

Katie Stanton  
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## **Invitation from the University of Dundee**

I am completing an MSc in Educational Assistive Technology at the University of Dundee, and I am looking for professionals to participate in research exploring:

### **What are the barriers to accessing mathematical graphing and drawing tasks in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 for students who use eye-gaze technology?**

Mathematical drawing activities are embedded throughout the national curriculum and can present access challenges for eye-gaze users. Whilst alternative exam access arrangements may bypass the need to assess these skills, this does not address the wider issue of removing barriers through assistive technology.

The study will explore technological, systemic and environmental barriers that may affect access to these activities, with the aim of informing future AT development and practice and supporting increased participation for eye-gaze users.

### **What does participation involve?**

Participants will take part in a 60–75 minute online focus group via Microsoft Teams to discuss their experiences of supporting students who use eye-gaze technology to access mathematical drawing activities.

Two focus groups will be held, one for Assistive Technology Practitioners and one for Education Professionals, with up to eight participants in each group. Should more than eight people express interest, a selection process will take place based on experience, and anyone not selected will receive a summary of the project outcomes later in the year.

Participants will later receive a summary of the findings and recommendations and/or a resource to evaluate through a 15–20 minute Microsoft Forms survey.

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**Please note:** ‘What are the barriers to accessing mathematical graphing and drawing tasks in KS3/KS4 for students who use eye-gaze technology?’ has received ethical approval from the University of Dundee’s School Research Ethics Committee (UOD-SSREC-TPG-COMP-2025-027). Communication Matters is not responsible for any aspect of this research study.

**The researcher is currently recruiting:**

UK-based professionals aged 18+ with experience of supporting students who use eye-gaze technology within mainstream secondary education at KS3/KS4. This may include Assistive Technology Practitioners, Teachers, Specialist Teachers, Teaching Assistants, SENDCOs, and other AT or education professionals with relevant experience.

**Who is conducting the research?**

This research is being conducted by Katie Stanton who is a Masters student at the University of Dundee. The Principal Researcher is Katie Stanton who can be contacted at [2675714@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:2675714@dundee.ac.uk). The project supervisor is Dr. Tom Griffiths who can be contacted at [TGriffiths001@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:TGriffiths001@dundee.ac.uk).

**How to apply**

Please contact [2675714@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:2675714@dundee.ac.uk) with a short description of your background and experience. Eligible participants will receive a Participant Information Sheet containing full details of the study before deciding whether to participate, by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2026.

**Participation is entirely voluntary, with no obligation to take part.**