

Dear Families,

Re: Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)

Between May and July this year, our school will be taking part in the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). This is a nationwide census/survey of early childhood development held once every three years. The AEDC is an Australian Government initiative run by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment and includes all children in their first year of full-time school.

The AEDC provides vital information to communities about how children are developing in the crucial early years. AEDC data is relied upon by schools, early childhood organisations, researchers and government to inform planning and improve services and supports for children and families.

The AEDC Instrument is completed by teachers about children in their first year of full-time school.

What does this mean for your child?

Children do not need to do anything to be included in the census and will attend class as usual throughout the data collection period, which will commence on **03 May 2021**. Teachers answer questions relating to the five key domains of early childhood development including; Physical health and wellbeing, Emotional maturity, Social competence, Language and cognitive skills (school-based) and Communication skills and general knowledge.

You can be confident that your child's privacy will be protected.

We understand how important it is to keep your child's information private. This is why we use a secure site to collect and keep your child's information. The AEDC is managed in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs).

AEDC results for individual children are not reported and data about each child is de-identified.

Access to the de-identified AEDC data is limited to the following groups:

Communities

Your child's data will be combined with data from the other children living within the same community. Communities only receive information about how their children are doing when most schools and children participate.

What do parents need to do?

The department seeks your consent to collect personal information about your child from our school, for the purposes of the AEDC. This includes known information about your child's health.

If you consent to the collection of your child's information, you do not need to do anything.

If you do not consent to the collection of your child's information, please contact Ben White ben.white@ed.act.edu.au before 1 May 2021.

To find out more about the AEDC, please read the frequently asked questions section on the AEDC website at <https://www.aedc.gov.au/parents/faqs> or phone 1800 092 548.

Your child's data will only be used for the purpose described in this letter. The Privacy Statement contained on the AEDC website provides detailed descriptions about protection and access and can be found at: www.aedc.gov.au/parents/privacy-statement

Thank you for supporting the AEDC.

Shannon Birch

A/g Principal



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We pay respect to the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and to the Elders both past and present of the Ngunnawal Nation for they hold the hopes and dreams for the future of the ACT and surrounding region.

