



ELLA parent/guardian consent form

ELLA F–2 SCHOOLS TRIAL, WA GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

April 2019

Dear parent/guardian

A key part of the Australian Government's commitment to supporting language study is the Early Learning Languages Australia (ELLA) program.

Education Services Australia (ESA) manages the delivery of ELLA on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

Background

ELLA is a digital, play-based program that includes a series of interactive applications (apps) that make language learning engaging and interesting for children in preschool and the early years of schooling.

In 2018, approximately 2500 preschools chose to implement ELLA, with a reach of over 80,000 children.

Languages currently available are Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Modern Greek, Spanish and Vietnamese, with Turkish and Korean to come in 2020.

The Australian Government is providing additional funding to extend the program into schools through a trial for students in Foundation to Year 2 (F–2).

The objectives of the ELLA F–2 schools trial are:

- to introduce students in the early years of schooling to languages other than English in order to encourage language learning in later years
- to enable more students to access the benefits of language learning through digital technology.

ELLA is being trialled in 300 schools across Australia over the 2019–21 school years.

Each school will participate in the trial for the full three years, with Foundation students commencing in 2019, Year 1 students in 2020 and Year 2 students in 2021. Each school will select one language for the trial.

Further information about ELLA and the ELLA F–2 schools trial may be found at www.ella.edu.au and www.education.gov.au/early-learning-languages-australia.

ELLA F–2 schools trial at your school

Your child's school has successfully applied to participate in the ELLA F–2 schools trial.

ESA and the Australian Government request permission for your child to participate in the trial beginning in 2019. Children cannot participate in the trial without written parent/guardian consent.

If you agree to your child participating in the trial:

- your child will have the opportunity to use the apps on a tablet device at certain times while at school
- your child's teacher or another staff member will be present when the tablet device is being used in the classroom
- personal data collected will be your child's first name and their photo or a photo of an object that has meaning to them (eg a sketch of themselves or another piece of their artwork), and this may be added to the tablet devices as their personal login/avatar; this information will only be accessed by the school and ESA, and will be deleted from the tablet devices at the end of the year
- usage data will be collected on the tablet device during your child's sessions and will be sent electronically to ESA periodically
- usage data relating to your child will be de-identified; that is, personal usage data will be disassociated from your child
- an independent evaluator may later be appointed by the Australian Government to undertake an assessment of the trial and deliver a report to the Australian Government; de-identified aggregate data would be shared with the independent evaluator
- the report to the Australian Government by the independent evaluator may be used to inform future government policy on the early learning of languages in Australia.

Participation in the trial is voluntary. If you agree to your child participating in the trial, you may subsequently withdraw your consent at any time during the trial by advising the school in writing. The school would then notify the ELLA helpdesk that your child has withdrawn. Your child's avatar would be deleted from the ELLA apps, which would delete all of your child's data from the system.

If you don't agree to your child participating in the trial, your child will not be able to access the ELLA apps but can still enjoy and participate in associated language learning experiences such as cooking, singing, cultural puzzles, stories, videos, inquiries, discussions and creative experiences.

You will not be paid for your child's participation in the trial. There is no cost to you for your child to participate in the trial.

For information about privacy, please go to www.ella.edu.au/privacy-policy.

If you have any questions about ELLA or the trial that your school has been unable to answer, please contact the ELLA helpdesk at ella@esa.edu.au or 1800 468 303.

If you wish to lodge a complaint about the ELLA trial, you may contact the Australian Government at ellaenquiries@education.gov.au.

Please return this completed consent form to your school.

Permission

- My child may participate in the ELLA F-2 schools trial. *[please tick if you agree]*
- My child's photo and first name may be used as their entry point (avatar) for the apps. *[please tick if you agree]*

(If you do not agree to your child's photo and first name being used, then instead your child's first name and a photo of an object than has meaning to them – such as a sketch of themselves or another piece of their artwork – will be used as their avatar.)

Child's full name: _____

Child's school: _____

Parent/guardian's full name: _____

Parent/guardian's signature: _____

Date of signing: _____

Project Reference: ELLA F-2 schools trial 2019

Note: THIS FORM IS TO BE USED BY WA GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS ONLY

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Education Services Australia Limited
ABN 18 007 342 421
Level 5 440 Collins Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

www.esa.edu.au
E ella@esa.edu.au
T +61 3 9207 9600
ELLA helpdesk 1800 468 303

