RESOURCE FOR teachers AND carers

What does privacy mean to you?

# Overview

The Convention on the Rights of the Child gives children and young people special rights to privacy, and in some cases these rights should be protected by the law.

The Australian Human Rights Commission would like to hear from your school or youth group to hear the views of children and young people about privacy.

# Parent/Carer Consent

A parent/carer consent form is enclosed. This form must be completed in order for children and young people to participate.

# Instructions

Before undertaking the session, make sure the children and young people are happy that their views will be provided to the National Children’s Commissioner.

Let them know they will not be identified unless they want to be. Recording the session would be ideal, if parents and children consent to this. Otherwise, scanned or photographed written material/notes will be sufficient.

There are two components to this resource:

1. A privacy survey for children and young people to complete
2. Workshop scenarios for children and young people to explore.

# Privacy Survey

This survey is best completed by individuals. There are two versions of the survey: one for primary school students and one for older students. Hand out the questions to each student, or bring them up on their computer, and ask them to spend five minutes thinking about them and ten minutes filling in their answers.

If done as a whole class/group, ask a couple of students to volunteer to record answers on a whiteboard or smart board.

Let them know there are no right or wrong answers.

# Workshop Scenarios

These workshop scenarios can be completed as a class, in pairs, or in groups. Choose one or several of the enclosed scenarios for the students to work through, depending on time available, the age and maturity of the students, and the way in which you want to run the session.

Each scenario should take between 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

Students will need to write down/record their answers, in groups or pairs. Verbal feedback to the whole class/group is an option which can generate interesting discussion. There are four workshop scenarios for primary students and seven workshop scenarios for teenagers.

Primary school students may not understand the term ‘workshop scenarios’, and for these students the term ‘activity’ or ‘story’ may be more appropriate.

# Wrap up

After completing the survey and workshop scenarios, sum up the discussion, and emphasise that privacy is a right that children and young people have in the physical and virtual world.

Not only is privacy a human right, but there are laws that protect privacy. It is important for us all to think about our own privacy so that we keep safe, and to respect other people’s privacy. If we see serious breaches of privacy, we should feel that we are able to take action.

Thank the students on behalf of the National Children’s Commissioner for their work and their perspectives on privacy.

# Reporting back

For the Privacy Survey, please post or scan the completed responses.

For the Workshop Scenarios, please record the session, if possible, and post or email the recording. Otherwise, please post or scan the workshop material, such as butcher’s paper, smart board notes, etc.

**Post** National Children’s Commissioner  
Australian Human Rights Commission  
GPO Box 5218  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**Scan** kids@humanrights.gov.au  
 SUBJECT: Privacy Workshop

# Documents

The following documents are enclosed:

1. Parent and carer consent form
2. Privacy Survey (Primary students and children)
3. Privacy Survey (Secondary students and young people)
4. Workshop Scenarios (Primary students and children)
5. Workshop Scenarios (Secondary students and young people).