



## **Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study**

### **CHILDCARE WORKER AND SCHOOL TEACHER**

#### **INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM**

##### **About the study**

You are invited to complete a questionnaire about a child or young person who is participating in *Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study* following children and young people who are in out-of-home care (OOHC) in NSW. The study collects and analyses information about the experiences, development and well-being of children and young people in OOHC on final Children's Court orders. Knowledge gained from this study will be used to improve services provided to carers, children and young people; and to train OOHC staff.

The Study is being conducted by NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) with assistance from a consortium of Australian researchers from the Australian Institute of Family Studies, the University of NSW, the University of Sydney and University of Adelaide; and Chapin Hall Centre for Children at the University of Chicago.

##### **What participation involves**

Your participation in *Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study* involves completing a questionnaire about the child or young person, who is named on the attached letter. You have been asked to complete this questionnaire as you are the teacher or staff member at the childcare centre or school who knows this child best. The caregiver of this child has given written consent for you to be contacted and invited to complete this questionnaire. A copy of their written consent is enclosed.

The questionnaire is expected to take about 30 minutes of your time and will be completed via the internet, using the instructions enclosed. The questionnaire will focus on the child or young person's progress, behaviour, education plan, peer relationships and involvement of carers in the childcare centre or school.

##### **Voluntary participation**

Participation in this study is voluntary and you do not have to answer all the questions. Your decision about whether or not to participate will not affect your future relations with FACS for you or this child or young person. If you change your mind, you can withdraw your consent and discontinue your participation in the study at any time without prejudice. To do so, complete the Revocation of consent form below.

##### **Ethics approvals**

This study has been approved by the:

- University of NSW Human Research Ethics Committee (HC16542)
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) of NSW Ethics Committee (766/10)
- State Education Research Application Process (SERAP) NSW Department of Education (2012250)
- NSW Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee (HREC/14/CIPHS/74).



If you have any complaints about any aspect of the Study you may contact:

<b>Position</b>	<b>UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	+ 61 2 9385 6222
<b>Address</b>	University of NSW, Sydney, NSW 20152
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:humanethics@unsw.edu.au">humanethics@unsw.edu.au</a>
<b>HC Reference Number</b>	HC16542

<b>Position</b>	<b>AH&amp;MRC Ethics Committee Coordinator</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	+ 61 2 9212 4777
<b>Address</b>	PO Box 1565   Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:ethics@ahmrc.org.au">ethics@ahmrc.org.au</a>
<b>HC Reference Number</b>	766/10

### Confidentiality of information

All the information gathered during the study that identifies you, or the child or young person, will remain confidential except as required by law (for example, if the child's safety, welfare or wellbeing is of concern, or the police are investigating a potential crime). Your responses will not be made available to caregivers of this child or young person, or the child or young person themselves. Only de-identified data will be released to approved researchers for analysis and any information published from the study will not identify you, or the child or young person about whom you are completing this questionnaire.

The data will be held electronically and retained for at least seven years after the completion of the study, currently planned to be in December 2020. After that all hard copies of questionnaires and electronic files will be archived as per NSW government protocols.

### Study results

Throughout the Study publications will be uploaded to the Study webpage [www.community.nsw.nsw.gov.au/pathways](http://www.community.nsw.nsw.gov.au/pathways). Results will be disseminated via interactive dashboards, publications and conferences/seminars.

### Contact details of the researchers

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact FACS researchers who are managing the Study on 1800 997 960 (freecall); or I-view who are conducting the interviews on 1800 105 088 (freecall).



Office use:

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**Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study**  
**CHILDCARE WORKER AND SCHOOL TEACHER**  
**INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM**

**CONSENT BY CHILDCARE WORKER AND SCHOOL TEACHER**

- I have read and understood the above information about the *Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study* and in the information brochure supplied.
- I agree to complete the questionnaire about this child or young person.
- I understand that by participating in this study I will not receive any feedback on my responses to the questionnaire.

**This Information Statement and Consent Form are on the internet, and you can indicate your consent to participate by clicking on a check box. Use the enclosed instructions to log on to the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study internet site to complete the consent form and the questionnaire.**

**REVOCATION OF CONSENT BY CHILDCARE WORKER AND SCHOOL TEACHER**

I hereby wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in the *Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study* described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** jeopardise my or the selected child/ young person's relationship with FACS.

Signature of Teacher/Staff Member: .....

Please PRINT name: .....

Name of Child participating in the study: .....

Date: .....

**The section for Revocation of consent should be forwarded to I-view, Level 14, 168 Walker Street, North Sydney, NSW, 2060.**