

**Participant Information Sheet**

**The role of the Internet on Programming**

This is a research project undertaken at the Department of Computer Science at the University of Manchester. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully before deciding to take part. You may discuss the study with others if you wish. Please contact us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

**About the research**

* **Who will conduct the research?**

*Primary Investigators*

**Name:** Omar Alghamdi and Dr. Sarah Clinch

**Address:** Department of Computer Science,

University of Manchester, Oxford Rd,

Manchester. M13 9PL.

**Email:** [omar.alghamdi@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:omar.alghamdi@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk) and [sarah.clinch@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.clinch@manchester.ac.uk)

* **What is the purpose of the research?**

During programming, programmers may often seek help from a wide range of websites. This research will investigate programmers’ interactions with websites during their programming, and whether such interactions alter the programmer’s cognition. The research will also investigate the possible impacts on the code produced

* **Will the outcomes of the research be published?**

The outcome of the research will be published as an academic paper in a PhD thesis and/or at academic conferences.

* **Who has reviewed the research project?**

The research has been reviewed by Department of Computer Science Ethics Committee.

**What would my involvement be?**

* **What would I be asked to do if I took part?**

You will answer a set of questions discussing how you find help when you program. You will be asked to indicate which websites you use and whether you find them helpful. You will also be asked about the way that you remember and use code that you find online. Demographic data will be collected during the questionnaire.

We anticipate that participation will take no more than 10-15 minutes of your time

*Benefits and Risks*

There will be no perceived risks from taking part in the study and this will have no impact on your grade or your reputation with the University or any of the teaching staff. Your data will be stored anonymously with no links made between your data and your personal identity. You have the option to provide your email for the prize draw. However, if you choose not to provide your email, you will not be eligible to enter the prize draw. The email address will be stored in a secure place and will be removed after completing the prize draw.

* **Will I be compensated for taking part?**

Students: The prize draw will take place in July at the end of each academic year the study was conducted. The study will give out a total of 50 pound prize as Amazon vouchers. There will be three vouchers: one will be 30 pounds, and two will be 10 pounds.

Professional programmers: 50 pounds as one voucher per a year.

* **What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and will be asked to sign a consent form. If you choose to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to yourself. You can withdraw from the study any time before submitting your responses and closing the survey window. After submitting your survey response, we will anonymize your file. It will not be possible to remove your data from the project once it has been anonymised as we will not be able to identify your specific data. This does not affect your data protection rights. If you enter your email for the prize draw and decided to withdraw from the study, you may need to contact the researcher for that

If you decide not to take part, you do not need to do anything further.

**Data Protection and Confidentiality**

* **What information will you collect about me?**

To participate in this research project, we will need to collect demographic information. Specifically, we will need to collect: your age, your gender your, course name (if applicable), and your email address.

The consent form will ask for your name and signature, which will remain only on the consent form.

* **Under what legal basis are you collecting this information?**

We are collecting and storing personal identifiable information in accordance with data protection law which protects your rights. These state that we must have a legal basis (specific reason) for collecting your data. For this study, the specific reason is that it is “a public interest task” and “a process necessary for research purposes”.

* **What are my rights in relation to the information you will collect about me?**

You have a number of rights under data protection law regarding your personal information.

If you would like to know more about your different rights or the way we use your personal information to ensure we follow the law, please consult our [Privacy Notice for Research](http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=37095).

* **Will my participation in the study be confidential and my personal identifiable information be protected?**

Only the research team at the University of Manchester will have access to your information, which will be anonymised. Any identifying information will be removed and replaced with a random ID number. Only the research team will have access to the key that links this ID number to your personal information. Your consent form will be retained for five years inside the University encrypted storage.

In accordance with data protection law, the University of Manchester is the data controller for this project. This means that we are responsible for making sure your personal information is kept secure, confidential and used only in the way you have been told it will be used. All researchers are trained with this in mind, and your data will be looked after in the following way:

* Your data will be anonymous. Only non-identified demographic will be captured.
* The data will be stored on an encrypted device and will be backed up to a secure store
* The data will be shared for research purposes, but you will not be identifiable from the data
* The data will be used in future research studies
* The data will be stored no more than five years.
* The data will not be transferred outside the EU.
* The data will not be shared with any other organisation.
* The research will not keep contact details for use in future studies

Please also note that individuals from The University of Manchester or regulatory authorities may need to look at the data collected for this study to make sure the project is being carried out as planned. This may involve looking at identifiable data. All individuals involved in auditing and monitoring the study will have a strict duty of confidentiality to you as a research participant.

**What if I have a complaint?**

* **Contact details for complaints**

**Dr. Sarah Clinch**

Department of Computer Science, The University of Manchester

Oxford Road, Manchester. M13 9PL.

**0161 275190 or** [sarah.clinch@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.clinch@manchester.ac.uk)

**If you wish to make a formal complaint to someone independent of the research team or if you are not satisfied with the response you have gained from the researchers in the first instance then please contact**

TheResearch Governance and Integrity Officer, Research Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, by emailing: [research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk)  or by telephoning 0161 275 2674.

If you wish to contact us about your data protection rights, please email [dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk) or write to The Information Governance Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, M13 9PL at the University and we will guide you through the process of exercising your rights.

You also have a right to complain to the [Information Commissioner’s Office](https://ico.org.uk/concerns) about complaints relating to your personal identifiable information Tel 0303 123 1113

**Contact Details**

If you have any queries about the study or if you are interested in taking part then please contact the researcher(s)

**Omar Alghamdi**

Department of Computer Science, The University of Manchester

Oxford Road, Manchester. M13 9PL. [omar.alghamdi@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:omar.alghamdi@manchester.ac.uk)