Participatory Design Interview Sheet

Project: Inclusive Event Discovery Platform
Researcher: Gavin Plucknett (Final Year Computer Science Project)

Purpose of the Discussion

This informal discussion is part of a university project exploring how clearer accessibility and sensory information can support autistic individuals, disabled people, and families with SEND needs when deciding whether to attend events.

The aim is to:

- Validate assumptions made during design
- Understand what information is genuinely useful
- Identify gaps and pain points in existing event platforms
- Inform inclusive, participatory design decisions

There are no right or wrong answers — lived experience and practical insight are the focus.

Consent & Ethics

- Participation is voluntary
- No names or identifying details will be used
- Notes may be taken for academic purposes only
- You may skip any question or stop at any time

☐ Verbal consent given to take notes

Discussion Questions

A. Planning & Decision-Making

1. When deciding whether to attend an event, what information do you look for first?
2. Are there any details that, if missing, would cause you to rule an event out?
3. How often do you need to contact organisers directly to get accessibility information?

B. Sensory & Environmental Considerations

4. Which sensory factors tend to have the biggest impact (e.g. noise, crowds, lighting)?
5. How important is predictability (schedule, structure, ability to leave early)?
6. Are there things that sound fine online but are often difficult in practice?

C. Current Platforms & Information Sources

7. Where do you currently find out about events?
8. What do existing platforms do particularly well?
9. What is most frustrating about current event listings?

D. Trust & Lived Experience

10. Do reviews from other families or autistic people influence your decisions?
11. What makes accessibility information feel trustworthy?
12. Have you ever arrived somewhere and felt it didn't match the description?

E. Event Reviews & Community Input

13. Would accessibility-focused event reviews be useful?
14. Would you prefer short summaries, detailed descriptions, or both?
15. Would it help to know who the review is written by (e.g. parent, autistic adult, organiser)?

Event Organiser Perspective (if applicable)

F. Platforms & Event Creation

16. Which platforms do you currently use to create and promote events?
17. How easy or difficult is it to add accessibility or sensory information on these platforms?
18. Are there types of accessibility information you want to provide but currently can't?

G. Pain Points & Workarounds

19. What are the most frustrating aspects of creating event listings?
20. Do you find yourself duplicating information across multiple platforms?

21. Have you had to clarify misunderstandings caused by limited listing options?

H. Reflection – Organiser Perspective

22. What do you think attendees or families most often misunderstand about accessibility at events?
23. Do current platforms discourage organisers from sharing detailed accessibility information in any way?
24. How could a platform help organisers communicate accessibility clearly and honestly without fear of misinterpretation?
25. If this project were successful, what would you hope it would change about how accessibility is represented in event listings?

Closing

26. Is there anything important I haven't asked?
27. Would you be happy for me to follow up if clarification is needed?

☐ Happy to be contacted again (optional)