



Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study

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Information Statement and Consent Form

Wave 6: interview for 18-25 year olds

What's the Study About?

The Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study (POCLS) is a big research project in Australia. It's all about finding out how the government can best help children and teenagers who live with other people in their family (such as their grandparents), or with foster parents when under 18 years old.

The study is now trying to work out what life is like for young adults aged 18-25 years like yourself. We would really love to hear your ideas about what help young people need, and what government support could make their lives better.

Who's Involved?

The study is run by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) with help from Australian and international researchers and the POCLS Aboriginal Governance Panel.

Why Are You Being Contacted?

If you're aged between 18-25 years, and have been part of the study since 2011, you're now invited to join the Wave 6 aftercare interview. This interview will help track how you're doing as you move into adulthood.

What Does Participation Involve?

- **Interview:** You'll have an interview arranged at a time and place that suits you. It will take about 1.5 hours and cover topics like your health, safety, job, education, living situation, family, relationships, and your experience of leaving care.
- **Recording:** With your permission, the interview will be recorded to make sure your answers are accurately captured. You can stop the recording anytime.
- **Gift Voucher:** As a thank you, you'll get a \$100 gift voucher.

Privacy and Confidentiality

Your information will be kept confidential. Only de-identified data will be shared with approved researchers. This means your name and personal details won't be linked to the data.

Voluntary Participation

You don't have to take part if you don't want to. Your decision won't affect your relationship with DCJ or any other services. You can change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time.

Future Participation

You might be invited to participate in future interviews over the next 2-3 years.

Finding Out the Results

The results of the study will be shared on the POCLS website and through various publications and events.

You will be given a copy of this form to keep.

Ethics approvals

- University of NSW Human Research Ethics Committee (HC210985)
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) of NSW Ethics Committee (766/10 continued)
- State Education Research Application Process (SERAP) NSW Department of Education (2012250)
- NSW Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee (HREC/14/CIPHS/74)
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Ethics Committee (Ref: EO2019-1-406).

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the Study you may contact:

Position	UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Address	University of NSW, Sydney, NSW 20152
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	(HC210985)

Position	AH&MRC Ethics Committee Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9212 4777
Address	PO Box 1565 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
Email	ethics@ahmrc.org.au
HC Reference Number	(2016/22)

Who should I contact if I have further questions about my involvement in the research?

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact:

Organisation	DCJ researchers who are managing the Study
Telephone	1800 997 960
Webpage	www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/research/pathways-of-care

Organisation	Ipsos/I-view who are conducting the interviews
Telephone	1800 105 088
Webpage	https://www.ipsos.com/en-au

Contact details of organisations support providing support to young people 18-25 years

If participation in the Study raises any issues for you, please feel free to reach out to any of the following agencies for support.

Create Foundation P: (02) 9267 1999 Webpage: https://create.org.au	AbSec P: (02) 9559 5299 Webpage: https://absec.org.au
Lifeline Australia P: 131 144 Webpage: www.lifeline.org.au	13Yarn P: 139276 Webpage: 13yarn.org.au
Beyond Blue P: 1300 22 4636 (24 hours) Webpage: www.youthbeyondblue.com	DCJ Care Leavers Line P: 1800 994 686 Webpage: https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/service-providers/oohc-and-permanency-support-services/leaving-and-after-care.html

You will be given a copy of this form to keep.

Research Participants Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The study population is a census cohort of all children aged 0–17 years who entered OOHC for the first time under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 across NSW within an 18-month period between May 2010 and October 2011 (n=4,126) and includes three subset cohorts:

- No final care and protection orders cohort (n=1,298) is a subset of children who did not receive final care and protection orders by 30 April 2013. This subset of the study population cohort is not eligible for an interview in the POCLS. Record linkage to administrative data is the only data source.
- Final care and protection orders cohort (n=2,828) is a subset of children who went on to receive final care and protection orders from the Children’s Court by 30 April 2013, allocating to the Minister full aspects of parental responsibility (PR), shared aspects of PR, or no aspects of PR. Children in this subset of the study population cohort are eligible to participate in an interview for the POCLS regardless of their pathways in OOHC. They are also included in record linkage.
- Final orders interview cohort is a subset of children (n=1,789) in the final care and protection orders cohort whose caregiver agreed to have their contact details passed on to the data collection agency. These children and caregivers are invited to participate in interviews before each wave of data collection.

