

CATS: FAQ for Students

If you have questions about your questionnaire, see if you can find the answer below. We have included answers to commonly asked questions about:

1. The questionnaire itself
2. Common computer problems (for those of you completing this online)
3. What some of the harder questions mean

As always, if you are still not sure about anything, please call us on (03) 9345 6732 or shoot us an email cats@mcri.edu.au. We would love to have a chat and help out.

Thanks so much for participating in CATS again this year!

The student questionnaire

What is the password?

The password is **CATS**. Typing it without the capitals will work too.

Will anyone see my answers?

No. You have your own unique identification number or “ID”. All of your answers are saved with your ID number, not your name. The only people who can access your answers are our research team, and when we look at the answers we only see the ID numbers so we won’t know whose answers they are.

How long will it take?

About 30 minutes. Please try and complete it all in one go if you can.

The online questionnaire looks different than before

That’s right! We moved to a new system last year – you can now do your questionnaire on a smart phone or tablet. Lots of the questions are very similar to the ones you did last year. This year we have also included some important new questions about your school, your health and your relationships.

What happens if I miss a question?

If you are completing the questionnaire online there is a yellow message at the bottom of the page. That message turns green once you have answered all the questions. If you get to the end of the page and it's still yellow, scroll up and answer the question you missed, then you can move onto the next page. If you really don't want to answer a question, you can just press the *Next Page* button without answering the missing question.

Can I go back to a page and change my answer?

Yes. In the online questionnaire you can go back by pressing the Previous Page button. All the answers you entered before will still be there.

Do I have to complete the entire questionnaire all at once?

No, you can begin the questionnaire and come back to it later. Press "Save & Return Later" on any page of the questionnaire. When you want to open the questionnaire again, use the same link you used to open it the first time, and type in the same password again: CATS. You can then continue on from where you left off. If you have any problems opening the questionnaire again, please email us at cats@mcri.edu.au or call 03 9345 6732 and we can help you out.

Common computer questions

What do I do when I finish the questionnaire?

Once you have finished the questionnaire, please make sure you click the 'submit' button at the very end.

I get a message saying "NOTE: Some fields are required"!

There are some questions that must be answered because they make the rest of the questionnaire work properly. These questions can't be skipped (don't worry, there's not many like this). You only get this message if you press "next page" without answering one of these questions. The message will stop appearing once the question is answered.

What does this question mean?

We know that some questions can be a bit confusing, so we have created a list of the questions that might need some extra information. Remember your answers are private. There are no right or wrong answers.

Section A: About you and your school

What do the responses: YES! , yes, no, and NO! mean?

These responses are used to show how much you agree with a statement

YES! - That really applies to me, or I really agree with that!

yes - That sounds about right, or I agree with that

no - That does not really apply to me, or I don't particularly agree with that

NO! That definitely does not apply to me or I don't agree with that

Section B: Your health

What does the question “Over the last 7 days, on how many days where you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes (1 hour) per day)” mean?

In other words, this question is asking you to count the total number of days over the past week, where you were physically active (e.g., running around, playing sports) for at least an hour.

So, if Harry Healthy thinks back over his past week (Monday – Sunday), and remembers that on three of these days he went for a run and played sports for more than an hour, his answer would be '3'.

What does the question “over the last 7 days, on how many days did you get at least 120 minutes (2 hours) of screen time (TV, Videogame, computer or tablet use) per day outside of school hours” mean?

Like the previous question, this is asking you to think about the total number of days in the last week where you had more than 2 hours of screen time outside of school (so before/after school and on the weekend).

So, if Harry Healthy thinks back over his past week (Monday-Sunday), and remembers that on two of these days he had more than two hours of screen time outside of school (where he watched a movies and played videogames), his answer would be '2'.

Section C: Your personal experiences

What does acne mean?

Acne is another word for pimples or spots.

I don't know what the oral contraceptive pill (the pill), an intrauterine device (IUD), implanon, or depo-provera injections are used for.

If you are unsure of what these are, it is unlikely you are taking any of these medications and therefore this question probably doesn't apply to you.

Section D: Substance Use

What is a personal vapouriser or e-cigarette?

If you are unsure, this question probably doesn't apply to you.

What is cannabis?

If you are unsure, this question probably doesn't apply to you.

Section G: Your feelings

What does the word restless mean?

Restless means you felt like you were unable to relax, concentrate well on a task, or sit still. You might feel fidgety, on edge, tense or nervous.

What does “carried a weapon” mean?

You have carried a weapon if you have carried something with the intention of using it as a weapon – for example to hurt someone else. Using a kitchen knife to chop carrots for dinner does NOT count as having carried a weapon.

Section H: Your relationships

What does oral sex mean?

If you are unsure, this question probably doesn't apply to you.

What does sexual intercourse mean?

If you are unsure, this question probably doesn't apply to you.

Section I: Technology use

Do app games count as a computer or videogames?

Yes. When it asks you to list your three favourite computer games, these can be played on any device including a gaming console, computer, or app based games on a phone or tablet.