



ONLINE AND IN-PERSON PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

Survey

Rural and Regional Education Research Project

Professor Kim Beswick

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study aims to to conduct robust high-quality research in partnership with the NSW Department of Education to better understand rural and regional school settings and to build a stronger evidence base to inform tailored support to schools. The project also seeks to support context specific policy decision making and/or policy adjustments aimed at more effectively, efficiently, and sustainably improving the outcomes for students in rural and regional public primary and secondary schools in NSW.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being led by UNSW researchers, led by Professor Kim Beswick (UNSW School of Education) and Professor Adrian Piccoli (UNSW Gonski Institute for Education) and conducted by researchers from UNSW, the University of Canberra and Social Ventures Australia (SVA).

Research Funder: This research is funded by the NSW Department of Education.

3. What are the inclusion criteria?

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet any of the following criteria:

- Children currently enrolled in a primary (Years 5-6 only), secondary or central school (Years 5-12 only) included in the NSW Department of Education, Rural and Regional Education Research Project.
- Teachers currently teaching in a primary, secondary, or central school included in the NSW Department of Education, Rural and Regional Education Research Project.
- Principals currently leading in a primary, secondary, or central school included in the NSW Department of Education, Rural and Regional Education Research Project.
- Parents or caregivers of a child currently enrolled in a primary, secondary, or central school included in the NSW Department of Education, Rural and Regional Education Research Project.
- Community members residing in an area nearby a primary, secondary, or central school included in the NSW Department of Education, Rural and Regional Education Research Project.

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part, you may stop the survey at any time.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary); and
- Take a copy of this form with you to keep.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete the following research procedures: An online or in-person survey inviting you to answer questions about children's educational experiences. If there



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are any questions that you would not like to answer, that is okay. You will be asked to complete this survey on one occasion. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

If you experience discomfort or feelings of distress while participating in the research and you require support, you can stop participating at any time. You can also contact a member of the research team and they will provide you with assistance, or alternatively you can contact one of the services below:

Contact for feelings of distress:

Name/Organisation	<i>Lifeline</i>
Telephone	<i>13 11 14</i>

Name/Organisation	<i>Kids Helpline</i>
Telephone	<i>1800 55 1800</i>

6. Will be there any additional costs and reimbursement associated with this research?

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid.

7. What will happen to information about me?

By consenting to participate, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study. The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 7 years after the completion of the research. The information about you will be stored in a non-identifiable format where your identity will be unknown.

You will also be asked to provide your consent for the research team to share or use the information collected from you in future research that:

- Will be specific to the aims of this research;
- Information collected from you in an electronic format stored on a UNSW password protected One Drive only accessible to the approved research investigators; and
- Information collected from you using paper-based measures will be stored in at the UNSW Gonski Institute for Education office and only the approved research investigators will have access to this information.

The information that you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).



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8. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

If you would like to be emailed a summary of the findings, please include your email address at the end of the survey. Your email address will not be attached to your survey.

Alternatively, you can send an email to: gonski@unsw.edu.au and a member of the research team will send you a copy once it becomes available.

9. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may stop at any time. You can do this by closing the survey. However, the data from any questions that you have answered will be retained and aggregated. You will not be able to be identified. Once you have submitted the survey, we will not be able to withdraw your responses as the survey is anonymous.

Your decision not to participate or stop the survey will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney or any of the organisations involved in this research, including the NSW Department of Education.

10. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact:

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	(02) 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	HC200613

11. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact Details:

Name	Megan Bedford
Position	Project Manager
Telephone	02 9385 7817
Email	megangriffiths@unsw.edu.au



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Chief Investigator:

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