

## Participant Information Sheet

### Schools' Air quality Monitoring for Health and Education (SAMHE)

SAMHE is jointly led by Imperial College London (Dr Henry Burridge from the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department), and the University of Cambridge (Professor Paul Linden), in collaboration with the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) at the University of York, the University of Surrey, the University of Leeds and the UK Health Security Agency (UK HSA).

We appreciate your interest in participating in SAMHE and in creating a 'teacher account'. You're eligible to create a 'teacher account' because you are a member of staff at a UK school. Before you agree to sign up, we'd like to explain a bit more about why the research is being done and what participating in SAMHE will involve.

Please take time to read the following information carefully. If there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information, please ask us. Thank you for reading this.

You will be able to download a copy of this information sheet for your records.

#### **What is the purpose of the study?**

The purpose of this project is to establish a school-based air quality monitor network which is representative of the UK's schools and through the network record measurements of carbon dioxide and selected air pollutants to evaluate classroom ventilation levels.

We hope that through their interactions with the Web App we are developing as part of SAMHE, both teachers and students at participating schools will gain an enhanced understanding of air quality science. We hope that monitors provided as part of the project will enable you, as a staff member at a school, to monitor air quality in teaching environments and make informed decisions to control ventilation and minimise airborne disease transmission.

#### **Why have I been asked to create an account?**

We have created the SAMHE Web App as a way of helping you and your students to explore the data that comes from the air quality monitor we've sent to your school. We've put

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together a range of activities and developed resources to support you in getting students engaged with this data and creating an account will give you access to all of them.

You are eligible to create a SAMHE teacher account because you are a teacher or member of staff at a school which has signed up to SAMHE, and your school teaches students aged 5 or above (early years students are not eligible to take part in SAMHE).

## **Do I have to create an account?**

No, whether or not you create an account is totally up to you. You may be able to access some SAMHE resources without creating your own account if you can arrange it with your school's admin user. However, we'd definitely recommend you create an account to make sure you've got easy access to our project materials.

After creating an account, you will be able to delete it at any time. If you want to withdraw your personal data after completing the account creation process, you can do so by contacting [hello@samhe.org.uk](mailto:hello@samhe.org.uk). You will not be required to provide a reason if you wish to withdraw and there will be no repercussions if you decide to do so.

If you withdraw, we will keep any information you have provided in relation to your school, so that we can continue project work.

## **What will happen if I create an account?**

If you decide to create an account, you will be asked to provide an email address with which your account can be associated. Creating an account will take you at most 30 minutes (which includes time for reading this information - usually creating an account is much shorter than this).

After setting up your account you will have full access to all SAMHE Web App activities so that you can demonstrate them to your pupils. We will also be adding resources to support you in getting your students engaged with SAMHE. You will also be able to enter information through these activities if you choose to. This information will not be personal, rather it will relate to your school and its air quality.

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In addition to this, you may be invited to take part in surveys designed to complement the data we are collecting from your monitors which are for completion by teachers only. These will be optional, although we hope you will choose to take part.

## **What if something goes wrong?**

The SAMHE project is gifting your school a monitor. By accepting this gift, your school is accepting responsibility for the monitor, its safe usage within your school, and any liability that arises as a result. For advice on the safe usage of the air quality monitor, including a risk assessment covering the usage of the air quality monitor, please refer to the documentation accompanying the delivery of your monitor. You can also access this information on our [Safety and Data protection page](#).

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this study then you should immediately inform Dr Henry Burrige using [hello@samhe.org.uk](mailto:hello@samhe.org.uk). If you are still not satisfied with the response, you may contact the Imperial College Research Governance Integrity Team ([rgitcoordinator@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:rgitcoordinator@imperial.ac.uk)).

## **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

Results from this study will be analysed and summarised in academic papers which will be made publicly available. Once these have been published, they will be made available on the SAMHE website. Data supporting the Web App will be stored in a data repository and be made available to other researchers. No personal data will be included in data repositories. You will not be identified in any project outputs, and it will not be possible for anyone to work out that you took part in the study.

We may also look to share examples of interesting experiments and results via our project newsletter. Any such examples will be shared only with the permission of the school to which they relate or otherwise referred to using a coarse description of the school's geographical location.

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## **Who is organising and funding the research?**

Initial funding for this project was granted by the Department for Education, which continues to be involved. Funding for the main project is provided by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

## **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study was given favourable opinion by the Science, Engineering and Technology Research Ethics Committee (SETREC) and approval by Washington Ochieng, Head of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Research Governance and Integrity Team (RGIT).

## **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like any further information about this project, please contact the project team using [hello@samhe.org.uk](mailto:hello@samhe.org.uk).