School of Education, Trinity College Dublin
Application for Ethical Approval of Research Proposals

Title of Research: A study of something interesting

Researcher Name(s): Ann Ed Student
Trinity Email Address: astudent@tcd.ie

Supervisor Name (if applicable): A. Supervisor
Supervisor Email (if applicable): asupervisor@tcd.ie

Category of Proposer (please tick): Student ☒
Principal Investigator (Staff) ☐

Course of Study (please tick): BMusEd ☐ PME ☐ MEd ☒ DEd/PhD ☐
ASIAP ☐ CertC21T&L ☐

Please indicate the level of approval required (see appendix)

Level 0 ☒ Level 1 ☐ Level 2 ☐

Has your proposal been submitted to any other Research Ethics Committee?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please provide details:

Commented [A1]: Check the ethics guidelines policy document on the School of Education website to ensure you have marked the correct level. This study does not involve data collection from humans or animals and only uses publicly available documents. It is therefore a level 0 application.
Declaration by All Applicants:
I have read and understood the School of Education's policy on ethics in educational research: [http://www.tcd.ie/Education/research/ethics/](http://www.tcd.ie/Education/research/ethics/) and Trinity College Dublin’s Policy on Good Research Practice: [https://www.tcd.ie/research/dean/assets/pdf/TCD%20Good%20Research%20Practice%20Policies%20copy.pdf](https://www.tcd.ie/research/dean/assets/pdf/TCD%20Good%20Research%20Practice%20Policies%20copy.pdf)

I declare that the details provided reflect accurately my research proposal and I undertake to seek updated approval if substantive changes are proposed after this submission. I have consulted an authoritative set of educational research guidelines.

Applicant's Signature: ___________________________  
Signed: ___________________________  Date: __________

Declaration by Supervisor (if applicable)
I have read this application. I am satisfied that it is in line with the criteria set out by the School of Education Research Ethics Committee in their published Code of Practice and application form templates.

Supervisor’s Signature: ___________________________  
Signed: ___________________________  Date: __________

In instances where supervisors feel that their specialised expertise may be important, information for the REC to take into account (e.g. in relation to researching highly sensitive areas such as trauma/abuse), please submit an additional page with any relevant information.

Final Approval Signed-Off by a member of the Research Ethics Committee

Signed: ___________________________  Date: __________
Details of the Proposed Project

1. Please give a structured abstract of the proposed research, including the methods you intend to use (approx. 300 words).

Theoretical Background
Recent research in the area of X has demonstrated that…
This study aims to examine topic Y. The following research questions have been identified in order to investigate this topic:
1. Research Question 1
2. Research Question 2

Detailed description of methods and fieldwork instruments
This study is a systematic literature review and will examine published data from relevant journals in the field as well as relevant publicly available policy documents. The study will use the following databases for search: database 1, database2
The study will complete the steps of a systematic literature review of search, title and abstract screening, full text screening and synthesis of results. The following inclusion and exclusion criteria will be applied in identifying relevant research articles:

List possible inclusion/exclusion criteria (e.g. published after 2000, in English, etc)
A thematic analysis will be conducted on the policy documents using the following a priori themes:

List possible themes for analysis

2. Please answer the following questions in relation to your proposed research. Questions (b), (c) or (d) will require detailed explanations if answered ‘yes’ and will be referred for additional scrutiny by the REC or Trinity REPC. Answering ‘Yes’ to (e) will require a separate application to the relevant HSE REC.

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Please tick</th>
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<tr>
<td>a. Does the research involve work with children (under-18) or vulnerable adults?</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>If ‘Yes’, has appropriate Garda clearance (or equivalent) been obtained (include details)?</td>
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<td>Please provide the date of issue on the Certificate.</td>
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<td>b. Could any aspect of the research give rise to any form of harm to participants, including the researcher(s)?</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>c. Could any aspect of the research produce information that could lead to criminal prosecution of the participants or others?</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Is deception of the participants planned in any aspect of the research? If yes, provide details.</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Does any aspect of the research involve patients (or their relatives or carers) or other users of health and social care services, the premises or facilities of such services, access to personal records or the participation of health or social care staff?</td>
<td>X</td>
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