



EVALUATION OF THE WHIN COORDINATOR MODEL

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET & CONSENT FORM

INTERVIEWS WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

What does my participation in the evaluation involve?

As you are a parent or guardian of a student attending a school with a WHIN Coordinator, or a local service provider associated with the WHIN Coordinator Pilot, Urbis are inviting you to take part in a 60-minute group interview (face-to-face) with up to two other participants, to hear your experiences with the WHIN Coordinator Model and the impact it has had on the health, wellbeing, or education outcomes of students who have used the service.

Please note:

- Your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw at any time. You do not need to give a reason for your decision to withdraw.
- If you decide to withdraw, any recordings and transcripts from your interview will be excluded from analysis and deleted.
- Your decision to participate will not affect your relationship with the school your child attends, your employer, or your ability to access health services, including the WHIN Coordinator
- Your participation will not cost you anything, nor will you be paid
- The other participants may be community members, such as parents, health service providers, or community service providers

If you would like to take part in an interview, please complete the attached consent form.

What is the WHIN Coordinator Model?

The Wellbeing and Health In-reach Nurse (WHIN) Coordinator Model aims to address the unmet health and social needs of school students to ensure that they are safe and can achieve to their full potential. It is anticipated that this will be achieved by:

- giving students a sense of belonging to the school community
- improving student wellbeing and health seeking behaviour
- improving the emotional and physical safety of vulnerable students
- improving health and social service pathways for young people and families.

The WHIN Coordinator Model is designed to specifically address service access challenges that exist in rural areas.

The WHIN Coordinator is a registered nurse who provides a range of support and service coordination with the aim of contributing to improved education, health, and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and families.



A pilot of the WHIN Coordinator Model is being conducted in three sites across NSW (Young, Cooma and Tumut) through a collaborative partnership between the NSW Ministry of Health, the Department of Education, the Department of Family and Community Services, and the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

What is the purpose of the evaluation?

Urbis has been commissioned by the NSW Ministry of Health to conduct a formative evaluation of the WHIN Coordinator Model Pilot. A formative evaluation seeks to understand the implementation and early outcomes of a program.

The evaluation is being undertaken to:

- identify and describe the site-specific service model/s being implemented (i.e. in each pilot site), including the scope of activities and the alignment with NSW Health and other relevant policies
- identify any barriers and enablers for the service models
- examine changes in the health, wellbeing and education outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and families, and determine how the service models contributes to these
- explore the experiences and perspectives of the model in the community amongst parents/carers and key partners
- make recommendations based on the findings about potential for future implementation of the WHIN Coordinator Model.

What are benefits of taking part?

By taking part in the evaluation, you will help us understand how the WHIN Coordinator Model supports the health and educational outcomes of vulnerable children and young people in rural areas. What we learn from the evaluation will inform decisions about the future implementation of the Model. You will have no direct personal benefit from participating in the consultation.

What are the possible risks of taking part?

In reflecting on their own experiences of accessing or working within the healthcare or education systems (and the experiences of others), some stakeholders may experience feelings of distress.

If you experience any distress, you may contact Accessline on 1800 800 944.

What will happen to my contributions?

Urbis will record these consultations and have them transcribed. Once all consultations have been transcribed, Urbis will analyse the transcripts to identify key themes. These themes will be highlighted in an evaluation report.

The evaluation report will be provided to the NSW Ministry of Health to inform decision making about the future implementation of the WHIN Coordinator Model.

The information you provide will only be used for the purposes of this evaluation and you will not be individually identified in reporting. Any information you provide which may identify you will be generalised when published to avoid you being identified.

What will happen to information about me?

Individual participants will not be identified in reporting. All possible steps will be taken to de-identify participants.



Recordings and transcriptions will be kept in a locked file by Urbis and at no point will they be shared with your employer, the NSW Ministry of Health or any other third parties.

Recordings and notes will be kept safely by Urbis in password-protected locked files only accessible by the Research Team, on the Urbis Sydney server. The server is in the Urbis Sydney Office, in a secure communications room. The server is maintained to the recommended industry standard for software and hardware updates

Recordings and notes will not be given to anybody else. The report will not use any names.

The only restriction on confidentiality is that you may participate in an interview with community members who recognise you. We ask that participants respect the privacy of others by maintaining confidentiality following the consultation.

Who is undertaking the evaluation?

The evaluation is being undertaken by Urbis, an independent research company, on behalf of the NSW Ministry of Health.

The Evaluation Team includes:

Investigator	Role
Linda Kurti	Principal Investigator
Alison Wallace	Investigator
Caroline Tomiczek	Investigator
Lucy Barkl	Investigator
Jake Formosa	Investigator

Who can I contact for further information?

If you have any questions about the evaluation, please feel free to contact the Evaluation Team:

- Sally Gibson, Manager, Youth Health and Wellbeing, Health and Social Policy Branch, NSW Ministry of Health on 02 9391 9866 or sally.gibson1@health.nsw.gov.au
- Caroline Tomiczek, Associate Director, Urbis on 02 8233 9928 or ctomiczek@urbis.com.au

This evaluation has been approved by the Greater Western Human Research Ethics Committee of the Western NSW Local Health District. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the evaluation, you may contact Phil Sanders, Research Governance Officer, on (02) 6330 5948.



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I have read or have had the information above read to me in a language that I understand, and I understand the purpose, processes and risks of this evaluation described to me.

I freely agree to participate in this evaluation by taking part in a 60-minute group interview (face-to-face) with up to two other community stakeholder participants. I understand that I can withdraw at any time and that the information I provide will be treated as confidential.

I understand that interview may be recorded (audio), and that recordings will be stored securely and only staff involved in the research project will have access to them. Recordings will be destroyed securely after the project has been completed.

I understand that participation is purely voluntary, and whether I decide to participate or not, no-one from NSW Health, NSW Department of Education, NSW Department of Family and Community Services, or the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (including my employer) will know. I understand that I will not be individually identified in any evaluation reporting.

**My name
(printed):**

Signature:

Date:

Name of
witness
(printed):

Signature
of witness:
