



Department of Education & Training

2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: 03 9637 2000
DX210083

Application number: 2021_004534

Mr Patrick Lyons
Synergistiq
Level 17, 31 Queen Street
MELBOURNE 3000

Dear Mr Lyons

Thank you for your application of 18 January 2022 requesting permission to conduct research in Victorian education settings, for the research project titled *Excellence in Teacher Education Reform Multi-Program Evaluation (2021- 2023)*.

I am pleased to advise that your research proposal is approved in principle, subject to the following:

1. The research is to be conducted in accordance with the final documentation you provided to the Department of Education and Training.
2. Research is to be conducted in accordance with Victorian government health advice, including public health directions related to COVID-19, and any adjustments to research methodology requested by participating settings in this regard.
3. Separate approval for the research is to be sought from site managers, who are the final decision-makers as to whether the research is to be conducted in their early childhood setting. It must be made clear to each site manager that you approach that their early childhood setting's participation in the research is optional and is not a Department requirement. Recruitment of research participants at education sites can only commence after approval has been sought from Principals/and or site managers.
4. Principals and site managers should be provided with this approval letter and, if applicable, the letter of approval from a relevant and formally constituted Human Research Ethics Committee.
5. Principals and site managers are to be provided with clear guidance regarding the project, including all relevant information regarding the potential time burden to sites and individuals, proposed research methodologies, and risk mitigation strategies which may relate to the project.
6. All individuals participating in the research project should be provided an explanatory statement about the research project and active, informed consent needs to be obtained from all eligible participants.

7. The project is to commence within 12 months of this approval letter. Any extensions or variations to your study, including those requested by an ethics committee must be submitted to the Department of Education and Training for its consideration before you proceed.
8. You acknowledge the role of the Department of Education and Training in any publications arising from the research.
9. RISEC approval to contact settings for the purposes of recruitment does not constitute an endorsement of the project, its outcomes or recommendations, on the part of the Department, nor does it constitute an endorsement of programs/interventions associated with the research.
10. The Research Agreement conditions, which include the reporting requirements at the end of your study, are upheld.

Please note that schools and early childhood settings must collect, record and hold vaccination information for all other visitors working onsite. Only visitors who have provided information that they are fully vaccinated or medically excepted persons are allowed to work onsite after 29 November 2021.

Please ensure you are able to provide vaccination information upon request by the school or early childhood setting. More information, including information on what counts as 'vaccination information', is available at: [COVID-19 Vaccinations – Visitors and Volunteers Working on School Sites](#)

Should you have further questions on this matter, please email the Performance and Evaluation Division (research@education.vic.gov.au) and quote your application number.

Yours sincerely

**Strategic Research Unit
Performance and Evaluation
Department of Education and Training**

07/03/2022