



School of Psychological Science  
12a Priory Road  
BRISTOL BS8 1TU  
United Kingdom

+44.117.9289943 t.

+44.117.9288588 f.

Olivia.Maynard@bristol.ac.uk

www.bristol.ac.uk

## **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

### **Drug Education Evaluation**

Daniel Foster, Angela Attwood, Olivia Maynard

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part and remember that your participation is voluntary.

If you would like to ask us any questions before you decide to take part, please contact us via email at Olivia.Maynard@bristol.ac.uk.

#### **What is the purpose of the study?**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate The Drop – Harm Reduction Service.

#### **Why have I been invited?**

You have been invited because you booked to attend a session with The Drop – Harm Reduction Service.

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

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you would be asked to sign an online consent declaration prior to any further procedures. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. A decision to withdraw at any time, or a decision not to take part, would not affect your future or be held against you in any way.

#### **Am I eligible to take part?**

**Please note you must be aged over 18 to volunteer and may be asked to provide identification as proof of age.**

In order to take part you should;

- Be an undergraduate or postgraduate student at the University of Bristol
- Be signed up to attend a one-to-one session with The Drop – Harm Reduction Service.

### **Expenses and reimbursement**

Participants who take part in this study will be entered into a prize draw to win one of 7 vouchers (2 x £50, 5 x £20).

### **What will I have to do?**

After you have completed the one-to-one session with The Drop, you will have the option to be able to pick up a drug reagent testing kit. If you do so, we will ask you to complete a very short survey every time you use this kit to test a drug (via a link attached to the testing kit itself).

We will ask you to complete a follow-up survey one month after your session with The Drop. We will contact you using the contact information you provided to The Drop and have given your consent for us to use. This survey will also be conducted online.

You may also be contacted to ask for your participation in a qualitative interview – regarding your experience with the programme – at a later date. However, if we do this, another information sheet will be provided with full details and separate consent. You do not have to take part in this follow up if you do not wish to do so.

All of these procedures are to assess the effects of The Drop – Harm Reduction Service and are not a requirement to engaging with the service.

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

We do not anticipate you would experience any disadvantages as a direct result of taking part in the study.

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

You would not directly benefit from taking part in this research study and your participation is voluntary. However, the information we get from this study may help us to understand the effects of programs of this type (in case other university bodies wish to replicate this scheme) and will ultimately help to reduce drug related harm for people who choose to use drugs recreationally.

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

Yes. We may require some personal information initially, in order to contact you with the link to the online survey and about participation in further studies. At first, this may be linked to other personal detail we will acquire from The Drop (e.g. your name, age, gender identity, telephone number and drug use). However, we will provide you with a unique identification number and your contact details will be separated from this other personal information (so you will not be able to be identified from the data).

To enter the prize draw, you will be redirected to a separate webpage where you can enter your email address. This will not be linked to your study data in any way. Your contact details will be kept securely by the study team and will not be shared publicly or with other research groups. Once the prize draw has been carried out, your contact details will be deleted.

This research study will adhere to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. We will keep identifiable information about you (email address) up to one year after the study, but this will not be shared or be part of your study data.

### **What would happen to the results of the research study?**

During the study, we will collect study data. This will be anonymised. This means we give the data a unique identification number and your personal information (e.g., name, phone number) is removed, so that you cannot be identified by this information.

Study data refer to the information gathered once you are enrolled onto the study. These data are collected to answer our research questions.

When the study has been completed, we would analyse the study data we have collected and report the findings. This would be reported in an appropriate scientific journal or presented at a scientific meeting. You would not be identified in any way and if you would like a copy of the final paper, you may request this.

As your study data are anonymised, it would not be possible to identify you by name from any aspect of documentation or reporting for this research study.

At the end of the study your data would become “open data”. This means that it would be stored in an online database so that it is publicly available. Your screening data would not be shared.

What is open data?

Open data means that study data are made available, free of charge, to anyone interested in the research, or who wishes to conduct their own analysis of the data. We would therefore have no control over how these data are used. However, all data would be anonymised before being made available and therefore there would be no way to identify you from the study data.

Why open data?

Sharing research data and findings is considered best scientific practice and is a requirement of many funding bodies and scientific journals. As a large proportion of research is publicly funded, the outcomes of the research should be made publicly available. Sharing data helps to maximise the impact of investment through wider use, and encourages new avenues of research.

### **Can I withdraw my study data after I have participated in the study?**

Yes. If you decide that you do not want your data to be used you can contact the study team and request that your data are withdrawn. You can do this up to one year after the study ends or up until the point the data are shared as “open data” (whichever comes first). At this point links between

your identity and your anonymised data set would be destroyed, and therefore we would no longer be able to withdraw your data as we would no longer be able to identify which data set is yours.

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

This study is funded by the Tobacco and Alcohol Research Group at the University of Bristol.

### **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty of Science Research Ethics Committee at the University of Bristol (ethics approval code: 112765).

### **What if I am unhappy, or there is a problem?**

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might suffer would be addressed.

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for legal action, but you may have to pay for it. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you've been approached or treated during this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Olivia Maynard (Olivia.Maynard@bristol.ac.uk), or if you would prefer to deal with someone not involved in the study you can contact the University of Bristol Research Governance and Ethics team (research-governance@bristol.ac.uk).

### **Who can I contact if I have further questions?**

If you have any concerns about drug or alcohol use, you can find information about drug treatment services in your area via the NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/Drug-treatment-services/LocationSearch/340>

If you would like any more information about specific drugs or drugs harm reduction, visit the Talk to Frank website <https://www.talktofrank.com/>

***If you participate in this study you would be given a copy of this information sheet and a signed consent form to keep.***