**Re: How do young asylum seekers experience belonging in education?**

Dear **[title and name of contact],**

I am a Trainee Educational Psychologist at the University of Southampton, and I am researching the educational experiences of young asylum seekers in the United Kingdom (UK). I am contacting you as your organisation has expressed an interest in the study and I would like your support to recruit **[young people over 16 years of age who have relocated to the UK to seek asylum / teaching staff who support young asylum seekers in education]**

The University of Southampton Ethics Committee has recently granted ethical approval for this project, and I am now looking to begin data collection. For the current study, I am running focus groups to gain information from young asylum seekers about their experiences in the UK education system and separate focus groups to gain information from teaching staff who support these young people. All focus groups will be held in English and participants will need to have good conversational English to take part. I envisage focus groups being held in January/February 2023 and hope to be able to hold a focus group with participants from your organisation at your premises if possible. I would be happy to come to your organisation prior to this if you feel this would help the **[young people / teaching staff]** feel more comfortable. Therefore, I would appreciate it if you could please provide my details and study information to any **[young person / staff members]** involved with your organisation that you think might be willing to share their experiences with me.

Please find attached a copy of the information sheet and the consent form. I would be very grateful if you could share them with the **[young people / teaching staff]**, so they know in advance what the study is about, and I am happy to answer any queries or provide additional information if required.

If you are still happy to support our study, please sign the section at the end of this letter and return to [j.l.clapham@soton.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.clapham@soton.ac.uk).

Best wishes,

Letter

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Jessica Clapham

Trainee Educational Psychologist

[j.l.clapham@soton.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.clapham@soton.ac.uk)

**I confirm that I have read the information provided and am happy to support this study as gatekeeper for [insert charity]. I give approval that recruitment can take place through our available channels and social media accounts.**

**Signed: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..**