DRUG ATTITUDES SURVEY 2025 PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET PANEL: LIFE IN AUSTRALIATM

PARTICIPANT GROUP: CHILDREN AGED 14-17 YEARS

Introduction

One of your parents recently helped us with a survey about how people use, think and feel about drugs in Western Australia. They said we could also ask you to do a survey about how you think, feel and use drugs.

What is this study about?

This survey is about drugs and will ask how you think and feel about drugs and if you use them. Most people will take about 10 minutes to do the survey, but some people may take longer.

If you do not know how to answer any question, or if you do not want to answer any question, you can say 'Prefer not to say', or click 'Next' to move to the next question.

You can stop anytime or take a break from the survey if you want to – just close your browser. When you want to come back to the survey, click on the survey link that was sent to your parent and you will go back to where you left the survey. If you want to stop and don't want to finish the rest of the survey, you are free to stop at any time.

You do not have to do the survey if you do not want to. If you decide not to complete the survey your parent can still take part in the survey.

The survey will ask questions to help the Mental Health Commission of Western Australia to understand what young people know about drugs and help improve drug programs and information to keep everyone safe.

The Social Research Centre, a research company, is running the survey for the Mental Health Commission WA.

What will the study involve for me?

If you decide to take part in the study, we will ask you to complete an online survey.

The survey will ask you about drugs and if you have ever used them. You will also be asked about your personal characteristics including your mental and physical health, family history of drug use, gender, whether you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, and if you use a language other than English at home.

There is no risk of you getting in trouble with the police if you say you have used drugs.

Your answers will be private – so no one will know which answers are yours.

What happens in the survey?

It would be best if you tried to answer all of the questions privately, by yourself. You can ask your parents to help you if you need them to.

If you have any questions about the survey, you can ask your parents, or you can ring us at 1800 023 040 or send us an email at LifeInAus@srcentre.com.au.

If you've already finished the survey but don't want to be part of the study anymore, just call or email us and we'll delete your answers. You can choose to stop being part of the study anytime before the survey closes on 16 November 2025. If you have any questions or want to leave the study, you can talk to the team at the Social Research Centre by phone at 1800 023 040 or via email at LifeInAus@srcentre.com.au.

If something in the survey worries or upsets you while you are doing it, or afterwards, please talk to your parents or a trusted adult or you can talk to someone privately by calling or contacting:

KIDS HELPLINE

1800 551 800 www.kidshelpline.com.au

Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Service - Crisis Connect (Mental health advice and support for children and young people in the metropolitan area, available 24/7) 1800 048 636 https://www.cahs.health.wa.gov.au/Our-

services/Mental-Health/CAMHS-Crisis-Connect

Headspace

1800 650 890 https://headspace.org.au/ 13YARN

13 92 76

https://www.13yarn.org.au/

Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Support service

(08) 9442 5000 (metro only) 1800 198 024 toll free (country only)

Live chat is also available at: https://admhss.mhc.wa.gov.au/g et-help/alcohol-and-drugsupport-line

Please note Kids Helpline is for youth support, Headspace is for youth mental health, 13 YARN is for Indigenous Australians, the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provides urgent mental health support, advice and assessment for children and young people, and the Alcohol and Drug Support Line is a WA telephone counselling, information and referral service for alcohol or drug use.

Will I be paid to participate in the study?

A \$10 GiftBee voucher will be added to your parent's Life in Australia™ member account if you complete the Survey. This would be in addition to the incentive your parent received for the main survey and will be delivered separately after the close of the survey.

What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By agreeing to do the survey, you agree that we can collect personal information about you for the purposes of this study. We may also use your answers, that no one will be able to tell are yours, in the future to help with more research about similar topics, like keeping people healthy. Your answers will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Sheet.

Your information will always be kept securely in Australia and all of your answers are private and are subject to relevant state and federal privacy laws.

The Mental Health Commission WA will publish a report on the results of this study, but no one will be able to see your own answers in the report.

Protecting your privacy is very important. Personal information about you is stored securely, and The Social Research Centre de-identifies any personal information as soon as we don't need it for our research, so you cannot be identified. Any files related to our projects are deleted as required by the Australian Privacy Principles.

The Social Research Centre's Privacy Policy is available here, and contains further details about how you can access or correct information we hold about you, how you can make a privacy related complaint, and how that complaint will be dealt with. If you have any questions about our Privacy Policy or any of the above matters, you may contact our Privacy Officer by calling (03) 9236 8500 or by emailing privacy@srcentre.com.au.

What if I have a complaint or any questions about the study?

This project has been reviewed and received ethics approval through the Bellberry Limited Human Research Ethics Committee (2025-06-1013) in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023) incorporating all updates. This means a group of people have reviewed the survey with you in mind, to make sure we are asking questions that are appropriate for young people.

If you have a complaint concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:

Director of Operations, Bellberry Human Research Ethics Bellberry Limited Phone: 08 8361 3222

Email: bellberry@bellberry.com.au

If you have questions regarding the study, please contact:

Dr Wendy Heywood Director, Quantitative Research

The Social Research Centre Phone: 03 9236 8500

Email: wendy.heywood@srcentre.com.au