

# Research Ethics Checklist

Adapted for the use by Department of Computing and  
Informatics ONLY

## 1. Student Details

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Name  | Michael Porter                  |
| School  | Faculty of Science & Technology |
| Course  | BSc Software Engineering        |
| Have you received external funding to support this research project?  | No                              |
| Please list any persons or institutions that you will be conducting joint research with, both internal to BU as well as external collaborators. |                                 |

## 2. Project Details

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Title   | Gamifying Childhood - Motivating Children to Achieve Through Video Games |
| Proposed Start Date   | 19-October-2015  |
| Proposed End Date   | 18-March -2016 – Note this is not the submission deadline!               |
| Supervisor  | Damien Fay   |
| Summary (including detail on background methodology, sample, outcomes, etc.)  |  |
| <p>I want to create a mobile application that will allow parents to assign tasks and rewards to their children in the form of “quests” in a role-playing game. The quests can take the form of “Tidy your room” or “Complete your homework” and offer rewards of experience points and gold to level up the child’s in-game avatar. Quests can have an expiry date and give an optional penalty if not completed in time or to a required standard.</p> |  |

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## 3. External Ethics Review (Answer "Yes" go to 4, "No" go to 5)

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Does your research require external review through the NHS National Research Ethics Service (NRES) or through another external Ethics Committee? | No |
|--|----|

## 4. External Ethics Review Continued

|   |
|---|
| Answered "Yes" to question 3 will conclude the BU Ethics Review so you do not need to answer the following questions. Note you will need to obtain external ethical approval before commencing your research. |
|---|

## 5. Research Literature (Answer "Yes" go to 6, "No" go to 7)

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Is your research solely literature based? | No |
|---|----|

## 6. Research Literature Continued (Either answer will conclude the review)

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Will you have access to personal data that allows you to identify individuals OR access to confidential corporate or company data (that is not covered by confidentiality terms within an agreement or by a separate confidentiality agreement)? | Choose an item. |
| Describe how you will collect, manage and store the personal data (taking into consideration the Data Protection Act and the Data Protection Principles).  |                 |
|  |                 |

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## 7. Human Participants Part 1 (Answer “Yes” go to 8, “No” go to 12)

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Will your research project involve interaction with human participants as primary sources of data (e.g. interview, observation, original survey)? | No |
|---|----|

## 8. Human Participants Part 2 (Answer any “Yes” go to 9)

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Does your research specifically involve participants who are considered vulnerable (i.e. children, those with cognitive impairment, those in unequal relationships—such as your own students, prison inmates, etc.)?                                | No |
| Does the study involve participants age 16 or over who are unable to give informed consent (i.e. people with learning disabilities)? NOTE: All research that falls under the auspices of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 must be reviewed by NHS NRES. | No |
| Will the study require the co-operation of a gatekeeper for initial access to the groups or individuals to be recruited? (i.e. students at school, members of self-help group, residents of Nursing home?)  | No |
| Will it be necessary for participants to take part in your study without their knowledge and consent at the time (i.e. covert observation of people in non-public places)?  | No |
| Will the study involve discussion of sensitive topics (i.e. sexual activity, drug use, criminal activity)?  | No |

## 9. Human Participants Part 2 Continued

|   |
|---|
| Describe how you will deal with the ethical issues with human participants? |
|---|

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## 10. Human Participants Part 3 (Answer any “Yes” go to 11, all “No” go to 12)

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Could your research induce psychological stress or anxiety, cause harm or have negative consequences for the participant or researcher (beyond the risks encountered in normal life)? | Choose an item. |
| Will your research involve prolonged or repetitive testing?   | Choose an item. |
| Will the research involve the collection of audio materials?  | Choose an item. |
| Will your research involve the collection of photographic or video materials?   | Choose an item. |
| Will financial or other inducements (other than reasonable expenses and compensation for time) be offered to participants?  | Choose an item. |

## 11. Human Participants Part 3 Continued

Please explain below why your research project involves the above mentioned criteria (be sure to explain why the sensitive criterion is essential to your project’s success). Give a summary of the ethical issues and any action that will be taken to address these. Explain how you will obtain informed consent (and from whom) and how you will inform the participant(s) about the research project (i.e. participant information sheet). A sample consent form and participant information sheet can be found on the Research Ethics website.

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## 12. Final Review

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Will you have access to personal data that allows you to identify individuals OR access to confidential corporate or company data (that is not covered by confidentiality terms within an agreement or by a separate confidentiality agreement)? | No |
| Will your research take place outside the UK (including any and all stages of research: collection, storage, analysis, etc.)?  | No |
| Please use the below text box to highlight any other ethical concerns or risks that may arise during your research that have not been covered in this form.  |    |
| <div></div>  |    |

**Review Completion Date: 11-January-2016 – Double click to change it!**

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*The following section is to be filled by the supervisor only*

## Supervisor's Review:

Choose an item.

Please leave your comments:

No real-world data to be collected,  
no actual interaction with children so I  
believe there are no ethical concerns.  
Nirien Ezy.

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## Help

### Q3 External Ethics Review

If you choose “Yes”, it will **conclude your BU Ethics Review**. Please ensure you obtain external ethical approval before commencing your research. Contact the Dorset Research Consortium with any questions regarding NRES application.

### Q4 Research Literature

Please be careful when choosing “Yes” as this means your research will only use publicly available data (e.g., research paper, market reports) or permitted private/confidential data. This also means there will be no human participants involved in your project in any form (e.g., no client, no user testing, no interview, no focus group, no survey, no field study, no observation).

### Q5 Research Literature Continued

Choosing either “Yes” or “No” will end this review BUT you will need to fill in the following field.

### Q7 Human Participants Part 1

Note: please be careful when choosing “No” as this means there will be no human participants involved in your project in any form (e.g., no client, no user testing, no interview, no focus group, no survey, no field study, no observation).

### Above minimal risk

The “Above minimal risk” will be automatically identified if you answered yes to one or more questions below. In that case, you **must be careful**. Consult your supervisor or project tutor if you need help. Alternatively, you may contact Eva Papadopoulou, RKEO Research Governance Adviser at [epapadopoulou@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:epapadopoulou@bournemouth.ac.uk).

- Does your research specifically involve participants who are considered vulnerable?
- Does the study involve participants age 16 or over who are unable to give informed consent?
- Will the study require the co-operation of a gatekeeper?
- Will it be necessary for participants to take part in your study without their knowledge and consent?
- Will the study involve discussion of sensitive topics?
- Could your research induce psychological stress or anxiety, cause harm or negative consequences for the participant?
- Will your research involve prolonged or repetitive testing?
- Will the research involve the collection of audio materials?
- Will the research involve the collection of photographic or video materials?
- Will financial or other inducements be offered to participants?

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- Will your research take place outside the UK?