Cyber Friendly Primary Schools Project

Parent Information Form

Chief Investigator:
Professor Donna Cross
Perth Children's Hospital
15 Hospital Avenue
Nedlands WA 6009

PO Box 855
West Perth WA 6872

T | +61 8 6319 1466
E | donna.cross@telethonkids.org.au
W | telethonkids.org.au

We are conducting the *Cyber Friendly Primary Schools* Project to better understand parents' thoughts and concerns around their children's use of digital technology, and what information and support they would find helpful. (Examples of digital technology used by primary school aged children include computers/laptops, tablets/ipads, smartphones, gaming consoles, smart TVs and smart speakers.)

This project will be developing resources to support parents and schools to reduce the risk of harm to children in the online environment and to help children use digital technology in a positive way.

What are you being asked to do?
We are inviting you to participate by completing a survey to help ensure the resources include the information and support that parents would prefer and find helpful. The survey can be done online at the following [link]. This invitation is for parents/carers of Year 4-6 students.

We are interested in the sorts of information Western Australian parents would like and the skills they would like to develop to support their children keep safer when they are online using digital technology. We would also like to know and how they would prefer to receive this information.

Why is this project important?
Children today grow up in a world immersed in digital technology. Although access to digital technology can have enormous educational and social benefits, use by children is not without risk, especially as children are still developing socially and emotionally, and in their ability to make sound decisions.

Who is doing this study?
The study is being conducted by the Telethon Kids Institute in collaboration with the Office of the eSafety Commissioner (OESC), the WA Council of State Schools Organisations (WACSSO) and the Parents and Friends Federation of WA (PFFWA). The research team comprises Prof Donna Cross and Dr Kevin Runions from the Telethon Kids Institute; Associate Prof Matt Byrne, Edith Cowan University; and Dr Shirley Knight, Curtin University.

What are the possible benefits of this project?
Should the resources developed in this project be found to be helpful, they will be made available to all parents with children in Western Australian primary schools, and help to support parents keep their children safe.

What are your choices?
Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary. You can withdraw from the project at any time, without reason and without prejudice, and with no consequences associated with your withdrawal.

Your decision will not affect your child's grades, or your or their relationship with their teacher(s), or with the school or with the Telethon Kids Institute.

Is the information I give private and confidential?
The survey will be completely anonymous, so we will not be able to identify you from the information you provide. This also means that we will not be able to delete your data should you later choose to withdraw it from the study.

Any information we collect is treated as private and confidential. All data held by the research team will be stored securely (under lock and key and password protected) and remain at all times and for all purposes with Telethon Kids Institute. We are required to store the data for a minimum of 7 years, after that time it will be destroyed. The survey will be conducted using RedCap software and the data will be stored on TKI servers in Australia.

We plan to present findings from this study at various health and education conferences, and to publish results from the data in scientific journals. Your data will remain anonymous and no one's name will be included in any of the reports or papers, or in the presentations produced as a result of this research.

What are the possible risks of being involved in this project?
We do not anticipate any significant risk to you by participating in this study. Most parents who have participated in similar research have enjoyed the experience.

Reimbursement
As a thank you for giving up your time to participate, you can enter your name at the end of the survey in a draw to win a $100 gift voucher.

Who do I contact if I wish to discuss the project further?
If you would like to discuss any part of this study with the research team, please contact Candice Browne (08) 6319 1812 or email at cyberprimary@telethonkids.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Donna Cross
Telethon Kids Institute