



Your privacy

Your privacy is important to us and only the combined results of study participants will be discussed and published. Any information you provide will remain absolutely confidential—it will never be used in any way that identifies you, your child or family, and will not be passed on to your child's other parent.

Strict procedures are followed to ensure that only authorised people have access to the information you provide, and all the interviewers, researchers and others involved must comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*.

Kassandra
8 years

More information

If you have any questions, or would like more information about the study, please phone (free call) **1800 005 508** or visit the *Growing Up in Australia* website www.aifs.gov.au/growingup

Growing Up in Australia was initiated and funded as part of the Australian Government's Stronger Families and Communities Strategy by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. The study is being undertaken in partnership with the Australian Institute of Family Studies, with advice being provided by a consortium of leading researchers at research institutions and universities throughout Australia. The data collection is undertaken for the Institute by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Brooke
7 years



Growing Up in Australia

the longitudinal study of Australian children

Information for parents

www.aifs.gov.au/growingup

1800 005 508

What is *Growing Up in Australia*?

In 2004, over 10,000 children and families around Australia took part in the first wave of *Growing Up in Australia*, the longitudinal study of Australian children. This unique study is following the health and development of these children as they grow up.

Information is collected from a number of people who are part of each child's life. Every two years, we visit the study children, conduct a "face-to-face" interview with one parent and do activities with the child. We also ask other parents, teachers and carers to fill in a short questionnaire or take part in a telephone interview.

The study is designed to identify opportunities for improving support for Australian children and their families. The information we collect can answer questions like:

- How are the challenges facing Australian families changing over time?
- How do parents' relationships with their children change over time and with different family circumstances?
- What things do parents do that help children as they grow and develop?
- How do families manage parenting and child-rearing across multiple households?

Including the views of both parents

Children live in a variety of family situations. Some children in the study have parents who do not live together. To fully understand a child's life it is very important to have information from both parents. Parents have different views and different experiences with their children, and we are keen to talk to both parents in order to gain a full picture of children's lives and how they are doing.

Having input from parents across a broad range of family arrangements, from shared care through to less frequent contact, will help us gain a better overall picture of what is happening within Australian families and the circumstances of children's lives.

By gaining a better understanding of how children (and parents) are coping with and managing their living arrangements, we will be able to provide good advice in the future about what works well for parents and for children.

Growing Up in Australia
1800 005 508
growingup@abs.gov.au

Your role

We also know that children behave differently in different environments, and we are interested in children's behaviour and wellbeing in all their key environments—whether these are school, child care or different family homes. From this perspective, you are the person who can provide us with information about how your child is when your child is with you, whether that is for a short visit or part of a pattern of regularly living together.

We would greatly appreciate your involvement in the study, no matter how often you have contact with your child.

Stewart
8 years

