

## INFORMATION LETTER FOR PARTICIPANTS (young people)

### Research Project:

### Positive family relationships in a digital age

### Interviews

[Date]15<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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Dear Participant,

As part of my role in the School of Education at Edith Cowan University (ECU), I am conducting a research project in collaboration with EACH (Ferntree Gully, VIC). The project involves audio recorded interviews with young people exploring their use and their family's use of digital technologies. The interviews will explore young people's perspectives about the issues and solutions for navigating healthy and positive relationships in a digital age. The project aims to increase understanding about what young people think the best strategies are for strengthening and benefiting family relationships in a digital age.

You are invited to participate in a semi-structured interview about your use and your family's use of digital technology. The interview will last approximately 30 minutes and can be conducted at a date and time convenient to you, in a public place (such as the community meeting rooms at your local library). If you agree to participate in an interview, you will be sent the interview questions in advance by e-mail. In order to participate, written consent needs to be obtained from yourself and from your parent/guardian.

With your consent, interviews will be audio recorded. Following the interview, you will be provided with a copy of the interview transcription and asked to check this for accuracy. All real names will be removed and replaced with pseudonyms. No real names will appear in any reporting of this research. You will be asked to confirm that you are happy for the information contained in the transcript to be used in reporting of the research. At this time, you are able to request changes to the information contained in the transcript.

Your decision to participate in an interview is entirely voluntary and will in no way impact your current or future involvement with EACH. You can choose not to answer particular questions or ask for the interview to stop at any time. You are also free to withdraw from the research without affecting your relationship with EACH or Edith Cowan University. If you do choose to withdraw, every effort will be made to remove and destroy the data you have provided. Please note, however, that your data cannot be removed and destroyed once the research findings have been communicated via reports and/or publications.

In accordance with ethics approval requirements, the interview data will be stored securely at ECU, and then disposed of after the mandatory minimum retention period of seven years.

A summary of findings will be produced for EACH and made available via their communication networks. The results of the full research project will also be disseminated via journal articles directed to professional and academic audiences.

[To thank you for your participation in the interview, you will receive a gift voucher of \\$30AUD as a token gift to cover transport costs and your time.](#)

The project has been approved by the Edith Cowan University Human Research Ethics Committee, and has the full support of EACH. Any questions about the *'Positive family relationships in a digital age'* project can be directed to me (Associate Professor Nicola Johnson) on 08 6304 3909 or [nf.johnson@ecu.edu.au](mailto:nf.johnson@ecu.edu.au).

If you have any concerns about the project, or would like to talk to an independent person, you may contact the Research Ethics Office at:

Human Research Ethics Office  
Edith Cowan University  
270 Joondalup Drive  
JOONDALUP 6027 WA  
Phone: 08 6304 2170  
Email: [research.ethics@ecu.edu.au](mailto:research.ethics@ecu.edu.au)

Thank you for your time and assistance in this project.

Yours sincerely,



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## CONSENT FORM FOR PARTICIPANTS and PARENT/GUARDIAN

### Positive family relationships in a digital age

1. I have read and understood the information about this research project in the attached Information Letter.
2. I have had the opportunity to ask the researcher(s) any questions that I may have had about the research and am satisfied with the answers I received.
3. I understand that my participation in this research is entirely voluntarily and I am free to refuse to participate.
4. If I agree to participate in the research, I understand that I am free to withdraw that participation at any time without affecting my relationship with Edith Cowan University or EACH. If I do choose to withdraw from the research, I understand that the researcher will make every reasonable effort to remove my data and destroy it - providing I withdraw before the research findings are disseminated via reports and/or publications.
5. I agree to be interviewed for this research and for that interview to be audio recorded.
6. I give permission for my contribution to the research to be disseminated to the public via reports and publications on the understanding that I will not be identified.
- ~~6-7.~~ [I understand I will receive a \\$30AUD gift voucher after the interview has been completed as a token gift for my time and transport costs.](#)
- ~~7-8.~~ By signing below I am indicating my consent to participate in the research via audio recorded interview and for the data to be published as described in the Information Letter and points 1-~~7~~[6](#) above.

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Signed:

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Name of participant:

Date:

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Signed:

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Name of parent/guardian:

Date:

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