

## Participant Information Sheet

Project title: **GENERATION**

### What is the project about?

GENERATION is a study of young Australians to understand youth transitions from school to post school, including a focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic may impact decisions and pathways. This is the second year of the national study, which anticipates running for ten years in total.

The second survey of GENERATION will be conducted with Year 11 students from July 2023. Not everyone surveyed in Wave 1 will be asked to participate in this wave to ensure a balanced sample of Australians in the studied age group.

You are only being asked to participate in one survey at this stage. Separate invitations will be sent next year to participate in future surveys.

### Who is involved in the project?

GENERATION is being undertaken by researchers from the Australian National University (ANU), the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and the Social Research Centre (SRC). The Centre for Social Research and Methods at the ANU is leading the research.

The research has been commissioned by the Australian Department of Education, and all Australian state and territory governments.

### Who has been asked to participate?

The second survey for GENERATION will invite students who participated in the 2022 survey and agreed to recontact. Due to the longitudinal nature of the study, your place cannot be taken by anyone else. Your contribution to GENERATION is truly one of a kind.

### What does participation in the GENERATION mean for you?

You have been invited to complete an online survey, which will take about 30 minutes. The questions will focus on your career plans and interests, your experience of school over the last few years and what you like to do outside of school. There will also be questions about your background (including whether you have a disability or long-term medical condition). Information about your background will assist in the development of education policies that address your needs.

The survey is **voluntary** and you can exit the survey at any time. You can withdraw your information from the project at any time prior to the end of fieldwork. After this point a summary report may be provided to your school depending on the number of student responses. You will, however, not be identifiable in this summary report.

We will also ask for your consent to link this survey to your education records. We would like to add your NAPLAN, senior secondary subject results and information about from the Australian Early Development Census (a measurement of child development completed by your teacher in your first year of school).

Linkage will **make your information more useful** and **save you time** in completing this survey as we will not need to ask you about the subjects you are taking this year.

The linkage will be undertaken by the Australian Institute of Family Studies, which has been reviewed and certified by the government as being able to perform data linkage work in a safe, secure and appropriate manner (click [here](#) for further details about the linkage process).

Consent to linkage is voluntary and is not required to participate in the survey.

### What are the benefits of taking part?

We will use your responses to questions about your social and emotional skills to create an individualised profile that may be of interest to you. This information could provide useful insights into your personal preferences.

You will receive a \$25 electronic gift card as a thank you for your time. This will be sent to your nominated email address upon completion of the survey.

### **How will the research be used?**

This information will be used to help you gain a better understanding about your goals, help your school understand how to better support your career goals and to improve the schooling of future generations. Background information (including whether you have a disability or long-term medical condition) will enable researchers to understand whether student experiences vary by personal circumstances.

Survey and linked information will be used in reports, publications and on the GENERATION website. Individual students or schools will not be identified in reports available to the general public.

### **How will my information be kept confidential?**

We will protect the confidentiality of your responses to the extent permitted by law. Your name and contact details will be kept in a separate, password-protected computer file from any data that you give us. Any survey and linked information will not be looked at on their own but will be combined with those of other participants and analysed as a group.

Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other person or body unless you consent, or it is required by law. Individuals who take part in the survey will not be identified in any report or publication.

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU, ACER and SRC must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_010007](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.

ACER's Privacy Policy is available at <https://www.acer.org/privacy>

SRC's Privacy Policy is available at <https://www.srcentre.com.au/research-participants/privacy>.

### **Where will the data be stored?**

Data that contains personal information (such as names, date of birth, and address) will never be used or stored together with survey responses. Your parents' contact details that you provide will have been collected and held by the Social Research Centre, on behalf of the Australia National University (ANU).

The data collected in this survey will be de-identified (i.e. any identifying information will be removed) and stored separately by the Social Research Centre. De-identified data will then be securely archived in the Australian Data Archive for research purposes for at least five years following publication of the results.

### **Are there any risks from taking part?**

There are some potential risks for participating in this research. You only need to answer questions if you feel comfortable and safe to do so. If at any stage in the research you feel distressed or in need of assistance, please get in touch with the research team or the following support services.

GENERATION Helpdesk on 1800 122 789 or [generation@srcentre.com.au](mailto:generation@srcentre.com.au).

**Beyondblue** - <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/> or call 1300 224 636

**Headspace** - <https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace> or call 1800 650 890

**Kids Helpline** - [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au) or 1800 551 800

**1800RESPECT** - [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au) or 1800 737 732

**Who to contact for more information?**

For more information about the survey, please visit the project website <https://www.generationsurvey.net/> or contact the GENERATION helpdesk on 1800 122 879. Alternatively, contact the Professor Ben Edwards at [generation@anu.edu.au](mailto:generation@anu.edu.au)

**Who to contact for concerns or complaints?**

If you have concerns about the survey or privacy issues, you can contact the Social Research Centre [privacy@srcentre.com.au](mailto:privacy@srcentre.com.au) or call (03) 9236 8500.

**Ethics Committee Clearance:**

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2022/037). 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](mailto:Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au)

**Our research team:**

Professor Ben Edwards (ANU), Professor Matthew Gray (ANU), Dr Intifar Chowdhury, Professor Andrew Norton (ANU), Dr Daniel Edwards (ACER), Kylie Hillman (ACER), and Natasha Vickers (SRC).