

# Combined Participant Information Sheet & Consent Form



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

### Study Title:

Chatbot study

### What is the purpose of the study?

This is a University of Sunderland Master of Computer Science research project studying a new type of chatbot.

### Who can take part in the study?

Anybody past the age of consent and of sound mind able to give consent are welcome to participate.

### Do I have to take part?

Participation is entirely voluntary. If you change your mind about taking part in the study, **you can withdraw at any point during the session without giving a reason and without penalty.**

### What will happen to me if I take part?

No identifiable information will be collected. You will be asked to voluntarily fill out a questionnaire and give feedback after you finish using the chatbot.

### What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

Although no identifiable information will be collected, your conversation with the chatbot will be recorded and kept for analysis. You may answer the chatbot with personal data or fictitious data. It doesn't affect the research.

### What are the possible benefits of taking part?

No monetary benefits are given for participation. The only personal benefit is the chance to try something new at the forefront of chatbot research.

### What if something goes wrong?

If you change your mind about participation, please contact me, Glenn Tam, by email to cancel your participation (bi40fi@student.sunderland.ac.uk). If you feel unhappy about the conduct of the study, please contact me immediately or the Chairperson of the University of Sunderland Research Ethics Group, whose contact details are given below.

**Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?**

No identifiable information of participants is collected.

**What will happen to the results of the research study?**

If suitable, the results may also be presented at academic conferences and/or written up for publication in peer reviewed academic journals.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research is unfunded. It is organised as part of the University of Sunderland Master of Computer Science programme

**Who has reviewed the study?**

The University of Sunderland Research Ethics Group has reviewed and approved the study.

**Contact for further information**

Doctor John Fulton (Chair of the University of Sunderland Research Ethics Group, University of Sunderland)  
Email: [john.fulton@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:john.fulton@sunderland.ac.uk)  
Phone: 0191 515 2529

## **Consent Form**

This is an anonymous study. No signature is required for this anonymous study. By continuing further, you agree to the following:

I am over the age of 18, of sound mind, and am capable of giving consent.
I have read and understood the attached study information and, by continuing, I consent to participate in this study.
I understand that I have the right to withdraw from the study without giving a reason at any time during the study itself.
I understand that I also have the right to change my mind about participating in the study for a short period after the study has concluded.