



Medicare Consent Form

This year we will also ask you to sign a Medicare consent form. Your parent signed a similar form at the beginning of the study. Now that you are 14 to 15 years old, Medicare requires you to sign a form.

By signing the Medicare consent form you will authorise the Department of Human Services to provide the following information to *Growing Up in Australia*:

- Medicare claims information
- Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme claims information; and
- your current address details

Please have your Medicare card available when the Interviewer visits your home.

What about my privacy?

Your privacy is important to us. Strict procedures are followed to ensure that only authorised people have access to the information you give us, and all the Interviewers, researchers and others involved comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*. If, however, during a conversation with your Interviewer, you mention that you plan to self-harm, this information will be passed on to a counsellor attached to the study and he/she may talk to you or your family.

Further information on privacy in relation to the *Growing Up in Australia* study and the *Growing Up in Australia* Privacy Statement can be found at: www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au/participants/privacy.html, or by calling 1800 005 508 freecall (excluding mobile phones).

Growing Up in Australia would like to thank you for your valuable contribution to the study. This is your study and without you we could not continue.

It is important for us to have your latest contact details. If you have moved, are planning to move, or will be away overseas for a long period of time please let us know:

Email:
growingup@updatedetails.growingupinaustralia.gov.au

Phone: 1800 005 508 freecall
(except from mobile phones)

The study is conducted as a partnership between the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), with advice provided by a group of leading researchers.



Information

for

Study Teenagers



1800 005 508

www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au

Information

for

Study Teenagers



How many people are in *Growing Up in Australia: The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children*?

You are part of a study that involves almost 10,000 children and teenagers from all over Australia.

Why is my contribution so important?

We like to speak to a variety of Australian teenagers from diverse backgrounds to understand what it's like to grow up in Australia.

Your voluntary participation in this study is contributing to a better Australia for teenagers and children.

If I leave the study why can't you just replace me?

We are interested in your story over time. You have told us about yourself for ten years and the person who can best continue telling us about you is you. If you left the study and we replaced you with someone else, that person would not have the same story as you, so we would be missing a lot of information. This is why we do not replace people who leave *Growing Up in Australia* with new people.



Why is *Growing Up in Australia* so special?

Growing Up in Australia is Australia's largest longitudinal study of Australian children. We collect data from the same people every time we go out and interview. This provides government and researchers with a detailed picture of how Australian children and teenagers develop over time.

How is my information being used?

The information you provide is combined with data from other teenagers. The data is then used by Australian government departments and researchers to develop services and programs that will support young Australians and their families.

Have you seen our website?

www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au

This website contains lots of information about the study and how your information is being used!



What's new this year?

As you are now a teenager and we want to understand this important stage in your life, we have included some new questions. The topics covered by these new questions may include:

- Emotional wellbeing
- Learning
- Physical health
- Family interactions
- Peers
- School
- Work and career

You may have already covered some of these topics at school. These topics were chosen by a group of experts who provide advice to *Growing Up in Australia*. They try to cover the variety of things teenagers your age might be doing and experiencing. They look at questions that have been asked of teenagers in other studies all over the world. This allows us to compare what it is like growing up in Australia with growing up elsewhere in the world.

As always if you would rather not answer a particular question you have the option of skipping it.

