

# Participant Information Sheet for evaluation of *MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL* app (video walkthrough).

*I would like to invite you to take part in a research study. Before you decide you need to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully and ask questions if anything you read is not clear or would like more information.*

## **Title of the study:**

An investigation into a navigation app to support independent travel with public transport for people with Down's Syndrome.

## **What is the purpose of this investigation?**

I am "Al Majed Khan" a doctoral student at the University Of Strathclyde, conducting research on how smartphones and smartwatches can support the daily activities of young adults living with Down's Syndrome. Based on my early research developed an app called "*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*", that provides navigational support in walking to a selected destination and access to public transport, and provides tracking facilities for caregivers to monitor the progress of the journey. This study aims to evaluate the developed app and I am conducting a number of assessments with people living with DS and their parents/caregivers. Due to ensure the safety of the participants due to the result of COVID-19, we recorded a video that demonstrated travel from A to B using "*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*" and caregivers were tracking and monitoring the progress of the journey. The purpose of the study is to gather your feedback on the demonstrated video to investigate how "*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*" app can be used to support independent travel. This study will focus on your experiences and suggestions to evaluate the level of adaption to independent travel through the developed app (*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*).

## **Who can participate in the research?**

All people with Down's Syndrome aged 16 and 35 years, as well as their parents/caregivers/family members, who are currently or formerly supported, will participate in interviews. Staff from disability organisations may also participate in the research.

## **Do you have to take part?**

No, this is voluntary and you can withdraw at any point (with or without giving a reason).

This study is interested in your views and experiences. As an expert/caregiver/people with DS, you can help us by sharing your experiences and providing your suggestions, which is why I am asking you to be a participant in this study. Participation is totally up to you if you wish to take part in this study and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason.

## **Where will the study take place?**

The study will take place virtually via video conferencing to maintain social distancing due to COVID-19. The Zoom application will be used for the video conferencing and an invitation link with a password will be provided on the day of the meeting. Instructions manual will be provided in advance to install and use the Zoom application in your computer/laptop/mobile and to ensure you are familiar with the features, and you require a stable internet connection.

## **What will you do in the part of the project?**

For this part of the project, you will be asked to participate in a video review. The process involves watching a recorded video that demonstrates performing journey from A to B and verbally answering a set of questions that are related to the usability of the app (*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*). The questions will focus on understanding whether an individual with DS realises how/what to do to perform an independent journey by following the instructions/signs/symbols of "*MYINDEPENDENTTRAVEL*" app and are these instructions/signs/symbols appropriate to their needs. If you are interested in taking part in the study, you are asked to reply to the invitation mail with a suitable time and date for you.

The video walkthrough will last no longer than **60 minutes**. The plan as follows:

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1. Confirm audio recording.
2. A brief introduction of the demonstration video.
3. Watch the video step-by-step and discussion related tasks.
4. A short final discussion of any points that you wish to raise.

#### **What will happen after the evaluation?**

I will write up the results for academic publication and inclusion in my PhD thesis. We aim to the results forward to the scientific community and to eventually create a public app.

#### **What are the potential risks to you in taking part?**

There are no direct risks to take a part in this study and you can leave at any point if you feel uncomfortable. But it will take about 60 minutes of your day, every effort will be appreciated.

#### **What happens to the information in the project?**

All the information that we collect about you and the audio recordings will be kept secure storage in University of Strathclyde's H: drive. Signed paper consent forms will be scanned and kept securely in the University StrathCloud server. All consent forms and recordings will be destroyed at the end of the PhD (est Mar 2021). Anonymous quotations, summary data may be used in academic publication and research group promotional material (potentially including the group website), but your identity will be protected and no personal/contact information will be shared with third parties.

The University of Strathclyde is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office who implements the Data Protection Act 1998 and General Data Protection Regulations 2016. All personal data on participants will be processed in accordance with the provisions of the acts.

#### **Researcher contact details:**

If you have any future questions or concerns about this study please feel free contact:

##### **Lead Investigator and PhD Student:**

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##### **Senior Lecturer and Project Supervisor:**

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This investigation is conducted under ethical approval of Computer and Information Sciences Ethics Committee. Ethical approval ID: 1264. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact: Departmental Ethics Committee, Computer Information Science, University of Strathclyde, 26 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XH. [enquiries@cis.strath.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@cis.strath.ac.uk)

**Thank you for reading this information – please ask any questions if you are unsure about what is written here. If you do not wish to take a part in the study, thank you for your time and consideration.**

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