
Information Sheet and Permission Request to Advertise Research

Title: Transition to and first year of university for students on the autism spectrum.

Researcher

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Purpose of the study

The purpose of this research is to help us to better understand the barriers and facilitators to transition to university for individuals on the autism spectrum in Australia. It is hoped that the

findings of this study will lead to improvements in provision of transition support and services for individuals on the autism spectrum when commencing university studies.

What will participants be asked to do?

Participants who meet the eligibility criteria will be asked to complete an online survey about their experiences of transition to university. Participation is **entirely voluntary**. The survey should take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete.

You can view a copy of the surveys at:

Student survey preview - https://qualtrics.flinders.edu.au/CP/File.php?F=F_3INQmMjldqXs30F

Family survey preview - https://qualtrics.flinders.edu.au/CP/File.php?F=F_cPd1wQE8wS9vTcF

Remuneration

Participants will not receive any remuneration from their participation; however, those who are eligible and complete the survey may also choose to enter a draw to win one of three gift vouchers worth \$100 each. Details collected to enter the draw will be stored separately to your survey so that participant information cannot be cross-referenced with information provided for the prize draw.

Will participants be identifiable by being involved in this study?

We do not require participant names in order for someone to complete the online survey and individuals will be able to remain anonymous. Any identifying information will be removed, and comments will not be linked directly to any participant. All information and results obtained in this study will be stored securely, with access restricted to relevant researchers.

Individuals on the spectrum who complete the survey will be offered the opportunity to register their interest in a future focus group (face-to-face or online). These participants will need to provide their contact details, however information they provide within the survey will not be linked directly to the individual.

Are there any risks or discomforts?

The researcher anticipates few risks from participation in this study, however, given the nature of the project, some participants could experience emotional discomfort. Students who undertake the survey will be advised to contact their university counselling service, Beyondblue on Ph: 1300 224 636 or the 24-hour Lifeline Counselling Service Ph: 13 11 14, or speak with their medical practitioner, if they are experiencing any emotional discomfort or distress in undertaking the online survey.

If you have any concerns regarding anticipated or actual risks or discomforts, please do not hesitate to contact the principal researcher, Alison Nuske (alison.nuske@flinders.edu.au)

Can participants withdraw from this study?

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. Participants will be asked to indicate consent to participate at the beginning of the online survey, through an online information and consent form. Participant responses for each page of the online survey will be anonymously saved when they click "Next". However, if participants close their browser prior to clicking "Next" responses for that page will not be saved. Participants will have 1 month from commencement of the survey to return and complete the remaining questions. If participants do not complete all of the survey questions, their saved responses for the questions they did complete, will be submitted 1 month after they commenced the survey. Once participants click "Next" on the final question, all responses will be submitted, and participants will not be able to return to the survey. Once information has been submitted it will be stored anonymously, and the data cannot be withdrawn.

What are we asking you do to?

We would be grateful if you could promote this study via your Social Media page/s. **The suggested Social Media post text and recruitment notices will be provided to you once your written permission to promote the study has been received.**

The recruitment notices outline eligibility criteria and additional information (including the survey link).

If you would be willing to promote this study please complete the Permission Request Form below and return it to alison.nuske@flinders.edu.au.

This research project has been approved by the Flinders University Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee (Project Number: 8242). For more information regarding ethical approval of the project only, the Executive Officer of the Committee can be contacted by telephone on (08) 8201 3116, by fax on (08) 8201 2035, or by email to human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au

I, _____ have read and understood the information above and any questions I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to assist with the recruitment for this study, by sharing the suggested Social Media post text and recruitment notices on our Social Media page/s.

Name:

(Block letters)

Contact email:

Signature:

Date:

(To be completed by the principal researcher)

Researcher's Name:

(Block letters)

Researcher's Signature:

Date:
