

## YOUNG PERSON'S INFORMATION LEAFLET

### ***Hey there!***

When you were nine years old, you and your parents agreed to take part in a very important project called ***Growing Up in Ireland***. You were one of 8,500 children from across Ireland picked to be part of the study.

You may remember an interviewer from the project calling to your home to ask you some questions about what your life was like and also speaking to your mum and dad about what life as a parent is like.

Now that you have turned 13 years old, we would like to talk to you and your parents again about how things have changed in the last four years – you are much older now, have changed schools and probably have some different interests and hobbies. We would like to find out all about these changes that have taken place.

This information leaflet will remind you about what ***Growing Up in Ireland*** is about and what will happen if you agree to take part again. When you have read it, chat to you parents about what you think!

### ***What's Growing Up in Ireland all about?***

***Growing Up in Ireland*** or 'GUI' is a very important study that aims to find out lots of information about children and young people living in Ireland. The Government has asked us to carry out this exciting project to find out exactly what it is like to be a young person growing up in Ireland today. We think the best way to find this out is to ask young people just like you. So we have picked 8,500 young people from all over the country and are collecting lots of information from them.

### ***Why does the Government need to find out about young people?***

This project is really important as it will help the Government to make better decisions about things that affect young people, and to make life better for all the young people and their families in the country.

### ***Why was I picked?***

All the young people picked to take part in ***Growing Up in Ireland*** were chosen at random. This was the best way to make sure we included young people from all different kinds of families and from all different parts of the country. That way we can get a complete picture of what it is like to be a young person in any part of Ireland today.

### ***What will the study tell us?***

The study will provide us with lots of information about young people's social and physical development, their education, their family, what they do with their friends, their health and so on.

The information collected will be used to advise the Government on the future policies and services that will be of most benefit to young people and their families, and that will help ensure that all families and young people can have the best possible outcomes in life.

## ***Will this information be kept confidential?***

All the information provided by you in answer to the questions on the survey will be treated as strictly confidential and private. It will not be seen by anyone else. However if the people running the study are seriously concerned about your welfare, they might have to tell someone who can help.

## ***What are my rights if I take part?***

- You may choose to withdraw from the study at any time, even after you have completed the questionnaire.
- If there is any question on the questionnaire you do not wish to answer, you do not have to do so.

## ***Your participation counts***

Taking part in ***Growing Up in Ireland*** is voluntary. The participation of young people like you will play a major role in the success of the study.

It is only by carrying out studies such as these that we can understand what it is like to be a young person in Ireland today.

We hope that you will be able to help us in our work and we would like to thank you for your time completing our questionnaires.

## ***Where can I find out more information?***

**Phone:** Freephone 1800 200 434  
or contact our Communications Officer, Jillian Heffernan, on 01 896 3378  
or call 01 8632000 and ask for the ***Growing Up in Ireland*** team

**Visit our website:** [www.growingup.ie](http://www.growingup.ie)

**Email** us at [growingup@esri.ie](mailto:growingup@esri.ie)

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