



# Participant Information and Consent Form

Workshop activity participation

**Title** Interface Jammers: Feeling Like a Child in the  
**Principal Investigator/Senior Supervisor** Associate Professor Linda Knight

## What does my participation involve?

### 1 Introduction

You are invited to take part in this research project, which is called Interface Jammers: Feeling Like a Child in the City.

This Participant Information and Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative or friend.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to sign the consent section. By signing it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project

You will be given a copy of this Participant Information and Consent Form to keep.

### 2 What is the purpose of this research?

The Interface Jammers project explores how children between the ages of 3 - 10 years old, interact with different interfaces in the urban environment and how these interactions help develop a child's civic belonging.

The project will provide little-known research findings into young children's development as a citizen, and the role of urban interfaces in that development.

Interfaces refer to digital screens and displays, electronic devices, and sound-making interfaces. Interfaces in this project also refer to biologic surfaces including rocks, grass, sand, pets, and animals, and it also includes material interfaces such as metals, plastics, and wood.

Jamming refers to the act of humorously and artistically disrupting the usual ways we interact with interfaces. Through creative workshops children and families will explore different ways to respond to the interfaces in civic spaces and produce art-based responses to the interfaces. Through the activities, children communicate with others what it feels like to be a child in the contemporary city.

Interfaces will not be damaged or defaced, and children will be playing safely in the activities.

The project addresses an emerging area of research into urban childhood citizenship. The United Nations (2021) declares that more than half of the world's children live in cities, and UNICEF (2019) reports that cities globally are taking active steps towards becoming more inclusive and age-friendly during rapid urbanisation.

Cities should be diverse and inclusive, enabling people of all ages to participate in and contribute to civic activities. The project builds better awareness of the ways young children socially and emotionally build their civic relationships, and how effectively urban cities enable these.

This research has been initiated by the researcher, Associate Professor Linda Knight. This research has been funded by an RMIT School of Education seed grant.

### **3 What does participation in this research involve?**

#### **Children's consent**

Children are first required to watch the participation consent video at the following link:

<https://lindaknight.org/participant-information-forms-and-resources/>

Parents/carers are required to ask the child if they understand what is involved and if the child consents to participate before parents/carers sign the consent form.

Children and parents/carers will create temporary art-based works over a two-hour period.

There are two kinds of activities for making the art-based works:

- Parents/carers and children attend a face-to-face workshop facilitated by Linda Knight.
- Parents/carers submit an Expression of Interest form and conduct a home-based activity with their children.

You are only required to attend once. You are free to attend for the entire two-hours, or a portion of it.

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid.

In the activity you can use tools and materials such as ear-cans, robotics kits, chalks, cotton gloves, or materials and tools available at home to creatively 'jam' different interfaces such as touchscreens, automatic doors, play equipment, walkways, gardens, public buildings.

Responses might be creative art objects, a creative movement work, a temporary chalked drawing, a short video, or another response. The activities do not damage or break the interface, they devise art-based responses that interact with the interface differently.

At the end of the workshop Linda Knight or parents/carers will take photographs and videos of the temporary art-based works. Photographs and videos will not include children, except where the child is an integral part of the response (they might be in costume and performing for example). Wherever possible photographs and videos will capture as little of the child as possible, but they may include de-identifiable details such as hands, shoulders, back of head, feet, etc.

If you are attending a workshop facilitated by Linda Knight, Linda will take progress photographs of the temporary art-based works. Wherever possible photographs will capture as little of the

child as possible, but they may include de-identifiable details such as hands, shoulders, back of head, feet, etc.

Progress photographs and finished work photographs/videos will be analysed and will inform outputs from the project. The photographs and videos provide detailed records of the ways children respond to different interfaces, and that these responses indicate how children develop civic belonging as young citizens. Linda will use the photographs and videos in publications and presentations about the project. Linda will mostly use imagery that does not feature children, however if children are in the photographs or videos, they will be blurred out or non-identifiable, featuring details such as hands, shoulders, back of head, feet, etc.

Linda will share a selection of the finished work photographs/videos on the project website and social media. Linda will mostly use imagery that does not feature children, however if children are in the photographs or videos, they will be blurred out or non-identifiable, featuring details such as hands, shoulders, back of head, feet, etc.

After the workshop the temporary works will be dismantled, and the materials will be re-used in future activities. Families are very welcome to take personal photos and videos of their art-based works for their own records.

#### **4 Other relevant information about the research project**

The number of people taking part in the project will increase over 2022 and 2023 as workshops and Expression of Interest activities continue to take place, and as more parents/carers complete an online survey that is part of the project. The different participant groups all contribute to the research into young children's civic development through their interactions with interfaces.

There is one University involved in the project: RMIT University, Australia and Associate Professor Linda Knight is the researcher leading the project. This project is not a follow-on study, it is a new research project.

#### **5 Do I have to take part in this research project?**

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage.

If you do decide to take part, you will be given this Participant Information and Consent Form to sign and you will be given a copy to keep.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your relationship with the researchers or with RMIT University.

Photographs and/or videos will be taken of the arts-based works. Photographs and videos may capture some details of your children, although every effort will be made to avoid this where possible. You will have 14 days from the date of the activity to request the withdrawal of any photographs and videos of your participation. After this date it will be assumed you give consent for their use in the project. Please see section 10 for more details on how photographs and videos will be used in the project.

