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Participant Information and Consent Form

Name of Project: Australian Learning Frameworks (AFLs) Update

Your children's service is invited to participate in the Australian Learning Frameworks Update project, funded by ACECQA and supported by all states and territories. In this study Australia's two approved learning frameworks- Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and the My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Age Care in Australia (MTOPI) - will be the focus. The purpose of the study is to maintain the currency and relevance of both frameworks.

The project aims to capture all relevant stakeholder voices including children and young people's voices. The children attending your service are invited to take part in the project. If you decide to participate, the research team will provide instructions for you explaining the project and how to collect the drawing/writing/talking data from the children in your setting, including those who are pre or less verbal. It is expected the time commitment from children will vary depending on their age, development and interest in the task (between 5-30 minutes).

You will be given copies of the Parent/Guardian Participation and Information Consent Form to give to families. If the parent/guardian provides consent for their child/ren to be involved, you will provide the child/ren with the Child Assent Form, which explains to the child in age appropriate language the purpose of the study and what the activity they can choose to do. If they choose not to that is fine – you don't need to ask them again. Once the child agrees to participate (assent has been provided) you will be able to give them the activity and act as a scribe if necessary (depending on the child's age and language development). The activity includes the children in drawing, writing or talking circles, dependant on their development, to gather information about the centre e.g., "What do you like doing here?" and "Is there something we don't do here that you would like to do?" This task will occur once per child. You would collect children's drawings (and explanations), including the PCIFs (parents and children's), scan and send to the research team through the following secure email -alfs@mq.edu.au

Any information or personal details gathered in the course of the study are confidential, except as required by law. No individual will be identified in any publication of the results. Only the research team will have access to the data in a secure, password protection site. A summary of the results of the data can be made available to you by contacting the project through alfsupdate@mq.edu.au.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary: you are not obliged to participate and if you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without having to give a reason and without consequence.

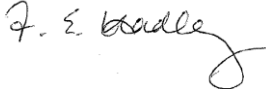
The study is being conducted by a national team of researchers. Please contact Associate Professor Fay Hadley, Macquarie University (02) 9850 9833, fay.hadley@mq.edu.au if you have any questions about the project.

I, _____ (*participant's name*) have read (*or, where appropriate, have had read to me*) and understand the information above and any questions I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to participate in this research, knowing that I can withdraw from further participation in the research at any time without consequence. I have been given a copy of this form to keep.

Participant's Name: _____
(Block letters)

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Investigator's Name: Associate Professor Fay Hadley
(Block letters)

Investigator's Signature:  Date: 23/08/2021

The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the Macquarie University Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any complaints or reservations about any ethical aspect of your participation in this research, you may contact the Committee through the Director, Research Ethics & Integrity (telephone (02) 9850 7854; email ethics@mq.edu.au). Any complaint you make will be treated in confidence and investigated, and you will be informed of the outcome.

(INVESTIGATOR'S [OR PARTICIPANT'S] COPY)