

**Project Title:** Personal-independent Emotion Detection Model for Children with Level 1 Diagnosis of Autism  
**Researcher:** Annanda Sousa  
**Supervisors:** Prof. Mathieu d'Aquin, Dr Manel Zarrouk and Dr Jennifer Holloway

## **Summary of Information Sheet for parents/guardians of children participating in the research study titled “Personal-independent Emotion Detection Model for Children with Level 1 Diagnosis of Autism”**

**Version:** 1.0

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This document is **a summary** of the aspects of the research titled above. Please, take the time to read also the full **Information Sheet** document before agreeing to allow your child to be part in the study.

### **THE RESEARCHERS**

I am a researcher PhD student in the College of Engineering and Informatics, Data Science Institute - NUI Galway. I am under the supervision of Prof. Mathieu d'Aquin (from Data Science Institute - NUI Galway), Dr Manel Zarrouk (from Institut Galilée - Université Paris 13) and Dr Jennifer Holloway (from School of Psychology – NUI Galway). As part of my work, I am researching in the area of Computer Science – Artificial Intelligence. This research study is investigating how to create an Emotion Identifier computer system for children with Level 1 Diagnosis of Autism. This research was approved by both the NUI Galway's Data Protection Officer and the NUI Galway's Ethics Committee (an ethics committee that helps protect people involved in research).

### **THE RESEARCH**

If you and your child agree to take part in this study, they will be asked to attend a video call with the researcher. During the video call, your child will do some activities that will trigger emotions responses from them (for example, happiness, excitement, anxiety). The video call will be recorded. This will take around 30 minutes for each online session. Your child will be required to attend 3 different online sessions. The sessions will be scheduled to best suit yours and your child's available time.

If you and your child agree to take part in this study, posterior to your child's session, you will be asked to use a website to watch the recorded video of your child's session and to indicate which emotion they are engaged with at each time.

Since the study involves evoking emotions from your child, we foresee possible risk of your child to become emotionally agitated or feel emotional stress. But we have put several measures in place to minimise this risk and to help your child to regulate their emotions during the study. One example is the presence of a psychology student with experience supporting children with autism during the whole time to provide any needed support.

The information gathered will be treated with privacy and anonymity. No information regarding your child will be revealed in this research. Information will be stored safely with access only available to the research team listed above and it will be destroyed after 3 years. The anonymised results from the study will be included in a thesis and may be published and discussed at academic conferences or in journals.

Your child doesn't have to take part in this study if you/they don't want to and you/they can withdraw from the study at any time, without saying why. If you have any questions or if anything is unclear just ask me, I am happy to discuss the study with you.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read this, and please **also read the complete Information Sheet** (attached to this document) with more details on this research.