#### **6 What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, you may appreciate contributing to knowledge. Possible benefits may include greater

awareness of your child's civic connection and development, and greater awareness of their experiences of being a child in the city.

There will be no clear benefit to you from your participation in this research.

## **7 What are the risks and disadvantages of taking part?**

There are minimal physical risks involved in participation. The sites for the interfaces will be carefully selected to be safe for children aged 3 -10 years to play in. The interfaces will also be carefully selected to be safe for children to interact with.

Materials used for the activities will be child-friendly and should pose minimum risks. A first-aid kit will be available at the workshops facilitated by Linda Knight, and it is advised that a first-aid kit be available at the Expression of Interest activities. Parents/carers must always remain with children during the activities.

There are minimal psychological risks involved in participation. Participants may feel inconvenienced in participating in the activity. Participants may feel uncomfortable in being photographed and/or videoed. Participants are not required to disclose personal information during the art-based activities and will not be asked to provide verbal or written information.

If you agree to participate in the activities, the photographs and videos will be stored on a secure RMIT storage server where it will be stored securely for five years.

## **8 What if I withdraw from this research project?**

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify Linda Knight via email or verbally, or Vivienne Moyle via the contact details below.

You have the right to have any photographic and video data withdrawn and destroyed, providing it can be reliably identified.

## **9 What happens when the research project ends?**

The project website pages at <https://lindaknight.org/interface-jammers-feeling-like-a-child-in-the-city/> will be updated regularly throughout the project, and after it concludes. Updates will include images, workshop schedules, publications and reports emerging from the project. Participants are encouraged to visit the site regularly or follow the site to receive bulletin emails when new things are posted.

## **How is the research project being conducted?**

### **10 What will happen to information about me?**

#### **Photographic and video data**

Photographic and video data will predominantly only feature the arts-based work produced. It may also contain re-identifiable information such as hands, shoulders, feet. When integral to the art-based response, photographs and videos may also include children's faces and bodies, or partial details of faces and bodies.

Photographic and video data will be taken by Linda Knight on a non-networked digital camera. Photographs and videos will be uploaded to a secure RMIT server and deleted from the camera. Only Linda Knight will have access to the data. Photographic and video data will be stored on the RMIT secure server for a period of five years, in line with RMIT policy on data storage.

You are being asked to provide consent for the use of photographic and video data for this project only. Use includes:

Participant Information and Consent Form 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022

- Analysis of the arts-based responses detailed in the photographs and videos in publications, conference presentations, competitive grant applications.
- Description of the contents of the photographs and videos in publications, conference presentations, competitive grant applications.
- Use of the photographs and videos on the project website and social media. Any identifiable details of a child will be blurred out.
- Use of the photographs and videos in conference presentations and publications. Any identifiable details of a child will be blurred out.

By signing the consent form, you consent to Linda Knight collecting and using information from you for the research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your express permission.

In accordance with relevant Australian and/or Victorian privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to request access to the information about you that is collected and stored. You also have the right to request that any information with which you disagree be corrected. Please inform Linda Knight if you would like to access your information.

Any information that you provide can be disclosed only if (1) it is to protect you or others from harm, (2) if specifically allowed by law, (3) you provide the researchers with written permission. Any information obtained for the purpose of this research project that can identify you will be treated as confidential and securely stored.

#### **11 Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research project is being conducted by Associate Professor Linda Knight.

#### **12 Who has reviewed the research project?**

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). This research project has been approved by the RMIT University HREC.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* (2007). This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

#### **13 Further information and who to contact**

If you want any further information concerning this project, you can contact the researcher on 03 9925 8870 or any of the following people:

##### **Research contact person**

Name	Associate Professor Linda Knight
Position	Principal investigator
Telephone	03 9925 8870
Email	<a href="mailto:Linda.knight@rmit.edu.au">Linda.knight@rmit.edu.au</a>

#### **14 Complaints**

Should you have any concerns or questions about this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the researchers listed in this document, then you may contact:

Reviewing HREC name	RMIT University
---------------------	-----------------

HREC Secretary	Vivienne Moyle
Telephone	03 9925 5037
Email	<a href="mailto:humanethics@rmit.edu.au">humanethics@rmit.edu.au</a>
Mailing address	Manager, Research Governance and Ethics RMIT University GPO Box 2476 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

# Consent Form

**Title** Interface Jammers: Feeling Like a Child in the City

**Principal Investigator** Associate Professor Linda Knight

## **Acknowledgement by Participant**

I have read and understood the Participant Information Sheet.

I understand the purposes, procedures and risks of the research described in the project.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received.

I freely agree to participate in this research project as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the project without affecting my relationship with RMIT.

I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.

## **Acknowledgement by Child Participant**

I have watched and understood the Participant Information video.

I understand how to take part in the project.

I have been able to ask questions.

I agree to participate in this research project, and I can change my mind at any time and that's OK.

Name of Participant (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Participant (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Declaration by Researcher\***

I have given a verbal explanation of the research project; its procedures and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Name of Researcher\* (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning, the research project.

**Note:** All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.

Participant Information and Consent Form 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022