolimitshelp.org.uk/mental-health-and-wellbeing/)
- Access to research team via phone/email
- Safeguarding support if needed

Do I have to take part?

No! It's completely your choice.

You can:

- Say no and still do the training
- Change your mind and withdraw anytime
- Skip questions you don't want to answer

If you withdraw, we'll delete your personal details, but we can't remove data from group recordings or after data has been analysed (though it will be anonymised).

What happens to my information?

Confidentiality: Your personal details will be kept private.

Research outputs: Results will be shared through reports and presentations (you won't be identifiable). With your permission, dissemination pieces and publications you are involved in producing will contain your full name as an author.

Future contact: With your permission, we may contact you about future opportunities through the NxtGen Academy.

Data storage: Your data will be kept securely for 10 years after the study ends, and then permanently removed as per standard University procedures.

The Research Excellence Framework (REF):

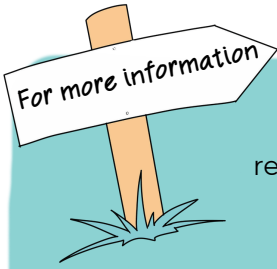
The REF is the UK government's system for evaluating and ranking the quality of research at universities.

Each university receives a score that determines how much research funding they get.

We may use data from this project in a REF 'Impact Case Study' - a report showing how university research benefits people in the real world. For more information please visit:

- **www.ref.ac.uk/about/what-is-the-ref**
- **https://bit.ly/UoS_REF_PrivacyNotice**

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If you would like more information about this research please reach out to us at:

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bit.ly/LifeLab_NxtGen_ResearcherAssentForm

SCAN ME!

If you have any concerns or complaints please contact the University of Southampton at:

023 8059 5058

rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk

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Data Protection

For more information about how your data is used please read the privacy policy here: **https://bit.ly/UoS_PrivacyPolicy.**

- The University of Southampton is the '**Data Controller'** for the personal information collected.
- We collect only **minimum necessary information** for the research project.
- Personal data will be handled according to University policies and used **only** for **our research** purposes.
- Identifiable information (name/contact details/postcode) will be used to conduct research and check your records to make sure that the research is being done properly.

- You can withdraw from the study without giving a reason at any time. If this is after analysis or anonymisation has taken place, the information already collected will be kept.
- To ensure research reliability, we must manage records in specific ways. This means it may not be possible for you to modify the data we hold about you, particularly after analysis has begun.

The University will only use your information as reasonably expected and keep it safe and secure.

For more information:
Email the University's Data Protection Officer:

data.protection@soton.ac.uk