Cohort 1: Children and young people aged up to 17 years old inclusion criteria are:

- First time entries to OOHC between May 2010 and October 2011 and received final Children’s Court orders by 30 April 2013; and remained on the order for at least 6 months
- Caregiver at Wave 1 agreed to join in the POCLS and for DCJ to pass their contact details to Ipsos/I-view, the data collection agency (n=1,789)
- Child/young person has lived with their current carer for at least one month before the interview
- A child can participate if their caregiver does not participate, if their caregiver supports this decision

Cohort 2 & 3: Caregivers (same as previous wave; new at Wave 6 or 7) inclusion criteria are:

- Must be the child/young person’s current caregiver (carer, guardian, adoptive parent, birth parent or residential care worker) and we ask that the caregiver who knows the child best participate in the interview
- For new caregivers, the child may have participated in any or all of the previous POCLS interviews however the caregiver is new to the study at this wave
- The child criteria also apply.

Cohort 4: For young people aged 18-25 years at Wave 6 inclusion criteria are:

- First time entries to OOHC between May 2010 and October 2011 and received final Children’s Court orders by 30 April 2013; and remained on the order for at least 6 months
- Caregiver at Wave 1 agreed to join in the POCLS and for DCJ to pass their contact details to Ipsos/I-view, the data collection agency (n=1,789)
- Child/young person or caregiver has completed at least one interview for this study
- Young people who are aware that they were in OOHC based on their caregiver’s report during the interview at Wave 5 when this question was introduced or via their participation in interviews or activities. It is also assumed that young people who had been foster care and/or residential care know that they were in OOHC.
- *Note, a top-up sample may be necessary if the sample recruitment is low, to include those over 25 years, or those that never completed an interview.*

Cohort 5: Teachers inclusion criteria are:

- To be included caregivers (excluding birth parents and adoptive parents) must provide consent at the time of the interview for Ipsos/I-view to administer an on-line survey to the child’s current childcare worker/school teacher. At Wave 6 the majority of children will be transitioning to high school or already in high school.
- The Principal is asked to select the teacher who knows the child best to complete the survey.

Cohort 6: Caseworkers the inclusion criteria are:

- To be included caseworkers must be responsible for the case management of the child or young person in the final care and protection orders cohort (n=2,828).

You will be given a copy of this form to keep.

Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study

Consent form for the interview with 18-25 year olds

- I have read and understood the above information about the *Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study* and have been given information brochures about the study.
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study.
- I agree to take part in an interview.
- I understand that by participating in this study I will not receive any immediate or extra services or support.
- I understand the interview will be audio recorded, and a copy can be requested, on the agreement that it cannot be used for any other purpose.
- DCJ researchers may have access to information about my participation for the sole purpose of facilitating contact for further rounds of the study, but will not have access to individual responses to the survey.
- I understand the results of the Study will be made available on the POCLS website <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.html>
- I understand I will receive a \$100 gift voucher from DCJ as an acknowledgement of the time I have given to the Study.

Participant Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

- I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Researcher Signature*

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study

Withdrawal (revocation) of consent by young person 18-25 years old

I hereby wish to WITHDRAW my consent to participate in the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study on children and young people in out-of-home care in NSW described above and understand that such withdrawal WILL NOT jeopardise my relationship with DCJ or any other service providers.

Participant Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

The section for Revocation of consent should be forwarded to Ipsos/I-view, Level 2/51 Berry Street, North Sydney, NSW, 2060.