

Information for Families

What is the ORICL project?

This project introduces a digital tool, Observe, Reflect, Improve Children's Learning (ORICL) that was designed to support educators working with infants and toddlers.

What is the ORICL tool?

The ORICL digital tool is a set of questions that helps infant and toddler educators to notice, record, and interpret the day-to-day interactions, relationships, and learning experiences of very young children in early childhood settings.

The ORICL tool aligns with the Early Years Learning Framework that educators use to inform their program and practices, but it is specific to infants and toddlers. Several of the ORICL research team members were involved in the original writing and recent update of the EYLF and are now sharing their expertise with educators working with very young children.

What are the benefits to my child participating in this study?

The main benefit to your child is that the ORICL tool helps your child's educator to accurately observe, document, reflect on, and track your child's learning progress.

This means that educators are being supported to plan effective and enriched experiences to consolidate and extend each individual child's learning in all developmental areas and support their exploration and engagement with the social and physical environment.

The ORICL tool also supports the educators to communicate with you, the families.

How will my child's privacy be protected?

The purpose of this research project is to support educators working with children under 3. We are interested in how the ORICL tool is used by educators and how it supports them in documenting, interpreting and understanding the many aspects of children's learning, development and wellbeing, and how they use this information to plan experiences. Therefore, individual child data is not used, but statistically collated to provide a summary of the diversity in backgrounds and settings.

To access the ORICL tool educators must use their username, 10-digit password (consisting of uppercase letters, lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols), and multi-factor authentication. This login process ensures the highest level of security in the ORICL portal.

In the ORICL tool, your child will be identified by his/her first name or a pseudonym, and all research data will be stored in line with Macquarie University Digitally Enabled Research and Research Integrity units. For any reports, publications, and/or presentations arising from this research all participant names (educators and children) are replaced with pseudonyms and the centre name replaced with a unique code. Data will not be shared with any third party.

For more information go to <https://oricl.org>.