# Participant Information Sheet

## Student

On-screen Assessment Pilots

Dear Student,

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

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

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

Some students will also be selected by your teachers to participate in 45 minute online focus groups. These focus groups will be group interviews where a group of students will be asked some questions by a researcher about your perspectives on on-screen assessment. Students in the focus groups will be asked about taking these pilot assessments on-screen and about taking assessments on screen more generally. 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).