



Adding other information FAQs

What are administrative records?

- Government departments and agencies collect information about all of us to help them provide the services we need. This information is stored in what are called administrative records.

Why is adding other information helpful?

- Administrative records collect different information at different points in time from the Children of the 2020s surveys.
- Adding your administrative records and your survey answers together will help researchers to carry out more detailed analysis of how children's experiences when they are very young affect how they get on later in life.
- This helps to build a more complete picture of the most important factors that affect children's development in the early years.
- This information will be used to improve public services and for scientific research on child development.
- It also means we do not have to ask you so many questions in each survey.
- The results will be presented as anonymous, statistical information and individual children and families will never be identified in any reporting.

Why does the study include adding information from your and your child's education records?

- Children of the 2020s surveys families long before their children start school. In future, if we can add information from administrative records about how the children do at school, researchers will be able to carry out more detailed analysis of how children's experiences in their early years affect their educational attainment later on. It helps build a much rounder picture.
- If we can also add information from your own education records, researchers will be able to analyse how parents' education might influence their children's development. This information can be used to help improve services for families and children.

What information is in the education records?

Education records about your child, such as:

- Any government-funded childcare services your child has used
- Your child's future attainment in school, for example in the Early Years Foundation Stage (in reception) and Key Stage assessments

Education records about you (if you were educated in England), such as:

- Participation in school, further and higher education
- Exam results
- Vocational training and qualifications
- Higher education applications and offers

These records are kept by the Department for Education.

Why does the study include adding information from your child's social care records?

- The Department for Education holds records about children in England who have received support from local authority social services once they have started school (such as whether they have had help from a social worker).
- Please note, even if your child has never received this type of support, we are still asking for your permission to link to and analyse the administrative records that show this.
- By adding this extra information to your survey answers, more research can be done on how local authority social services support families and how children who have received such support get along at school and in life. Just like the education records, it helps build a more complete picture of the most important factors affecting children's development.

What information is in the social care records?

Social care records about children, such as:

- Whether they have been referred to children's social care for assessment
- Whether they have received support from children's social care, and the type of support

These records are held by the Department for Education.

Why do we want to ask permission to add information from your and your child's NHS records?

- As these records are held outside Department for Education by NHS England we need to ask your permission to add information from your and your child's records such as admissions or attendances at hospital and visits to GPs or other health professionals.
- Children's health is an important consideration for researchers and policymakers in its own right because it can affect children's development, educational outcomes and wellbeing.
- Your health is important for understanding your needs as a parent or carer, for example, how some parent/carer illnesses can impact children's wellbeing and how can you as a family be better supported.

What information is in the NHS health records?

- Health records include admissions or attendances at hospital, visits to your family doctor or other health professionals (e.g. midwife), specific conditions and prescriptions given.
- The medical and health records for all patients using NHS health services throughout their lives are held by NHS England.

Why do we want to add information from your child's other parent/guardian and/or your partner's records?

- If the child's other parent (if they live with you or elsewhere) and/or your partner (if they live with you) are available and complete their own survey, we will also ask them for their permission to add information to their survey answers from their:
 - Education records held by Department for Education.
 - Health records held by NHS England.

- The experiences of the child's other parent and/or your partner who lives with you may also have an important impact on your and your child's life. Adding information from their records will enable researchers to carry out more detailed analysis of how children's development is influenced by their family circumstances. For example, adding information from their health records will allow researchers to see the impact of their health on your child and understand the needs of parents and carers better.

Keeping your and your child's information safe

- We will keep your personal data and responses in strict confidence in accordance with the Privacy Notice.
- DfE, who run Children of the 2020s, will be responsible for adding this information. So DfE can do this, Ipsos will need to share your personal information (name, sex, address and date of birth) with DfE. This information will be securely destroyed by DfE once the information has been added.
- To keep your and your child's information safe, it is encrypted and sent via secure transfer systems, in line with the most up to date security rules and procedures.
- You can also find further information about how we link your data can be found on the study website: children2020s.ipsos.com/otherinformation/

Who will use the information and what for?

- The survey answers and administrative records will be matched together and used for research purposes only.
- Like your study responses, this information will be anonymised and made available securely by the Department for Education to researchers for non-commercial research and statistics. Personal data identifying you or your child are never given to these researchers.
- The anonymised information will be made available securely by the Department for Education to researchers via the Office for National Statistics Secure Research Service (ONS SRS). Access to the data will only be granted after a successful application is assessed and approved by the Department for Education. This is to make sure this information is used responsibly.
- All information is treated in the strictest confidence in accordance with the Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The lawful basis on which we process your personal information is a 'Task in the Public Interest'. The privacy notice explains how we keep your information safe and can be found here: children2020s.ipsos.com/privacy. More information about privacy and confidentiality is available here children2020s.ipsos.com/faqs/privacy.html.

It's your choice

You can decide to add information from all of the records we ask about, from just some of the records, or to add nothing at all – it is your choice.

- As the Children of the 2020s is commissioned by the Department for Education, your and your child's education records will be added to your survey answers as a standard part of the study. Please let us know if you do not want this to happen using the contact details below.
- We will also ask your permission to add your and your child's health records, and your child's social care records, to the study. We will only do this if you confirm you are happy for us to do so.

Your decision about whether or not to allow us to add information from your and your child's records will not affect your or your child's services, rights, treatment or any health insurance. It will not affect your benefits or tax. You can still take part in Children of the 2020s even if you do not give permission for your other information to be added.

How long will we add other information for?

The information we would like to add relates to your and your child's past, present and future circumstances. We would like to add information from your child's and your education, social care, and health records on an ongoing basis for the duration of the study. You can tell us to stop at any time during the study. Once your child is an adult, they will have an opportunity to decide whether they would be happy for us to continue to add this information from these records, or not.

What if you change your mind?

You can change your mind about adding information from these records and withdraw any of your permissions at any time, without giving us a reason, for the duration of the study. If you change your mind about adding information, any data already collected will continue to be processed unless you explicitly request that we delete it. If you request that we delete any personal identifiable information (such as name and contact details), we will delete this and stop collecting and linking data you provided us. If you also wish to have your survey data (your answers to the survey questions) deleted, please make this request within 6 months of taking part in the survey. After that date we are not able to remove your survey data from the study.

Contact details

For questions about Children of the 2020s or adding other information, or to withdraw your permissions contact the team at:

- Telephone: 0800 056 8184 (calls from landlines are free but costs from mobile phones may vary, please check with your provider)
- Email: children2020s@ipsos.com