

## **SAMHE Focus Group Guide**

**Participants:** Teachers from multiple schools

**Discussion group platform:** Online via Zoom

**Length of session:** 30 mins

### **Welcome + Introduction**

For Zoom: Before we get started a reminder to participants that having their video turned on is optional and that they may, if they prefer, use the chat box to ask questions and a member of the team will read them out on their behalf. Reminder that although we are not recording the session, team members will be making notes about responses to questions and summarising comments for the purpose of feeding back to the project team. No names will be noted so it will not be possible to identify who made which comment. We hope this encourages open discussion.

Ground rules – listening to others, avoid interrupting, hands up function (in Zoom or actual hand up)

Introductions – to the project team

SAMHE is a new UK wide project about air quality in schools, supported by the Department for Education. Good air quality is important for pupil's concentration levels and their health. 2000-3000 schools will get a free monitor that will measure air pollution, and we will be encouraging pupils and teachers to do experiments with the monitors to see how air quality changes in different rooms, at different times of day etc. This will give pupils opportunities to be scientists, and help our researchers understand schools air quality across the UK

We are working with a small number of schools to help us design the project to make sure it meets schools needs, including helping us design a web app. We're having a series of focus group discussions with teachers, and others with pupils, to help us with this.

Now we'd like you to introduce yourselves, please could you say your name, school, and the year group that you teach, if applicable?.

### **Initial questions**

Do you have one of these (show pic of CO2 monitor) in your school? Can you tell me what you think it is? Where is it?

What comes to mind when you hear the words 'air pollution'?

Is air pollution something you talk about at school?

What motivates you to take part in activities like these, that aren't part of your usual teaching? [prompts: certificates, awards, resources (for you or pupils...?)]

Specific questions

Thinking about the curriculum, would activities we provide need to fit within this?

Are there any areas of the curriculum that you think we should cover with this project?

Are there particular resources that we can supply that would aid in integrating with the curriculum?

We are going to be creating a web app, where you will be able to see the air quality results, be prompted to do experiments, and see lesson plans / curriculum linked materials as previously discussed/ We'd now like to talk about access to devices

What access do your pupils have to computers/tablets etc at school?

Are computers/tablets made available to students outside of lesson time? Is this actively supervised (i.e. are they able to ask teachers about what they see?)

What IT support do you have for Wifi set up etc?

Do you have extracurricular groups such as science clubs/eco clubs, and if so, would these clubs benefit from some extra activities? How often do these groups meet? What about a student school council?

Have you got any tips for us doing this project? Anything we should avoid etc?

Thank you so much for your time today – would you be happy to talk to us in more detail about the design of the app, either with your class, or in another session with teachers? Lucy will send an email with some times, and if you or a colleague are able to attend it would be great to have your input.