



Early Childhood Educators' Well-being Project (ECEWP)

The Caregiver Interaction Profile Scale (CIPS): Context Validation and Reliability Training

INFORMATION FOR SERVICE LEADERS

What is the study about?

This pilot project examines use of the Caregiver Interaction Profile Scale (CIPS), a measure of educator-child interaction quality, in the Australian early childhood education context. Supporting educator well-being and promoting quality interactions between educators and children is essential to give children the best start in early education. However, the measurement of educator-child interaction quality can be problematic.

Measures typically focus on group-level quality, rather than the quality of interactions between the educator and an individual child, which can differ. We are piloting CIPS to measure the quality of individual educator-child interactions. Your participation plays an important role in helping us to establish the appropriateness of the tool for the Australian early childhood context, and for training researchers to do reliable coding of educator-child interactions.

Who is conducting the study?

The study is being conducted by Professor Rebecca Bull (Macquarie School of Education), Professor Sandie Wong (Macquarie School of Education), Dr Tamara Cumming (Macquarie School of Education) and Dr Laura McFarland (University of Melbourne).

How would my service be involved?

A Research Assistant will contact you to organise suitable times to visit the educator/teacher's classroom to conduct video-recordings of the usual daily routine. Only children for whom there is parental consent will be video recorded. You will not be required to do anything different to your typical day-to-day activities; the only additional burden will be the distribution and collection of consent forms to parents. A COVID-safe protocol will be followed and the researcher will have a valid Working with Children Check.

What is the time commitment?

The researcher will video-record four 10-minute cycles of interactions, during a range of naturally occurring situations, including free play, transition times, daily care activities and meal/snack times.

Where can I find further information?

If your service expresses an interest in participating, a researcher will contact you to provide more information and confirm your participation. You can also get in touch with us if you have any questions by contacting Professor Rebecca Bull at r.bull@mq.edu.au