 **Metatalk for Writing** **Phase 2 Student Sub-Sample Consent Form**

Dear student,

Thank you for being willing to help us with our project. We are interested in learning more about how talking *about* writing can help students to improve their writing. This is why we would like to watch nine of your lessons and take a look at some of the writing that you and your peers produce.

In addition, we would like to record a small number of students talking with a partner about their writing. This group of students is called a ‘sub-sample’ and we are hoping that you will agree to be part of this group. The sub-sample will get to use special pens called ‘HandSpy’ pens which take pictures of your writing as you write.

The things that we see and hear will be used to write reports and articles, perhaps a book, about talk *about* writing – what we call ‘metatalk’. We hope that you will enjoy being involved. In this letter, we ask you to confirm that you are happy to be involved, and that you have been fully informed about the aims and purposes of the project, by reading the statement below and signing to confirm your agreement.

I understand that:

* For the purposes of the project, nine of my lessons will be video and audio recorded;
* As a sub-sample student, in these nine lessons I will wear a small device which will record me talking with a partner about my writing;
* As a sub-sample student, my partner and I will be filmed by a small camera;
* As a sub-sample student, I will get to use a ‘HandSpy’ pen;
* I have the right to withdraw as a sub-sample student at any time;
* The audio and video recordings will be stored safely by the researchers, and will only be seen by the researchers and a small team of teachers;
* Some of the writing I do in these lessons will be copied, anonymised, and stored in a safe place;
* Anonymised samples of my writing will be used for the purposes of this research project, which includes publications and presentations, and may be stored for other researchers to look at in the future;
* Anonymised transcripts of the recordings will be used for the purposes of this research, which includes publications and presentations, and may be stored for other researchers to look at in the future;
* I have the right to refuse permission for the publication of any information about me;
* All information I give will be treated as confidential, unless I disclose any issue which needs to be reported to the school Safeguarding officer.

I agree that I am happy to participate in this project.

Signed: ………………………………………………………

Date: ………………………………………………………….

Dr Ruth Newman – Principal Investigator

[R.M.C.Newman@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:R.M.C.Newman@exeter.ac.uk)