

aisling.becton2@mail.dcu.ie

Dear Colleague,

My name is Aisling Becton. I am a CORU registered Speech and Language Therapist and a Doctoral student in the School of Inclusive and Special Education at DCU. I am researching the experiences of autistic students in post-primary settings who are experiencing or have experienced avoidance or non-attendance at school. I am recruiting autistic post-primary students to take part in a remote interview for this study. Parental consent will be required for students under 16 and the assent of the students themselves will also be required.

Title:

Exploring the enablers and barriers to school attendance for Irish autistic post-primary students: a qualitative study.

Principal Investigator: Aisling Becton aisling.becton2@mail.dcu.ie

Supervisors: Dr. Sylwia Kazmierczak- Murray and Dr. Laura Gormley, School of Inclusive and Special Education, DCU.

Why is this research being conducted?

There is limited research available on the school experiences of autistic post-primary students in Ireland and very few which have collected information directly from the autistic students themselves. This research is being carried out to :

- listen to autistic post-primary students' experiences about why this happens
- look at ways that we can make the school experience a more positive and responsive one, based on students unique strengths and needs.

If would be very grateful if you could advertise this study (poster attached) through your personnel, social media channels or website pages.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above email address.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aisling Becton'.

Aisling Becton