**Ethics procedure – “Peer to Peer Deaf Multiliteracies: Research into a sustainable approach to education of Deaf children and young adults in the Global South”, funded by the Education and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Department for International Development (DFID)**

**Summary of information for participants**

1. Providing participant information

The research assistants and peer tutors will provide participants with full information about how long the project lasts, what data will be collected and how it will be used. This information will be given in sign language of the respective country where necessary or desired by participants. The project team is organising a bespoke training for research assistants and peer tutors at the beginning of the project, in which they are trained and given detailed guidance on how to carry out informed consent and gather participant information in their respective locations.

Participant consent will be recorded on video if given in sign language. In addition, participants who are comfortable with a written document will have the option of filling in and signing a consent form in English. Information will be provided in sign language about each of the following sub-topics.

For young learners, parents or guardians will be informed and give consent for the learner’s participation on behalf of the children. All names and other information that may make participants identifiable will be anonymised and changed. A key to this will be held in a separate, password protected file on a computer which is not connected to the web. Only the researchers on the project will have access to this file.

1. Background to the project

When introducing the project to participants, project staff explain the aims of the project in terms of generating more efficient multiliteracies teaching for deaf communities. This includes explaining general benefits to deaf communities further down the line, as well as immediate benefits to participants themselves in India, Uganda, and Ghana, as they are being taught English in an innovative environment.

Project staff will introduce each of the member institutions participating in the project, and will explain the structure of the project, with collaboration in the UK and three different developing countries, as well as a structure of main partner and local field sites in India, Uganda, and Ghana.

1. Anonymity and confidentiality

This topic aims to make participants aware that full anonymity is impossible in the case of video recordings, and that their contributions are potentially recognisable inasmuch as videos are share outside the project team. All participants will be made aware of this and asked for their preferences and we will be mindful in particular to ensure that no images of children are being used without their and their parents/guardians’ consent. We will introduce our approach to storing data and confidentiality of information. Research assistants and peer tutors receive training on how to do this in a sensitive manner that suits local cultures.

1. Voluntary participation

This topic covers information about the voluntary nature of participation, and that payments already made are unaffected by later withdrawal from the project.

At this point, participants are invited to ask questions, and consent is recorded for questions 1 to 3 of the consent form.

1. Types of data dissemination and use

Project staff explain in detail all options under section 4 of the consent form. They will show actual examples to participants, e.g. printed publications and PowerPoint files with embedded video, such as used academic conferences. This is necessary because participants will have no first-hand information from previous experience as to how researchers use data. Data retention is also discussed.

Project staff will explain that when children opt out of a component that is integrated into a classroom activity, they will not do this by missing the class; rather, the relevant data or video of that child will be removed from the study.

After going through the options, participants are again invited to ask questions, and consent is then recorded for sections 4 and 5 of the consent form (on video or on the form itself).

Finally, project staff point out that consent options can be changed any time upon request by participants.