

Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences Glenside Campus Blackberry Hill Stapleton Bristol BS16 1DD

UWE REC REF No: HAS.20.06.184

29th July 2020

Virginia Guy

Dear Virginia

Application title: Understanding the Impact of Intrusive Thoughts in Pure O Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD): A Qualitative Study

Thank you for responding to the conditions raised in my letter to you of 1st July 2020.

I can now confirm full ethics approval for your project, but please note the proviso below.

In light of the current situation regarding COVID-19, we can only authorise an immediate start for activities involving human participant research that do not involve face to face contact, or activities that do not breach either national laws or University policies. In these uncertain times, law and policy may change swiftly and frequently.

We are, however, continuing to scrutinise and grant ethical approval for activities that cannot take place at present, to ensure that once the situation changes and activities can go ahead, the research is not unnecessarily delayed.

What this means for your application:

- 1. If your application DOES NOT involve activities affected by the current crisis (e.g. online surveys or telephone interviews etc.) then you may start your research as soon as you receive this formal notification of your ethical approval;
- 2. If your application DOES involve activities affected by the current crisis then you must not start your research until you are lawfully and safely able to do so, and when it does not breach the University's policies. This will affect the dates you have supplied on your application form in relation to start and finish. When you have new dates, please can you write to us in order that we can add this information to your file?

If you are a doctoral student and this will affect your research timetable, please speak to your Director of Studies and the Graduate School for advice on how time delays will be supported by the University.

The following standard conditions apply to all research given ethical approval by a UWE Research Ethics Committee:

- 1. You must notify the relevant UWE Research Ethics Committee in advance if you wish to make significant amendments to the original application: these include any changes to the study protocol which have an ethical dimension. Please note that any changes approved by an external research ethics committee must also be communicated to the relevant UWE committee.
- 2. You must notify the Research Ethics Sub-Committee (formerly UREC) if you terminate your research before completion.
- 3. You must notify the Research Ethics Sub-Committee if there are any serious events or developments in the research that have an ethical dimension.

Please note: The RESC is required to monitor and audit the ethical conduct of research involving human participants, data and tissue conducted by academic staff, students and researchers. Your project may be selected for audit from the research projects submitted to and approved by the RESC and its committees.

We wish you well with your research.

Julie 3 Woodley

Yours sincerely

Dr Julie Woodley

Chair

Faculty Research Ethics Committee

c.c. Zoe Thomas