

Participant Information Statement



Research Study: Teachers Engagement with and Understanding of Assessment Data to Inform teaching and Learning

Professor Jim Tognolini (Responsible Researcher)
Director of Centre for Educational Measurement and Assessment
Phone: +61 2 86275202 | Email: jim.tognolini@sydney.edu.au

Mrs Rayanne Shakra (PhD student) | Email: rsha6506@uni.sydney.edu.au

1. What is this study about?

We are conducting a research study to explore how year four teachers, use both assessment data and non-academic data to solve teaching and learning problems that they may face daily in their classrooms. The focus is specifically on how teachers use these data to enhance all of their students' learning. The aim of the study is to gain insightful information as to how assessment data and non-academic student data are utilised in the classroom to enhance every student's learning, with a focus on the pedagogical strategies and the specialised teaching methods that may be used to help students in their learning journey. Taking part in this study is voluntary.

Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about.

2. Who is running the study?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

- Rayanne Shakra, PhD student at the Sydney School of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney.

Rayanne Shakra is conducting this study as the basis for the degree of Doctor of philosophy at The University of Sydney.

3. Who can take part in the study?

We are seeking year four teachers in NSW Independent Schools who will be willing to participate in our study to provide insights into how teachers use data to help enhance their students' learning.

4. What will the study involve for me?

If you decide to take part in this study, you will be invited to complete an online survey. As part of the survey you will be invited to attend a semi-structured interview either face-to-face or via zoom according to the restrictions that are in place and taking your wellbeing and safety into consideration as well. In addition, you will be asked to show some lesson plans, unit plans or data plans. In total, the commitment for participants would require around 45 minutes. Taking part in the study is completely voluntary and you may withdraw at any time.

Survey

You will be asked to complete an online survey via Qualtrics. The survey can be accessed with no sign-in requirements. Unless you provide your contact details to the researcher, you will not be identified through the survey. Pseudonyms will be used when survey findings are reported. The survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. You will be asked questions on your attitude towards data and data use. You will also be asked about the types of data that you interact with within your school and whether you find them to be of benefit to your teaching. If you are interested in further participation, you can provide your contact information at the end of the survey or contact Rayanne via the email address provided in the survey.

Interviews

If you indicate that you are willing to participate in the study, you will be invited to a one-on-one interview. Interviews are to be conducted face-to-face at a suitable time and space in your school, but if restrictions are not removed before the interview dates, then we will move them to zoom at a time that suits you. The interview will take around 30 minutes, you will be asked about how you use student assessment data in tandem with other forms of data that may be available to you in order to enhance your students learning. Interviews will be recorded once you kindly provide a verbal consent to this. You can switch off the camera if you wish not to be video-taped. In which case interviews will be audio recorded only. Interview transcripts will be sent to you by email for you to check if you agree that the transcripts are a true record of the interview. Any information which you feel does not reflect you or your experiences, or anything which makes you uncomfortable will be removed.

Lesson plans, unit plans, data plans

You will be asked to show some lesson plans, unit plans or data plans that outline how you use data to change or set up a lesson. This will enrich the interviews and show the researcher how you incorporate student assessment data within your planning. Please send these documents and highlight the sections that show your incorporation of data into them to the researcher via email rsha6506@uni.sydney.edu.au.

5. Can I withdraw once I've started?

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part.

Your decision will not affect your current or future relationship with the researchers or anyone else at The University of Sydney.

We do not anticipate your decision will affect your relationship with your principal or the Association of Independent Schools nor any other person, educational institution or governing body.

If you decide to take part in the study and then change your mind you can withdraw at any time without any penalty by informing the researcher Rayanne Shakra that you no longer wish to participate.

By submitting your survey, you consent to take part in the study. You can withdraw any time before you submit, however, once your responses are submitted, they cannot be withdrawn. This is because they are anonymous, and we will not be able to tell which one is yours.

If you take part in an interview you may refuse to answer any questions that you do not wish to answer. You are free to stop the interview at any time. Unless you say that you want us to keep them, any recordings will be erased and the information you have provided will not be included in the study results up to the point that we have analysed and published the results.

If you choose to withdraw, we will not collect any more information from you.

6. Are there any risks or costs?

Aside from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study.

7. Are there any benefits?

You will not receive any direct benefits from being in the study.

8. What will happen to information that is collected?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting information for the purposes of this study.

9. Will I be told the results of the study?

You have a right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a brief summary of the results. You will receive the feedback when the study is finished.

10. What if I would like further information?

When you have read this information, the following researcher/s will be available to discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have:

- Rayanne Shakra, PhD student from Sydney School of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney
Email: rsha6506@uni.sydney.edu.au

11. What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of The University of Sydney HREC Approval No. (...) according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*.

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

Human Ethics Manager
human.ethics@sydney.edu.au
+61 2 8627 8176

This information sheet is for you to keep