



**UNSW
Beach Safety
Research Group**



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Assessing water safety among university students
Dr Amy Peden

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study aims to learn more about the swimming and water safety programs that UNSW offers to students, in particular, international student past participants' experiences of the programs and the impacts of participation.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Dr Amy Peden, Professor Robert Brander, Ms Belinda Lawton, Mr Samuel Cornell and Mx Katia Fenton, from the Schools of Population Health and Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, UNSW Sydney.

Research Funder: This research is being funded by the UNSW Health Promotion Unit, with support from Medibank International.

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- UNSW international students who participated in either the learn to swim and/or Beach Ocean Safe programs in 2023 or 2024
- Willing to participate in a one-on-one interview about their experiences
- Are aged 18 years and older

Participants who meet the following criteria will be excluded from the study:

- UNSW enrolled students who did not take part in the learn to swim or Beach Ocean Safe programs
- UNSW domestic students who took part in the learn to swim or Beach Ocean Safe programs
- UNSW international students who took part in the learn to swim and Beach Ocean Safe programs prior to 2023
- Are under the age of 18 years

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Sign and return the consent form if you decide to participate in the study;
- Retain a copy of this form with you to keep.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you agree to participate you will be asked to complete the following research procedures.

Interview: An online video interview, and you will be asked questions about yourself, your participation in a swimming or water safety program at UNSW and the impacts of the program on your water safety skills and knowledge, your interaction with the water and more broadly your life at UNSW and in Australia. The interview will take place online via Microsoft Teams and will take



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approximately 60 minutes. With your permission the research team would like to audio record the interview.

Additional Costs and Reimbursement: There are no costs associated with participating in this research project however, you will receive a \$50 gift voucher to reimburse you for your participation.

Psychological Distress: You may feel that some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, the research team will be able to arrange for counselling or other appropriate support. Alternatively, a number of free contactable support services are included at section 9. Any counselling or support will be provided by qualified staff who are not members of the research team. This counselling will be provided free of charge.

6. What will happen to information about me?

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for:

- A minimum of 7 years after the publication of the research findings;

The information about you will be stored in an/a:

- Re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name, address, date of birth will be replaced with a unique code.
- Audio or video recordings will be stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators. If required, the recordings will be made available to a professional transcription service. Recordings will only be made available after a confidentiality agreement has been signed.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

7. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intend to publish and/ report the results of the research. All Information will be published in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by inserting your email or mailing address in the consent form. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research.

8. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time up to one month after your participation. After that time it will not be possible to withdraw from the research study. To withdraw you can complete



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the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document or you can ring the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about you be withdrawn from the research project.

9. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	iRECS5889

Should you require any psychological support as a result of the topics discussed in the interview you can also contact Beyond Blue via phone 1300 224 636 or online (www.beyondblue.org.au) or Lifeline via phone 13 11 14 or online (www.lifeline.org.au)

10. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Chief Investigator

Name	Dr Amy Peden
Position	Senior Research Fellow, School of Population Health, UNSW Sydney
Telephone	(02) 9065 3863
Email	a.peden@unsw.edu.au



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Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand;
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- Recordings: I understand that the research team will audio record the interview; I agree to be recorded for this purpose.
- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only;
- I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.
- I understand that the results of the research will be made available on the UNSW Beach Safety Research group and UNSW Health Promotion Unit website.
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Participant Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

- I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Researcher Signature*

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

***An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning the research study.**

Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.



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Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with The University of New South Wales.

- I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.
- I am withdrawing my consent and I understand that any information that was collected if my session was more than one month ago cannot be withdrawn from the research.

Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

CI Name:	Dr Amy Peden
Email:	a.peden@unsw.edu.au
Phone:	(02) 9065 3863
Postal Address:	Room 222, Level 2, Samuels Building, UNSW Sydney, Kensington, NSW 2052