

## How can we improve our Northampton Area Psychology (NAP) teachers group provision?

### Context

- Northampton Area Psychology (NAP) teachers group is an initiative led by psychology lecturers at the university of Northampton.
- It is a provision for A level and B-tec psychology teachers to meet and promote knowledge exchange, a community of practice, curriculum updates and developments within the field.
- The NAP team also hold NAPPER events where A level and B-tec students can take part in their own research at the university.

### Aim

As we slowly transition out of COVID-19 it is our aim to ensure the NAP provision is fit for purpose by:

- Evaluating the benefits the provision .
- Evaluating how the provision can be improved upon to facilitate engagement for both teachers and students.

### Method

- We used semi-structured interviews recruiting teachers in the Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire area.
- We hoped to analyse data collected using thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006).

### Discussion

- The lack of participants in this research project has resulted in an absence of rich data to enable thematic analysis.
- Ethical approval has been given to change our data collection method to an online survey.
- This approach may not result in rich data but will allow for evaluation research to take place which captures the opinions of our NAP provision in a more practical way, hopefully, allowing for wider teacher participation.

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### Results

- Unfortunately due to a lack of participants we failed to gain enough data to inform themes of analysis.
- However, the following valuable points were noted in quotes from a transcription.

*How best we can facilitate meetings?*

**“Online would make it more accessible”**

*What time would make these meetings more manageable with teaching commitments one teacher?*

**“ probably prefer after school”**

*What is important to you in terms of what the meetings facilitate?*

**“ Talk about lesson ideas” “You want to keep things fresh”**

*What do you feel research days should facilitate for students?*

**“ Showing the students there are real life people that do this”**

**“getting the discussion going where students can really see like the thought process that goes into each of the studies and theories.”**

### References

Braun, V. & Clarke, V. (2006). Using Thematic Analysis in Psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3, 77-111.