

University of Southern Queensland Participant Information Sheet

UniSQ HREC Approval number: ETH2023-0746

Project Title

Early Childhood Educators' Awareness & Understanding of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Research team contact details

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This research project is an inter-university research collaboration between one UniSQ researcher and one QUT researcher. The data will be stored at UniSQ and accessed by the QUT researcher via a closed MS Teams account.

Description

We invite you to participate in our survey on awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their relevance to early childhood education. Your input is valuable in understanding the current knowledge base and needs of educators in this field.

Your responses are essential, and we want to reassure you that **it's okay if you are not familiar with the SDGs – telling us just that is a great help**. The purpose of the survey is to gather insights from a diverse range of experiences and backgrounds, and your honest input, whether you have prior knowledge or not, will greatly contribute to our research.

Your participation will help us tailor future resources and support to better meet the needs of early childhood educators. We appreciate your time and commitment to advancing education for a sustainable and inclusive future.

Participation

Your participation will involve completion of an online survey that will take approximately 1-15 minutes of your time. Questions will include:

- Have you heard of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) before taking this survey?
- Where did you learn about the SDGs?
- To what extent do you integrate the SDGs into your teaching practices?

Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary and your responses are anonymous. If you do not wish to take part, you are not obliged to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you will be unable to withdraw data collected after you have submitted your survey responses.

Your decision whether you take part, or not take part, will in no way impact your current or future relationship with the University of Southern Queensland, nor with Queensland University of Technology.

Expected benefits

It is not expected that this project will directly benefit you, apart from having the opportunity to share your experiences and to be attentively listened to. However, it may benefit the Early Childhood sector in gaining better understandings about educators' understandings and awareness of SDGs. The collective responses will inform the development of resources and/or professional learning as required.

Risks

There is no anticipated risk to participating in the research project, beyond inconvenience of time (up to 15 minutes).

Privacy and confidentiality

All comments and responses are confidential unless required by law. The names of individual persons are not required in any of the responses. The data may be used for future research purposes by the principal investigator only. Any data collected as a part of this project will be stored securely, as per University of Southern Queensland's Research Data and Primary Materials Management Procedure, stored on a password protected computer, hard drive and OneDrive. You are invited to contact the Principal Investigator if you wish to access a summary of the project results.

Consent to participate

Your consent to participate in this project is implied, whereby the submission of the survey is indicative of consent.

Questions

Please refer to the Research investigator's contact details at the top of the form to have any questions answered or to request further information about this project.

Concerns or complaints

If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the project, you may contact the University of Southern Queensland, Manager of Research Integrity and Ethics on +61 7 4631 1839 or email researchintegrity@usq.edu.au. The Manager of Research Integrity and Ethics is not connected with the research project and can address your concern in an unbiased manner.

Thank you for taking the time to help with this research project. Please keep this document for your information.