**Participant Information Statement**

**Mobilising family support: implications for academic resilience**

You are invited to participate in the research project identified above which is being conducted by researchers from Sheffield Hallam University. The project has been funded by the UK Council for International Student Affairs and match funded by the University.

# Why is the research being done?

Research has highlighted the importance of family support in enhancing students' academic resilience. However, little is known about when this support is of most importance to students, or how a lack of support might affect those estranged from their families. This research will, therefore, evidence the different forms of family support that students draw on, at which different points, and the factors that may inhibit students from being able to call on such support. Findings will be used to inform retention and success strategies.

# Who can participate in the research?

Undergraduate and postgraduate students studying on any course, at any level, in any faculty of the university, and from any background

# What choice do you have?

Participation in this research is your choice. Whether or not you decide to participate, your decision will not disadvantage you. Once you have submitted your survey, however, you will not be able to revise or recall it.

# What will you be asked to do?

You are being invited to participate in a short survey to explore how having access to family support, or having no or little access to family support, is shaping your experience as a student in higher education. You will not be asked to provide your name - unless you wish to participate in a follow up interview. If you provide this information it will be kept remain confidential and no one, except the researcher involved in conducting this part of the study, will be informed of who has participated in the survey or any follow up interview.

# How much time will it take?

The survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

# What are the risks and benefits of participating?

This study offers you the opportunity to share your views on having access to family support, or not, impacts on your experiences as a university student. Whilst we cannot promise any immediate benefits, potential benefits of the study include improved support and learning environments at the university.

# How will the information collected be used?

Findings will be disseminated through the development of a report to the UK Council for International Student Affairs and the University and other research papers, articles, conference papers, and workshops/seminars which aim to communicate the research for professional development or academic purposes across multiple higher education institutions. Individual participants will not be identified in any reports, presentations or publications arising from the project. These publications, along with a summary of key findings, will be made available to participants. There is space on the consent form to indicate your wish to receive the publications and summary report.

***How will your privacy be protected?***

Any information collected that might identify participants will be stored securely and only accessed by the researchers, except as required by law. Data will be protected on a secure online server and stored on a password-protected computer, accessible only to the researchers.

Data will be stored for at least 5 years following publication of results, after which it will be disposed of by deleting relevant files.

# What do you need to do to participate?

To participate in the project, if there is anything you do not understand, or you have questions about the research please contact Jacqueline Stevenson [jacqueline.stevenson@shu.ac.uk](mailto:jacqueline.stevenson@shu.ac.uk)

***Complaints about this research should be sent to ! DS Research Ethics***

Thank you for considering this invitation.

Kind regards,

Jacqueline Stevenson

Head of Research

Sheffield Institute of Education