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**Project: How have primary schools interpreted and enacted**

**Assessment without Levels?**

**Ethics Approval Reference: ED-CIA-19-113**

Dear Teacher,

**Request for your participation in a research interview**

My name is Shailen Popat and I am a research student at the University of Oxford reading for a PhD in Education. The title of my thesis is ‘How have primary schools interpreted and enacted Assessment without Levels?’ as I have been interested as to how schools have been creating their own assessment systems since levels were removed 4 years ago. I am hoping to interview Year 4 class teachers in 4 schools to hear their experiences of using their AwL system. I will be asking you to explain and show me how you assess and your experiences as to whether it meets your needs. The interviews will be audio recorded and transcribed by me. I have interviewed the Headteacher and will speak with parents, governors and pupils so that I develop a snapshot from different perspectives.

*Ethics*

My research will be consistent with the strict guidelines required by Oxford University. This study has received ethics clearance through the University of Oxford’s ethical approval process for research involving human participants. Taking part in this research is completely voluntary. You are free to say you do not want to participate. You are free to withdraw from the research at any point, without giving any reason. This would not affect your job in any way. I will endeavour to make the data I collect in the study anonymous. Audiotapes, my notes, and all other data will be stored securely. I will also maintain confidentiality consistent with current UK law. Your child’s school will not have access to the data, and no one other than me, and my supervisors, will see the data. I will send a brief report on the research to your child’s school at the end of the project, and you are welcome to see this. I will not identify the school, teachers or any students in any reports or articles linked with the research but will use pseudonyms. If you have any questions about the research, please contact me on on [Shailen.popat@education.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Shailen.popat@education.ox.ac.uk). At the top are contact details for my supervisor whom you are welcome to contact to discuss any concerns with.

If you would like to take part, I would appreciate you informing Mrs Barton.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Shailen Popat