Do you think your child is ready for school?

Participant Information Sheet

Our names are Hayley Castrilli, Stephanie Lynch, Manel Taleb and Beverley Stacey and we are psychology students at Curtin University. As part of our final year dissertation we are conducting research into parents’ perceptions of whether their child is ready to start school.

The purpose of this research

Parents are often doubtful as to whether their child is really ready to start primary school. They may be confident that their child is capable of grasping the academic challenges of the classroom, but unsure as to whether their child is able to handle the emotional and social challenges.

Pre-primary is now compulsory for children starting school in Western Australia (WA), bringing WA in line with the rest of Australia. Through our research we are investigating the differing perceptions of parents across Australia regarding factors surrounding school readiness.

What your participation will involve

We would like to invite you to complete an online questionnaire about factors that may influence your perceptions of your child’s readiness to start pre-primary. The questionnaire should take no more than 15 minutes.

Please note that to participate in this research you must be at least 18 years old and have a child who commenced pre-primary at the beginning of 2013.

How the information you provide will be used

The information you provide will be collated with the information provided by other parents around Australia, which we will analyse and then summarise into dissertation research reports outlining our findings. These reports will then be submitted for grading.

Informed consent to participate in this research

It will be assumed that by completing and submitting the questionnaire online you have consented to the information that you have provided to be used by us and our supervisor for our research. There are no foreseeable risks associated with your participation in this research.

Confidentiality

Please be assured that any information you provide in the questionnaire will be completely confidential. There is no way for anyone to identify you based on your questionnaire responses and your participation will not require you to provide any identifying information. The data will be stored electronically under password protection.
Withdrawal from the research

Your participation in this research is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw at any time. Your decision to do so will not be questioned nor will it affect our research.

More information

If you have any questions about this research or if you have any issues accessing the questionnaire, please feel free to contact us by emailing hayley.castrilli@student.curtin.edu.au or stephanie.lynch@student.curtin.edu.au or manel.taleb@student.curtin.edu.au or beverley.stacey@student.curtin.edu.au. Alternatively you can also contact our supervisor Dr Frank Baughman, by emailing frank.baughman@curtin.edu.au.

This research has been approved by the Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (Approval Number PSYCH & SP 55). If verification of ethics approval is needed or should you wish to make a complaint on ethical grounds, you may do so either by writing to the Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee, c/- Office of Research and Development, Curtin University, GPO Box U1987, Perth WA 6845 or by telephoning 9266 2784 or by emailing hrec@curtin.edu.au.

Thank you very much for your valued participation in this research, your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Please follow the link below to access the questionnaire:

https://qtrial.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5asTDTnLxWEgGFf