

Supporting Quality Engagement with Children Information and consent form – children



Who are we?

We are the Australian Human Rights Commission and our job is to make sure that everyone in Australia has their rights protected. Anne Hollonds is the National Children's Commissioner and has a special job. This is to make sure **children's** rights are protected. One way Anne and her team do this is by talking to children like you about their thoughts and ideas. Then we share those thoughts and ideas with other people, like people in Government.



Why are we doing this project?

We need you! We want to know if Government services and supports are working well for children and young people. We want to know how to make them better, especially for kids experiencing tough times like violence within their families and kids who have been hurt and abused.

How can I join in and what will we be doing?

We are going to different parts of Australia to talk with children like you.

- All our talks will be in groups.
- We will be doing some fun activities.
- We will be asking you about things that can help children and their families.
- We will have a survey so you can write down your thoughts, if you don't want to talk in a group.

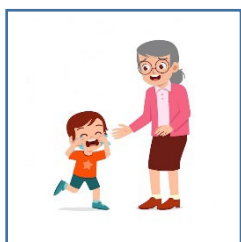


We will make sure everyone can understand what we are talking about and that everyone can have their say. Everyone will get a voucher for joining in. We may take photos during the group activities but these will be taken in such a way that you won't be identifiable.



Is there anything that might make me upset?

We will be talking about what helps children in tough times. Talking about these things may be uncomfortable or upsetting.

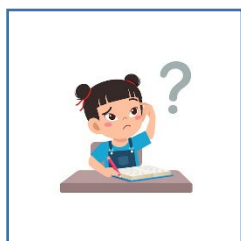


- We will not ask you to share personal stories and you will not have to talk about anything you don't want to.
- If anything we talk about makes you upset, you can stop joining in at any time.
- You will be with people you know and there will be a trusted adult to talk to if you want.

Talk to us before the day if you think you might get upset and we can talk about what we can do to help you feel safe on the day.

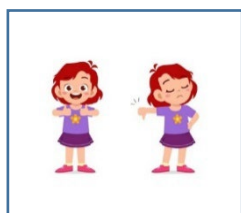
What happens with the things I say and write?

- We will take notes during the talks so we can share your thoughts and ideas with the Australian Government.
- We will be recording the talks, to help us with our notes, but we will not share the recording with anyone.
- We may also use the things that you tell us in other reports, materials and projects created by the Commission.
- We will never use your name or anything else that might tell others who you are, unless you tell us something that makes us worried about you or another child. If that happens, we might need to tell someone else, to make sure everyone is safe.



What if I don't want to join in or I change my mind?





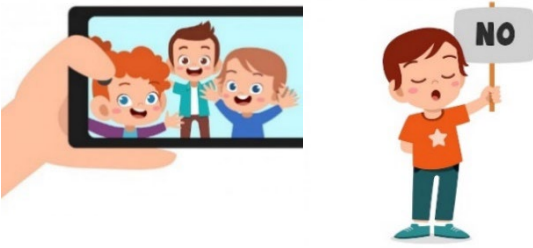

You do not have to join in if you do not want to. It is okay to say no, even after we start talking.



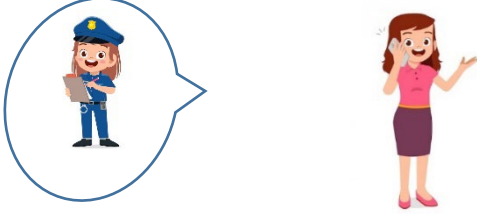

If you want to ask us any questions, are worried about the project, or want to make a complaint you can contact Sophie Charles from the Children's Rights Team on phone number 1300 369 711 or by emailing kids@humanrights.gov.au



Consent Form – Children

	<p>1. I have read the information about the project, or someone has read it to me, and I know what the project is about.</p>
	<p>2. I want to join in on the group talk, activities and survey. I know that what I say will be told to people in the Australian Government.</p>
	<p>3. I have asked any questions I want to ask, and people have answered my questions. I understand what they said.</p>
	<p>4. I know if I get worried or upset I can stop taking part at any time. I can also get help to contact someone I trust to talk to. I have let someone know if I think I might get upset during the group talks.</p>
	<p>5. I know I will be recorded. I know only people working on this project will be able to listen or watch the recording.</p>
	<p>6. My ideas will be put together with other children's ideas. This will be written into a report and given to people in the Australian Government. These ideas may also be used by the Australian Human Rights Commission in other ways. No matter where they are used, no one will know who I am.</p>






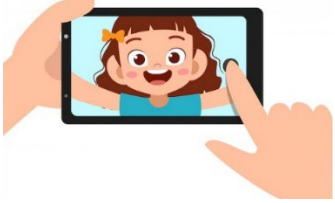
	<p>7. If an adult is worried about my safety, or the safety of another child, they might decide to tell someone else about it (like the police or child protection). They might also have to share my name. If that happens, they will tell me.</p>
	<p>8. I know that I can change my mind about joining in at any time.</p>

Everyone under the age of 16 must also have a consent form completed by their parent or guardian. This is in a different form. Please make sure both this form and the adult consent form are given to the organisers.

Name: Age:

Date:

Consent obtained verbally

	<p>I agree to the information in points 1-8 and to participate in the project.</p> <p>Circle the green thumbs up if you agree, or the red thumbs down if you don't agree.</p>		
	<p>I agree to photos being taken by the Australian Human Rights Commission and understand that these will be taken in such a way that I won't be identifiable.</p> <p>Circle the green thumbs up if you agree, or the red thumbs down if you don't agree.</p>	