

**Moving from foundation degree to degree level study: an exploration of students' feelings**

**Information Sheet**

You are invited to take part in a research study that seeks to investigate how students feel when they move from a foundation degree to a full degree programme.

Participation in the study is voluntary. Information will be collected from questionnaire responses and from interviews. The questionnaire is anonymous and will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

The first part of the questionnaire has been designed to gather some background information about the students who agree to take part in the study. The questions will relate to details such as age, gender, ethnic background, previous educational experience and family structure.

The second part of the questionnaire will relate directly to your decision to continue your studies, and the possible impact this choice may have on your life both within and outside college or university.

The final question will give you the opportunity to comment on any aspects of your experience you feel have not been covered, or on which you wish to elaborate.

At the end of the questionnaire you will be asked to indicate whether you are prepared to take part in an interview. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to provide your contact details, so that arrangements can be made to organise the session at a time and place that is convenient to you. The interview will offer you the opportunity to express your views in more depth. It will also allow you to introduce topics that are important to you which may not have been raised. The interview should take approximately 20minutes.

To enable the researcher to accurately recall the information you provide, the interview will be recorded digitally. All recorded sessions will be erased on completion of the project. Both the tapes and the responses to the questionnaires will be securely stored in locked facilities. All of the information discussed will remain confidential and anonymous.

If you volunteer to take part in this research project, you are reminded that you do not need to answer any question that may cause you anxiety. You may withdraw from the project at any time without penalty.

## Appendix 2

The extent of your participation in the project is to answer the questionnaire and to be interviewed if you are prepared to do so. There will be no further demands upon your time other than the completion of these elements.

You may not benefit directly from participating in this research, but the findings could inform future planning as students move from one course or one education institution to another. It will also allow you to witness and become involved in research first hand.

The information provided to the researcher will be regarded as strictly confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than that outlined previously in this information sheet. The results of the study may later be presented at professional meetings, or may be published in a professional journal. In either instance your name, or any other identifying information, will not be revealed.

All data collected within the college is governed by the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Permission for this research project has been sought and granted from the Principal of XXXXX, and from the Ethics Committee at the XXXXXXXX

If you have any questions about the scope of this research project or your rights as a research participant, please contact

Sam Lloyd-Parry by telephone on: XXXXXXXX  
or via e mail: XXXXXXXXXXXX

If you would like to speak to someone independent from the college, please contact XXXXXXXX on XXXXXXXX or via e mail: XXXXXXXXXXXX

We would wish to thank you in anticipation of your participation in this research project.