

# DCU REC/2024/228 Participant Information Sheet

## Introduction to the Research Study

**Title:** Ascertaining the impact of a professional development initiative (MoodleMunch)

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## Background


The DCU Teaching Enhancement Unit (TEU) provides a professional development initiative each academic year called 'MoodleMunch'. It is a lunchtime webinar series in which educators, learning technologists, academic developers and other educational professionals can showcase digital learning and teaching practices related to the open-source platform Moodle. The aim of the webinar series is to share knowledge of Moodle, share good practice and innovations, connect with fellow Moodle users, and to learn from one another. The webinar series is open to all with an interest in Moodle.

## Aim

As this is an ongoing professional development initiative led by the TEU and with a diverse range of participants, we want to ascertain its ongoing impact and gauge participants' experience of it. It is important for the TEU to understand how this initiative is being received and to understand what its impact is, so that we can continue to support it or otherwise.

## Participant involvement

Those who participate in MoodleMunch webinars will at the conclusion of each series be asked to complete an anonymous survey. The survey will only take a few minutes to complete. It will not collect personal data. Please do not share personal data in the open-ended responses. Webinar participants can choose to complete the survey or not. There are no consequences for not choosing to complete the survey. After submitting their responses, respondents will be invited to access a separate and unconnected sign-up form where they can leave their contact details for the purpose of arranging an online semi-structured interview (via Zoom) to explore their experiences in more detail. The investigators will contact interested volunteers to arrange interviews at a day/time that suits. Participants will sign a consent form before participating in the interview.




There are no consequences for not choosing to participate in either the survey or the interview. Participants can choose to participate in the survey, the interview, both or neither. There are no tangible benefits or risks in participating in the research study, save that participants will help the TEU understand the impact of MoodleMunch. If participants have any adverse outcomes they are welcome to contact the PI. Participants must be over 18 in order to participate in this research study. Participant involvement is entirely voluntary and participants may withdraw from this research study at any point at no consequence whatsoever by exiting the survey web page before submitting the form, as once it is submitted the anonymity makes data withdrawal impossible. Withdrawing from the study does not allow participants to remove their data since the data are anonymous.

### **Data Protection/Privacy Notice (Personal Data – GDPR Compliance)**

No personal data will be collected as the method is anonymous online survey. All data, both during the collection and analysis phases, will be securely stored on DCU Apps Google Drive and only accessible to the investigators (legal limitations of data protection notwithstanding). The data will be maintained by the PI and stored securely in a DCU cloud storage service for a period of one year on December 31st 2025 after which it will be destroyed. The data is kept for this period of time in order to cover the timeframe of potential dissemination opportunities post-study (e.g. peer-reviewed journal article submissions). Keeping the data for this length allows the PI to check/confirm findings whilst disseminating. Confidentiality of information provided cannot always be guaranteed by researchers and can only be protected within the limitations of the law. For example, it is possible for data to be subject to subpoena, freedom of information claim or mandated reporting by some professions. Participants have a right to lodge a complaint with the Irish Data Protection Commission. The identity of the DCU Data Protection Officer is Mr. Martin Ward ([data.protection@dcu.ie](mailto:data.protection@dcu.ie), Ph.: 7005118 / 7008257).

### **Results**

The final results of the project will be collated and shared with the participants involved, the wider TEU and other interested institutions' parties, who want to understand how this MoodleMunch webinar series professional development initiative has been received. The results will also be disseminated on the TEU website, at conferences, seminars and in publications.



If participants have concerns about this study and wish to contact an independent person, please contact:  
The Secretary, Dublin City University Research Ethics Committee, c/o  
Research and Innovation Support, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel  
01-7008000, e-mail [rec@dcu.ie](mailto:rec@dcu.ie)