STUDENT INFORMATION STATEMENT
Year 12 and University Students' Academic and Personal Wellbeing

1. **What is the research study about?**
   You are invited to take part in this research study that explores Year 12 students' learning strengths and challenges, personal wellbeing, school and post-school decisions, and academic and other outcomes (at the end of Year 12 and then at university/college). This research is important because the findings will lay a foundation for UAC to better inform Year 12 students about how to sustain their academic and personal wellbeing through Year 12, provide some additional information to them and schools about decisions to apply for and/or accept an early entry offer, and for developing accompanying support information to students to help them work to potential during Year 12—and beyond.

2. **Who is conducting this research?**
   The survey is being administered by Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). In collaboration with UAC, data will be analysed and findings published by Professor Andrew Martin (UNSW Sydney) and his team.

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. Inclusion criteria for participants taking part in this study are 2022 Year 12 students who are studying in New South Wales.

4. **Do I have to take part in this research study?**
   Participation in any research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to.

   If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:
   - Read the information carefully;
   - Complete the online questionnaire.

5. **What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?**
   If you decide to take part in the research study, you will be invited to complete an online survey now, again in September (with a 1-minute follow-up in November to ask about any early university offers accepted), and a final one in May 2023. Each survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. The survey will ask you questions about factors such as: motivation; adaptability; buoyancy; early offer decision-making; academic and personal wellbeing factors; school and teaching factors; and relevant background characteristics. If you participate in the research study, you will not receive an incentive or honorarium.

   You can exit the survey at any time if there are questions you do not feel comfortable answering. If at any stage during the study you require additional support from someone not involved in the research you can contact: beyondblue on 1300 22 4636 (https://www.beyondblue.org.au/). However, based on previous experience administering the survey items, we do not anticipate any risk or harm to students.

6. **What are the possible benefits to participation?**
   Participants of this research will have the opportunity to reflect on their academic and personal wellbeing as well as to contribute to a study aimed at better supporting students in their learning during Year 12 and beyond.

7. **What will happen to information about me?**
   Submission of the online questionnaire is an indication of your consent. By clicking the 'I agree to participate' button you are providing your permission for the researchers to collect and use information about you for the research study.

   UAC may link your survey with information UAC has about your ATAR and university offer acceptance for the purposes of data analysis, but no identifying information about you will be available to researchers or reported at any stage. When sharing the data with Prof Martin, any identifying information required for linking surveys etc, will

be removed immediately after the linkage is made. All aspects of the study, including results, will be strictly confidential, so your answers will not be seen by anyone except members of the research team.

Participation in this survey is voluntary and your decision to participate (or not) will not in any way impact on your UAC application or early university entry offer.

The researchers will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 5 years after the publication of the research results. Identifying information about you will be stored in a separate file from your responses, but in a re-identifiable format. File names will be de-identified and anonymous. UAC will be the only personnel who have access to all raw data and Prof Martin will have access to de-identified data.

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

It is intended to publish and/or report the results of the research in the public domain (e.g., academic outlets, professional/lay forums). All information will be published in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the overall study results, there is an opportunity in the survey for you to provide contact details and you will be sent a summary of results in 2023.

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

If you do not wish to participate do not click on the online survey URL. If you do consent to participate, you may stop participation at any time. You can do this by closing the questionnaire. If you would like to withdraw from the survey at any time, you can do so by emailing the research team (see below for contact details) and telling them you no longer want to participate (at the end of this Student Information Statement there is a Withdrawal Form text you can use when emailing the team). If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will destroy any information that has already been collected and no additional information will be collected from you. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study, will not affect your relationship with UAC or UNSW Sydney.

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

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 of the research team.

Research Team for Contact or Complaints

Name	Kim Paino
Position	General Manager, Marketing and Engagement
Email	uac-research@uac.edu.au
Telephone	+ 61 2 9752 0200

Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

By checking the I agree/start questionnaire option in the online survey:

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- I have read the Student Information Sheet, or it has been provided to me in a language that I understand;
- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I understand that if necessary, I can ask questions and the research team will respond to my questions.
- 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 understand that I can request a copy of this consent form via the UAC contact information provided above.

Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in the research proposal described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with Universities Admissions Centre or University of New South Wales. In withdrawing my consent, I would like any information which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.

Participant Details

UAC/NESA application number	
Date	