

## ARP 2024-5 Ethical Action Plan

Name of practitioner-researcher: Robert Brown

<p><b>1. What is your project focus?</b></p> <p>Can Peer Mentoring Help to Support Contextual Admissions (CA) Students in the First Year of Study on the Spatial Practices Course?</p> <p>CA students include individuals from some of the most deprived areas in the UK.</p>
<p><b>2. What are you going to read about?</b></p> <p>Challenges faced by students from disadvantaged backgrounds in education.</p> <p>Strategies/initiatives of inclusivity- particularly how mentorship can enrich lives and educational journeys.</p> <p>Evaluate a range of research methods until I find one which aligns with the emerging values of the project.</p>
<p><b>3. What action are you going to take in your teaching practice?</b></p> <p>A pilot mentorship scheme.</p>
<p><b>4. Who will be involved and how?</b></p> <p>Three mentors who will be selected from the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Spatial Practices undergraduate degree course. Three mentees who will be selected from the 1<sup>st</sup> year of Spatial Practices undergraduate degree course.</p> <p>Mentors will help to facilitate challenges faced by 1<sup>st</sup> years students ranging from coursework to issues that may be affecting them outside of the University. There will be a mixture of CA and non CA students participating. This will happen across two meetings, one at the start of November and one at the end of November to give participants enough time to see whether progression has been made in particular areas of focus.</p> <p>Focus group interviews to be conducted once the arrangement ends between mentorship pairings.</p> <p>N.B. If any of your participants/co-researchers will be under 18, please seek advice from your tutor.</p>
<p><b>5. What are the health &amp; safety concerns, and how will you prepare for them?</b></p> <p>Students may be facing particularly difficult situations in their personal or professional lives which participants may not be equipped to deal with. Strategies for preparation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Full briefing of participants outlining their role and extent of responsibilities. Talk about the line between support within mentorship pairings vs the need for outside help.</li> <li>- Accompanying resources - effective signposting to faculty members within the University and support structures outside- Samaritans, emergency services etc .</li> </ul>

- As the project lead, making myself available throughout the pilot as an emergency contact.
- As the project lead, I shall be supervising all those involved in the project for its duration.

**6. How will you protect the data of those involved?**

- Anonymise participants taking part in the pilot whether in the written blog or presentation.
- Blur images taken of participants so that they cannot be identified in the presentation.
- Password protect my blog
- Move copies of signed consent permissions off main hard drive and keep in storage on a separate storage device.
- Data will be kept for seven years as per research data retention guidance.

**7. How will you work with your participants in an ethical way?**

- Explain project thoroughly and what the research will be used for.
- Disclose who will see or interact with the research.
- Conduct briefing meetings to explain project parameters and role of participants.
- Send over consent forms with adequate supporting information so that participants can make an informed decision about whether to take part.
- Make it clear at meetings that all participants may withdraw consent at any time and may leave the pilot.