



University of Brighton

Participation Information Sheet: TEACHERS AND SCHOOL LEADERS

Research Project: To what extent do AI-based marking and feedback tools reduce teachers' time spent on marking, without negatively impacting feedback quality or teachers' confidence?

We would like to invite you to take part in our research project. Before you decide, it's important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take the time to read this information sheet. Talk to others about the study if you wish and contact the research team if anything is unclear. You will be given time to think about whether you wish to take part. You can keep this information sheet for your records.

What is the purpose of the study/project?

You are invited to take part in a pilot study of a new browser-based coding tool called Kita. The study aims to investigate how using Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools can help with teaching and learning in secondary schools. The work is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and is being trialled in Y10 Computing classes in your school in June-July 2026.

Kita is a shared, real-time workspace designed to support teaching and learning in Computing. It allows you to see student code as it is written, monitor class progress, and intervene when necessary. A main feature of Kita is its AI system, which helps the teacher give feedback. **Important:** The AI does not give feedback directly. A teacher must check, edit, and approve all AI-generated feedback before it is sent to a student.

We are evaluating the AI-based tool. In particular, we want to find out if it reduces the time teachers spend on marking/feedback. We also want to know if it has an effect on the quality of teachers' feedback to students and teachers' confidence. We are interested in the experience of using the tool – what is it like, from students' perspectives.

Researchers from the University of Brighton are evaluating the AI-based tool. We want to find out if it reduces the time teachers spend on marking/feedback. We also want to know if it has an effect on the quality of teachers' feedback to students and teachers' confidence. We are interested in the experience of using the tool in the classroom, as well as teachers' trust in, and readiness to adopt, AI in teaching and learning.

Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been invited to take part because you are a teacher or school leader in a school that is trialling Kita Education's AI-based tool.

- We would like to interview **teachers who are trialling the Kita tool in their year 10 computing classes**. We would also like to observe a single class to see how it is being used in practice. Each interview will last c. 30 minutes.
- We would like to conduct group discussions (or interviews) with **teachers and/or school leaders who are not using Kita's tool in their classes**. We anticipate an interview will last 30-45 minutes.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you if you wish to take part. If you decide to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form to confirm you understand what is involved.

If you or any family member have an on-going relationship with the University of Brighton or the research team, e.g. as a member of staff, as student or other service user, your decision on whether to take part (or continue to take part) will not affect this relationship in any way.

Can I change my mind about taking part?

Yes, you can stop taking part within two weeks of completion of the data collection without giving a reason.

If I change my mind, what happens to my information?

If you change your mind about taking part, we will not collect any further information from or about you.

Regarding the information already collected, your rights to access, change or move that information are limited. This is because we need to manage your information in specific ways for the research to be reliable and accurate. You can read more about this in the [Research Privacy Notice](#). Interview data can be deleted on request up to 2 weeks after the interview (at which point the data will be anonymized). We cannot do this for focus group data, because it is not always possible to tell who is speaking in a recording.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you are a computing teacher who is trialling Kita's tool in their year 10 class, we will arrange a convenient time to observe your class, and to interview you.

For other teachers and school leaders, we will arrange a convenient time for a focus group discussion or interview. We will try to make use of existing meetings to minimise any inconvenience.

With your agreement, we will audio-record the interview or group discussion. Classroom observations will not be recorded but researchers may take notes of what they notice.

Will I be reimbursed for taking part?

You will not be reimbursed for taking part. This is because you will be taking part during the working day, and because your school has agreed to take part in the Kita pilot.

What are the benefits and potential disadvantages of taking part?

There are no immediate benefits for people taking part in the research project. For Year 10 computing teachers, it may be interesting to try out the new AI-based tool. Your views and experiences may help inform the implementation of AI-based feedback/marking tools, and may help to improve them.

We do not anticipate any risks to you in taking part in this study. We will be evaluating the AI-based tool, not you or your teaching practice.

How will my information be managed?

The University of Brighton has overall responsibility for this study and is the Data Controller of your personal information, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it appropriately.

We manage research data strictly in accordance with:

- Ethical requirements; and
- Current data protection laws. These control use of information about identifiable individuals, but do not apply to anonymous research data: "anonymous" means that we have either removed or not collected any pieces of data or links to other data which identify a specific person as the subject or source of a research result.

The university's [Research Privacy Notice](#) provides information about how we fulfil our responsibilities as a data controller and about your rights as an individual under the data protection legislation. You can also scan this QR code.



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Research data will be used only for the purposes of the study or related uses identified in the Privacy Notice or this Information Sheet. To safeguard your rights in relation to your personal information, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible and control access to that data.

Security and access controls

Research data will only be accessible to the research team. We will hold hard copies of consent forms in locked cabinets at the university, and electronic data in password-protected secure university OneDrive.

We will transcribe (type up) the interviews and focus group discussions. About two weeks afterwards, we will remove or change information which could identify you (e.g. your name, the name of your school). Information which has not been anonymised will be accessed and used only by appropriate, authorised individuals and when this is necessary for the purposes of the research or another purpose identified in the Privacy Notice.

Further use of your information

The information collected about you may be used in an anonymous form to support other research projects in the future and access to it in this form will not be restricted. It will not be possible for you to be identified from this data.

Retention of research data

Project governance documentation, including copies of signed consent forms will be kept for a long period after completion of the research, so that we have records of how we conducted the research and who took part. The only personal information in this documentation will be your name and signature, and we will not be able to link this to any anonymised research data. Research data is normally held for a minimum of 10 years.

What will happen to the results of the project?

Research findings will be written up as a research report, which will be publicly available and shared with schools that took part (without identifying individuals who took part). We will write up the findings for publication in an academic journal. We may also present results at education conferences.

What if I have a question or concern?

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Dr Catherine Aicken, Senior Research Fellow, c.aicken@brighton.ac.uk

Any concerns about the study should be directed to Prof Michael Jopling, m.jopling@brighton.ac.uk. If your concerns have not been answered by Prof Jopling, you should contact Lucy Redhead, Chair of the Cross-School Ethics Committee by email using L.Redhead@brighton.ac.uk.

Who has reviewed the study?

The study has been reviewed and given a favorable ethical opinion by the University of Brighton Cross-School Research Ethics Committee.