



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FOR QUT RESEARCH PROJECT

Interview with autistic students

Exploring the experiences of positive behaviour support implementation from the perspective of high school autistic students, their teachers, school leaders, and parents in Queensland

QUT Ethics Approval Number 7438

Research Team



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Queensland University of Technology (QUT)**

Why are we doing this research?

In this research, we want to hear your story about behaviour support at your school and what is happening to help you. We want to hear your views about how you are involved.

We want to hear from you how your teachers and school leaders are involved when a behaviour incident happens.

We want to hear from you how your parents are involved when behaviour incidents happen.

The information we will get from you will help us understand what autistic students think and feel about behaviour support in different schools. We will also know better what teachers do and what students want their school to do to help.

How will you take part?

In this research, we want you to tell us about your experience of behaviour support. Remember that there are no right or wrong answers. You can choose to take part in an interview either face-to-face at QUT Kelvin Grove Campus or in community spaces, ensuring confidentiality and minimising distractions during the interview or online via Teams or Zoom. If you and your parent or guardian choose a face-to-face interview, your parent will go with you to the interview location.

For this project, we will meet 3 times. Each time we will meet for about 30 minutes.

- In the 1st meeting, Mr Athiende will tell you more about this study and respond to any questions you may have.
- In the 2nd meeting, Mr Athiende will ask interview questions about the referral and communication with your teachers, case managers and your parents. For example,
How were your parents involved when you were receiving a behaviour support at school?
How were your teachers or case managers involved when you needed a behaviour support?

Mr Athiende will also respond to any questions you may have in the 2nd meeting

- In the 3rd meeting, Mr Athiende will ask interview questions about your behaviour plans. For example,



How do you think the school can help you follow your plan?

Note. From Stock Image by Unknown Author licensed under CC BY-SA

Mr Athiende will also respond to any questions you may have in the 3rd meeting

Mr Athiende will record on a device your responses to the interview questions.

During the interviews, you can use drawings, or you can write some notes to help you respond to the interview questions.

After the interviews, Mr Athiende will send you a copy of your responses to the interview questions so you can check your responses and delete anything that should not be included in the study.

What are the possible benefits for me if I take part?

This research will help us know more about behaviour support for high school autistic students in QLD state schools.

The findings can help schools to know what they can do better for autistic students in high school.

You can ask for a summary of the research findings by checking the box on the consent form.

To say thank you, we will offer you a \$20 Ultimate Student Gift Card for each of the meetings you attend.

What are the possible risks for me if I take part?

We don't think there are many risks for you in taking part in this research. We will be asking you to do things that you might normally do, talking to people about your experiences in your school. We will ask you some questions about how your teachers and parents are involved when a "behaviour incident" happens.

It is possible that doing this might **bring back memories** that upset you. If it does, then here are some things you can do:

- You can take a short break
- You can tell us if you don't want to talk about something.
- You can stop the interview and finish it another time.
- You can stop taking part in the research

Taking part in this research may also cause **changes to your routine** because of spending your time in the interviews. That might be a bit inconvenient for you.

We can make it more convenient by doing the interviews at a time and place that suits you best. We will also give you the interview questions before the interview so you can know what the interview is about. QUT provides limited free counselling if the interview brings up memories that upset you. If you want to access this service:



Call the Clinic Receptionist on **07 3138 0999**
Monday–Friday only 9am–5pm

Withdrawal from research

It is your choice whether you want to take part in this research or not. You can choose to stop taking part at any time, this is known as withdrawing from the research. Even if you agreed to take part at the beginning, you can change your mind and tell us that you don't want to take part after all. You don't have to tell us why you don't want to take part anymore if you don't want to. We will not mind, and your school and teacher will also understand.

What about privacy and confidentiality?

We will not use your name or other information that can make other people know who you are. We will remove your real name and use a different name instead in any data we collect. You can choose another name we use instead of yours. What you tell us during the interview will be stored securely: we will lock them in a room in QUT, and we will save in computers using a password to protect them.

Only the research team will be able to access the information. If you decide to leave the study after some recordings have been made, we will delete those files. All the interviews, including the audio recordings, will be kept securely for at least 5 years, and all the signed consent be stored for 15 years.

As the research project involves an audio recording:



We will email you a copy of your responses to check your responses after we write them out. Only after we know that it is accurate that we will use your response.

We work hard to make sure that we remove parts of your responses that can make you known to other people. Sometimes, even with the names changed, people who know you well might recognise you by what you said.

How do I give my consent to participate?

Please sign the written consent form (enclosed) to confirm your agreement to participate. Your parent will also sign to confirm their agreement for you to participate.

What if I have questions about the research project?

If you want to talk to the people who are in this research, you can contact them by:



Joseph Athiende joseph.athiende@hdr.qut.edu.au **07 3138 3469**

Sofia Mavropoulou sofia.mavropoulou@qut.edu.au **07 3138 3469**

Glenys Mann glenys.mann@qut.edu.au **07 3138 0186**

What if I have a concern or complaint regarding the conduct of the research project?

If you want to talk to somebody who isn't part of the research about how the research is being done, you can contact the QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team.



07 3138 0999

Phone

Monday–Friday only 9am–5pm

Or



humanethics@qut.edu.au

Email

Anytime

Thank you for helping with this research project. Please keep this sheet for your information.