Participant Information Form

Title: Screen ORIGINS - Qualitative investigation of parental views and practices regarding screen technology use by families and young children

What is this study about?

- We are inviting parents of preschool aged children (around 5 year-old) participating in ORIGINS to take part in a research interview for the Screen ORIGINS sub-project.
- The aim of this study is to understand how parents of preschool-aged children make decisions about their child's screen use, and the factors that shape those decisions during this stage of early childhood.
- The findings will inform practical, family-centred guidance on screen use.

Who is doing this research?

- The project is being conducted by a national research team lead by Dr Juliana Zabatiero and Professor Leon Straker, together with Kate Fitzgerald and Dr Danica Hendry. The research team is based within Curtin University's School of Allied Health.
- This research is funded by the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child

What does participation involve?

- You will take part in a 45–60 minute interview with a member of the research team, either online or in person at The Kids Research Institute Australia in Edgewater, at a time that suits you.
- The interview will be audio recorded to ensure an accurate record of your responses.
- We will ask about how you make decisions regarding your child's screen use and the factors that influence those decisions.
- Before the interview, you will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire about your family, which will take approximately 5 minutes.
- After the study is complete, you will receive a summary of the findings and have the opportunity to provide feedback.
- To thank you for your time, you will receive a $50 gift voucher.

Do I have to take part in this research?

- Taking part is entirely voluntary. You may change your mind at any time before, during or after the interview.
- You may pause the interview at any time and continue it later if you wish.
- If you decide to stop the interview before it is finished, you may choose whether any of the information you have provided can be used for research purposes.
- Your relationship with ORIGINS will not be affected if you decide not to participate or choose to withdraw later.

What are the possible benefits and risks of taking part?

- Although there are no direct benefits from taking part, participating may increase your awareness of your family's screen use, while the information you provide will help us

better understand screen use in families with young children and develop practical guidance for parents in today's digital world.
- We do not anticipate any risks or inconvenience from taking part in this study; however, some questions may cover personal topics, and you may skip any question or take a break at any time.

How will privacy be protected?

- All information collected during this study will be treated as confidential.
- Your responses will be de-identified, meaning any information that could identify you will be removed.
- De-identified data will be stored securely at Curtin University in accordance with university policies and research governance requirements.
- Access to the study data will be restricted to members of the research team.

Who will see the results of the research?

- The results of this study may be published in scientific journals, presented at scientific and community events, and shared with ORIGINS staff and participants.
- Findings may also be translated into practical resources, such as plain language summaries and guidance materials on healthy screen use for parents and the community.
- Interview comments and quotations may be included in publications, presentations, and other study outputs; however, these will be de-identified and will not contain information that could reasonably identify you.
- No identifying information about individual participants will be included in any reports, publications, or presentations arising from this study.

Where can I get more information about the project?

If you would like further information about this research project, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Name:	Dr Juliana Zabatiero (Principal Investigator) or Kate Fitzgerald (Research Fellow)
Telephone:	08 9266 9456
Email:	Juliana.zabatiero@curtin.edu.au | Kate.e.fitzgerald@curtin.edu.au

Ethics approval

This project has been reviewed and approved by the Ramsay Health Care Human Research Ethics Committee A as meeting the requirements of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, 2023. The ethics approval number is 2018/ETH/1804. Reciprocal approval has been obtained from the Curtin University HREC (HRE2018-0065).

If you are concerned about the way this project is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the project, please contact the HREC Executive Officer:

Email: HREC.RHC@ramsayhealth.com.au
Phone: (02) 9433 3854