



## **Informed Consent Form for Parents/Guardians**

We are currently working on a project called "DTCCT" which aims to tackle cyberbullying among teenagers. The project involves a group of experts, including Kanishk Verma, a PhD student, and Dr. Brian Davis, Dr. Tijana Milosevic from Dublin City University, and Dr. Rebecca Umbach from Google. We received funding from the Irish Research Council (IRC) and Google, Ireland, to support our research on online content safety, under the Online Content Safety grant number ESPSG/2021/161.

When we say "cyberbullying" we mean when someone is being "mean or hurting someone" online over time, like "sending mean messages", "gossiping", or "leaving someone out on purpose".

Our research also looks into how bystanders on these platforms either support or resist bullies, as well as how users interact with social media posts related to such behaviour. These platforms offer tools to report or block bullies, and we want to find out if these tools are helpful for teenagers and young adults who experience cyberbullying or witness it happening on these sites.

### **Clarification of the purpose of the research**

As part of our research, we will be conducting online surveys with teenagers and young adults (aged 13 to 21). The survey will ask questions about the social media sites they most frequently use, which features or areas of these sites they most commonly view cyberbullying-related content, and how they share or engage with this content. The survey is focused only on the functional aspects of the features of these social networking sites and participants will not be asked about their feelings or any personal details.

Please note that we will not be collecting any confidential or personal identifiable information from the participants. We will only collect information about their age and gender to categorise responses on a high level. All responses, annotation, and feedback data will be stored on a secured DCU Google Drive.

### **Confidentiality, anonymity,**

We do not collect any personal information.

### **Destroying Data**

We do not collect any personal information and therefore do not require to destroy any data.

Contact detail of the principal investigator (researcher): [kanishk.verma@adaptcentre.ie](mailto:kanishk.verma@adaptcentre.ie)



## Voluntary participation

We want to let you know that your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary. We do not want you to feel obligated to take part in any way, and you have the right to opt-out at any time if you feel uncomfortable or for any other reason. We appreciate your willingness to help us with this important study, and we thank you for considering it.

### Signature:

I have read and understood the information in this form. My questions and concerns have been answered by the researchers, and I have a copy of this consent form. Therefore, I consent for my child to take part in this research project

**Parents/Guardians Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_