



**Project Title:** Personal-independent Emotion Detection Model for Children with High-Functioning ASD

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## **Summary of Information Sheet for parents/guardians of children participating in the research study titled “Personal-independent Emotion Detection Model for Children with High-Functioning ASD”**

**Version:** 1.0

**Date:** 23/03/2020

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 high-functioning 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 do some activities that will trigger emotions responses from them (for example, happiness, excitement, anxiety) while they will be audio/video/heart rate recorded. This will take around 30 minutes for each session.

If you and your child agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to attend sessions to watch the recorded video of your child's session while indicates which emotion they are engaged with. You and your child will be required to attend 3 different sessions. The sessions will be scheduled to best suit yours and your child's available 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 therapist specialised in ASD 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.