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| **E5 DTP Widening Participation Statement form (optional)***PRIVACY NOTICE- Completing and submitting this form is entirely optional. The information provided will be reviewed only by the E5 DTP Admissions team and independent E5 DTP Widening Participation Panel. It will not be shared with prospective supervisors or the selection panel. We will treat your statement as confidential and store it securely for a maximum of one year after the recruitment cycle has ended. Anonymised data may be used for monitoring and reporting on Widening Participation. For questions about data handling, please contact* *e5dtp.info@ed.ac.uk* *or refer to the University of Edinburgh* [*Continued privacy notice*](https://data-protection.ed.ac.uk/notice) *for more information.***Why we are asking:**The School of Geosciences and the E5 DTP are committed to building a diverse and inclusive postgraduate community. We recognise that applicants may have experienced structural and/or personal barriers that have impacted their experiences and/or access to opportunities. We would like to be able to take these into account when evaluating applications. This form provides applicants with the opportunity to provide context about their academic experiences and reflect on how these have shaped your skills and personal development. The Widening Participation Panel will make recommendations based on the information provided here.  Completion of this form is entirely voluntary. Choosing not to complete it will not affect your application.  |

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| **Applicant name****(as entered on your main application form):** |  |

**Personal Statement (Max 200 words)**

Please use this space to reflect on your personal journey and any experience that may have shaped your path into research. You may wish to consider:

* Any barriers encountered - educational, social, financial or personal (for example balancing study with caring responsibilities, managing health issues or being from an under represented group in academia).
* Experiences of discomfort and how these may have impacted your opportunities or experiences (for example, racial or sexual harassment)
* How these experiences influenced your motivation or pathway into research
* The skills or strengths you have developed as a result (for example resilience, initiative, leadership)

*Note: for further information please see the University of Edinburgh’s guidance on* [*Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*](https://equality-diversity.ed.ac.uk/) *and its pages on* [*Dignity and Respect*](https://equality-diversity.ed.ac.uk/respect)*.*

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To support the fair and consistent assessment of Widening Participation (WP) applications, we may consider information from your Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) form alongside your WP application. This information will only be used for the purpose of supporting fair assessment and ensuring equitable access to opportunities. Access to your EDI data will be limited to staff directly involved in the assessment of the WP process, and it will be handled in accordance with the University’s data protection and confidentiality policies.

Please confirm below whether you consent to your EDI form being used for this purposed. Providing consent is entirely voluntary. If you chose not to consent, your WP form will be reviewed on its own, and this decision will not disadvantage your application in any way.

**Consent**
[ ]  I consent to my EDI form being used alongside my EP form for assessment purposes

[ ] I do not consent to my EDI form being used for this purpose.