# Participant Information Sheet

## Parent or Carer

On-screen Assessment Pilots

Dear Parent or Carer,

As part of a pilot research project undertaken by Research and Development at AQA, we are conducting a study on the perspectives of teachers and students on on-screen assessment. In order to carry out the research we are seeking your permission to engage with your child directly via virtual focus groups and questionnaires.

**What involvement will students have in the research?**

Students will be asked to complete a short questionnaire about their background information and about the topics they have studied in GCSE English Language, Mathematics and Science. Students will also asked to complete a short survey after they have completed their on-screen assessment, asking them about their experience and what they thought of taking an on-screen assessment.

Some students will be selected by their teachers to participate in 45 minute online focus groups. These focus groups will be group interviews where the students will be asked some questions by a researcher about their perspectives on onscreen assessment. They will be asked about their views and will discuss amongst themselves in their group. The discussions will be audio recorded.

**Informed consent and data protection**

* All participants will be provided with an information sheet and consent form to be signed and returned to the research team.
* Parental consent will be obtained for all students participating in the focus groups.
* All data will be anonymised for reporting purposes.
* All data will be stored securely as per GDPR statutes and AQA’s data management policy.
* All researchers involved in focus group data collection have undergone an Enhanced DBS check and hold an Enhanced DBS Certificate.
* Should any safeguarding issues arise, we will liaise with the school’s safeguarding lead.
* Participants are able to withdraw at any time by emailing the researchers on the project: Jeanne Marie Ryan (jmryan@aqa.org.uk) and Corina Balaban (cbalaban@aqa.org.uk).