

(Header will feature Queenwood School and ECU logos once ethics approvals are granted)

Building Readers for Life: A Sustained Silent Reading Program

Dear Student,

We are the QLiteracy Committee led by Kim Elith and Gabrielle Mace. With our mentor Dr Margaret Merga (from Edith Cowan University) we want to learn more about your reading for enjoyment at home and at school. We are going to give students the chance to have more school time for reading, and we would like to see if this you enjoy this. This project will involve collecting information from students across Years 4 -12.

What does participation in the research project involve?

To take part in the project, students from Year 4 to Year 12 will do three surveys online. Each survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete, and no one will know what you wrote, as we will not ask you to put your name on the survey. You will take the first survey in the first week of school in January, 2020. You will take the next survey in July 2020 and final survey in December 2020

All of the students in Years 4-10 at our school will be sitting PAT assessments as part of our measurement of literacy at the school. If you agree to take part in our study, and you are in Years 4-10, we will analyse your data as part of the study. As soon as possible, we will remove your name from this data, so that no one knows what your individual scores were when we share our project findings.

Do I have to participate and what happens if I do not wish to complete the survey?

Completing this survey is your decision. You will not be in trouble if you choose not to complete the survey. You will still need to complete the PAT assessments if you are Years 4-10, however, your data will not be used in the project.

What will happen to the information collected, and is privacy and confidentiality assured?

Any information you share that someone could use to figure out who you are will be removed before we analyse the data. The data is then stored securely on a password protected school server and can only be read by the researchers. The data will be stored for at least 7 years, after which it will be destroyed. We will delete all copies of electronic data. We will only be collecting data that are stored in electronic form. No video or audio data will be collected, only survey and PAT assessment data.

Your identity will not be shared at any time, unless we have to share it under mandatory reporting *Child Protection* policy, or where we are legally required to share it. The data will be used only for this project, and will not be used in any future research without asking for your consent first.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this study with the researchers, please contact Kim Elith or Margaret Merga. If you have had all questions about the project answered, and are willing to participate, please sign the consent form below.

With thanks,

Kim Elith, Gabrielle Mace & Margaret Merga

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Consent Form

I have been provided with a copy of the Information Letter, explaining the research study. I have read and understood the information provided. I am aware that if I have any questions I can ask the researcher on the day of the survey. I understand that the information that I provide will not be shared with anybody without my permission. I understand that the information provided will only be used for this research project. I am free to change my mind and withdraw from further participation at any time. I do not have to give any reason for changing my mind and I won't get into any trouble for changing my mind. I agree to participate in the project.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: / /

The HREC ref number for this project is 2019-00846-MERGA. This project has ethics approval from ECU (date). If you have any concerns or complaints about the research project, contact:
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