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): supervisor@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 Code of Practice for the School of Education Research Ethics Committee document on https://www.tcd.ie/Education/research/ethics/ for description of levels)

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 School of Education Research Ethics Committee Code of Practice and Guidelines.pdf to ensure you have marked the correct level. A study that does not involve data collection from humans or animals and only uses publicly available documents is 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) including requirements in relation to data protection in Trinity College Dublin as set out here: [https://www.tcd.ie/info_compliance/data-protection](https://www.tcd.ie/info_compliance/data-protection)

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: [Real Signature Not Typed] Date 25/9/2019

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: [Real Signature Not Typed] Date 25/9/2019

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 (for staff submissions)

Signed: Date

Commented [A2]: Signing this declaration indicates that you comply with the above. Please do not sign this section and submit your application until you meet these criteria.

Commented [A3]: The applicant must sign the document. Electronic signatures are accepted. Typed names are not accepted. Any application without signatures will be returned without review.

Commented [A4]: For student applications, supervisors are important gate-keepers and provide important guidance. Supervisors are invited to sign this declaration if they are satisfied that the application meets the criteria outlined. Electronic signatures are accepted. Any application without signatures will be returned without review.
SECTION 1 – DETAILS OF RESEARCH STUDY

1.1 Working title of proposed study
Using digital technologies to support literacy of parents and children: a Design-Based Research study

1.2 Dates & duration of Study
Proposed Start Date: Oct 2019  
Proposed End Date: Oct 2021

1.3 Please give a structured abstract of the proposed research (approx. 400 words).
State research aim(s) and objective(s), research question or hypothesis, as appropriate. Include background, research approach, design, data collection methods.

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

1.4. 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 and must comply with HRB regulations regarding explicit consent.

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Does the research involve work with children (under-18) or vulnerable</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
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adults?
If ‘Yes’, has appropriate Garda clearance (or equivalent) been obtained (include details)?

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<tr>
<th>Adults?</th>
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Please provide the date of issue on the Certificate.

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<th>Date of Issue</th>
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b. Could any aspect of the research give rise to any form of harm to participants, including the researcher(s)?

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<th>Harm to Participants</th>
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c. Could any aspect of the research produce information that could lead to criminal prosecution of the participants or others?

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<tr>
<th>Criminal Prosecution</th>
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d. Is deception of the participants planned in any aspect of the research? If yes, provide details.

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<th>Deception Planned</th>
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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?

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<tr>
<th>Involvement Details</th>
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