ON YOUR TERMS

On Your Terms: Youth survey on consent and s*x ed

Youth Advisory Group Terms of Reference

MARCH 2024



About On Your Terms

On Your Terms: Youth survey on consent and s*x ed is a study on secondary students' experiences of, and attitudes towards, consent, respectful relationships, and sexuality education. On Your Terms also examines young people's awareness and understanding of issues surrounding respectful relationships and consent. This study has been funded by the Australian Government Department of Education.

On Your Terms forms part of the Australian Government's agenda to support schools in educating children and young people about the importance of respectful relationships and positive consent, and shift attitudes and behaviours to prevent violence against women and children. Findings from the study will establish a point in time understanding of young people's experiences and inform improvements to the national curriculum and respectful relationships education policy in Australia.

About the Australian Human Rights Commission

The Australian Human Rights Commission (the Commission) is an independent statutory organisation, established by an act of Federal Parliament. We protect and promote human rights in Australia and internationally.

On Your Terms is led by a team of researchers in the Children's Rights team at the Commission. The Children's Rights team aims to make sure that children and young people have a genuine say on issues that affect their lives.





The role of the Youth Advisory Group

In keeping with the principle of 'Nothing about us without us', a Youth Advisory Group (YAG) specific to this study is being formed to consult with young people across the different stages of the research. The YAG is a key platform for engaging with the views, expertise, and insights of young people around issues of consent, relationships and sexuality education. The YAG will be critical to the outcomes of the research, ensuring the perspectives of young people are included.

YAG members are paid for their time and will receive professional development and support. Members will provide advice through meetings and email discussions. Meetings will be held online unless longer face-to-face workshops are needed. Travel expenses for face-to-face meetings will be covered, subject to prior approval. YAG members will provide advice as a group or as individuals based on their experience and interests.





STUDY DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

Members will be asked to provide feedback on survey questions, how the data is collected, and participant safety (making sure participants feel safe and supported through the study).



COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

Members will be asked to provide input into how the survey is being promoted to young people. This includes supporting the creation of participant materials, a social media strategy and content, and communications products.



ANALYSIS & REPORTING

Members will be asked to support the research team to identify key messages and develop recommendations relevant to young people's consent, relationships and sexuality education. This input will contribute to how the findings are reported and understood by audiences.



LAUNCH AND RELEASE OF STUDY FINDINGS

Members will be asked to help plan and support how we release the findings with a view to improving consent, relationships and sexuality education in Australian schools. This includes planning the launch event (e.g. identifying spokespeople and public speaking), providing input into the media and communications strategy, and participating in advocacy. This element also includes supporting the development of creative communications materials for disseminating the findings in ways that are accessible to young people (such as infographics and videos).



Terms of Reference

- 1. The YAG will consist of 8 to 10 members aged 18 to 21 years.
- 2. Members are expected to be available and contribute for the duration of the study, anticipated to be from May 2024 to end 2025.
- 3. Meetings will usually run for two hours and be held online. There will be approximately 6–7 meetings during this period. Additional meetings will be sought as needed. Meetings are expected to be held on Wednesdays between 3–5pm (EST), and YAG members will be notified of any changes to this schedule. Specific meeting dates are yet to be determined.
- 4. YAG members will receive a \$120 Visa gift card for each 2-hour meeting they attend. Any additional engagement will be agreed in advance and be paid via gift card at \$60 per hour (capped at 3 hours). Where pre-meeting preparation is required and agreed to, members will be paid via gift card for their time (at \$60 per hour and capped at \$300 over the duration of the study). The Commission also will fund/reimburse members for travel required as well as any accessibility or other reasonable adjustments required for participation in the YAG. All in-person meetings will be catered.
- **5.** Additional input from individual YAG members may be sought based on members' specific skills, experiences, and interests. Any additional engagement will be agreed in advance and reimbursed at the same rate.
- 6. All reimbursement will be provided via online Visa gift cards.
- 7. The **On Your Terms** team will provide the administrative support for meetings including organising meetings, sending agendas, taking minutes etc. The chairing of meetings will rotate, sometimes chaired by members of the **On Your Terms** team, other times by YAG members.
- 8. The intellectual property rights in materials produced for the study reside with the Commission.
- 9. YAG members will not disclose any information shared with them relating to the Commission or the study without the consent of the Commission and must agree to the terms of and sign the non-disclosure agreement.
- **10.** YAG members are not representatives of the Commission and will not hold themselves to be representatives of the Commission at any time.
- 11. The Commission will take full responsibility for all research outcomes and any actions by or statements from the Commission in relation to the study.
- **12.** YAG members should disclose any potential conflict of interest prior to commencing engagement.
- **13.** The Terms of Reference may be reviewed by the Australian Human Rights Commission and YAG members as necessary. These Terms of Reference are dated March 2024.

Termination of membership

Members can choose to leave the YAG at any time. Resignations must be communicated to the study team in writing.

Members are expected to attend meetings. If a member can no longer attend scheduled meetings but wishes to continue contributing to the study, we ask that they reach out to the research team to discuss how they might be able to contribute in a different way.

The Commission may terminate the membership of a YAG member if the member:

- behaves in a way that is harmful, inappropriate or disrespectful to other members of the YAG or the study team or may negatively impact the Commission or the project's reputation.
- is directly or indirectly involved in an act or practice which is in breach of an anti-discrimination law.

I (print name)
Acknowledge and agree to abide by the above Terms of Reference for the Youth Advisory Group for On Your Terms: Youth survey on consent and s*x ed.
Signed
Date



