

Participant Information Sheet

Researchers:

Dr Paul Myers (The Social Research Centre & ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods)

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Craig Stiles (Victorian Department of Education and Training)

Project Title: 2021 Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey

General Outline of the Project:

- **Description and Methodology:** This research is being conducted by the Social Research Centre, which is a part of the Australian National University. It involves a survey of parents or carers of children aged 18 or under who reside in Victoria. Data will be collected via telephone
- **Participants:** Data will be collected from 5,000 participants.
- **Use of Data and Feedback:** The collected data will be used by the Victorian Department of Education and Training and other government planners to improve the delivery and quality of services and initiatives for children living in your local area. The Victorian Department of Education will conduct analyses and reporting and will publish some findings from the survey online, including in the annual State of Victoria's Children reports. The results of the research will not be disseminated directly to participants.
- **Project Funding:** Victorian Department of Education and Training

Participant Involvement:

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:** Participation in this research is completely voluntary and you may, without negative consequences decline to take part or withdraw from the research without providing an explanation at any time during the survey. You may also refuse to answer any questions asked during the survey. If you do withdraw from the study your survey responses will be removed from the data file.
- **What does participation in the research entail?** You will be asked to answer a series of questions via a telephone survey. In most cases you will simply be required to choose your reply from a list of options that will read out to you. Occasionally you might be asked to tell us a little more about your answer. Your responses will be recorded into our survey system and the researchers will receive a data file containing your responses (i.e. numbers and text) for analysis.
- **Location and Duration:** The survey will be conducted via telephone and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.
- **Remuneration:** No remuneration is offered for participation in this survey.
- **Risks:** We do not anticipate participation in this research will expose you to any hazard or danger. Some questions ask you to reveal personal or sensitive information about yourself or your family, but you may refuse to answer any question you do not wish to answer without any negative consequence.
- **Benefits:** It is unlikely that you will personally benefit from this research, but the research will indirectly flow to the community through improved delivery, quality of services and initiatives for children living in the area.

Exclusion criteria:

- **Participant Limitation:** Participation in this study is limited to parents of children aged 18 years or under.

Confidentiality:

- **Confidentiality:** All information given by participants will be treated confidentially and anonymity will be preserved in reports or published articles. Any personal data collected will be used for the purpose of the study only and no other, without the express permission of the participants. Survey responses will be de-identified as soon as practical following completion of the survey and will be provided to the Victorian Department of Education and Training in de-identified form only. All publications relating to this research will only report on aggregated data.

Privacy Notice:

This research is carried out in compliance with the Privacy Act and the Australian Privacy Principles, and the information you have provided will only be used for research purposes.

- The SRC's Privacy Policy can be found at: <http://www.srcentre.com.au/taking-part-in-research/survey-participants/RIPP>
- The ANU Privacy Policy is available at https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_010007 and it contains information about how a person can:
 - Access or seek correction to their personal information,
 - Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

Data Storage:

- **Where:** The de-identified data will be held electronically on secure servers at the Social Research Centre and the Victorian Department of Education and Training.
- **How long:** The data will be maintained in an aggregate, weighted and de-identified form indefinitely. Indefinite retention is required as the survey is part of a time-series and the data from 2021 in its own right and in combination with that from previous surveys provides the potential for further analysis.

Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:** If you have any questions or concerns about this research, please contact the primary researcher:

Dr Paul Myers
Executive Director, The Social Research Centre
Centre Visitor, ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods
Telephone: +61 3 9236 8500
Email: info@srcentre.com.au

- **Contact Details if in Distress:** If you'd like to seek advice or support, please contact any of the following services:

Service	Contact
<p>Victorian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey Departmental hotline For more information about the survey</p>	<p>1800 930 936 Free Service</p>
<p>Parentline Victoria For families with children aged 0 to 18 years. A confidential and anonymous service, which offers information and advice on general parenting & family issues www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/parentline.aspx</p>	<p>13 22 89 Local cost calls Operates 8am until midnight 7 days a week</p>
<p>Maternal and Child Health Line For families with children aged from 0 to 5 years. Advice line staffed by registered nurses, providing support on child, maternal and family health and parenting issues.</p>	<p>13 22 29 Local cost calls Operates 24 hours, 7 days a week</p>
<p>Life Line Telephone counselling service. Available to anyone is who is dealing with mental illness (their own or that of a friend or relative). Offers advice including, living with children with ADHD, dealing with depression and suicide prevention.</p>	<p>13 11 14 Local cost calls Operates 24 hours, 7 days a week www.lifeline.org.au</p>
<p>Kids Helpline National telephone or web based helpline, offering counselling directly to children aged between 5 and 25 years. Free, anonymous and confidential.</p>	<p>1800 55 1800 Free service Operates 24 hours, 7 days a week www.kidshelp.com.au</p>

Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2021/334). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au