

Life under Coronavirus - Survey

Facilitator's guide



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What is the Life under Coronavirus survey?

- The 'Life under Coronavirus' survey is a questionnaire for children aged 8-17 years old.
- It was developed by a team from The Centre for Children's Rights at Queens University Belfast in cooperation with the #CovidUnder19 initiative, including an international children's advisory group.
- #CovidUnder19 brings together children, child human rights activists, experts and other key stakeholders, including the private sector, to work together in understanding what children are experiencing due to Covid-19 and to involve children in responding to these issues.
- The 'Life Under Coronavirus' survey adopts a child rights-based approach in order to understand how children are experiencing this moment in time.
- The survey contains 20 questions and will take children approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.
- The survey is available in English and French, and is being translated into many languages.
- The survey can be completed by children individually and online through a link. Alternatively, it can be administered with the support of frontline child protection workers.



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Who should use this facilitator's guide?

- This facilitator's guide aims to guide child protection professionals in administering the 'Life under Coronavirus' survey and, if needed, in assisting children to complete it.
- This facilitator's guide is designed to help you prepare for facilitation and a discussion with parents and/or people who work with children about helping children complete the questionnaire in times of crisis or trouble.
- There are many ways to support children in accessing the questionnaire (see flowchart on next slide)
- No matter which mode is used to bring the information to children (online, paper, phone) **all submissions should be inputted online:**
<http://go.qub.ac.uk/CovidUnder19>

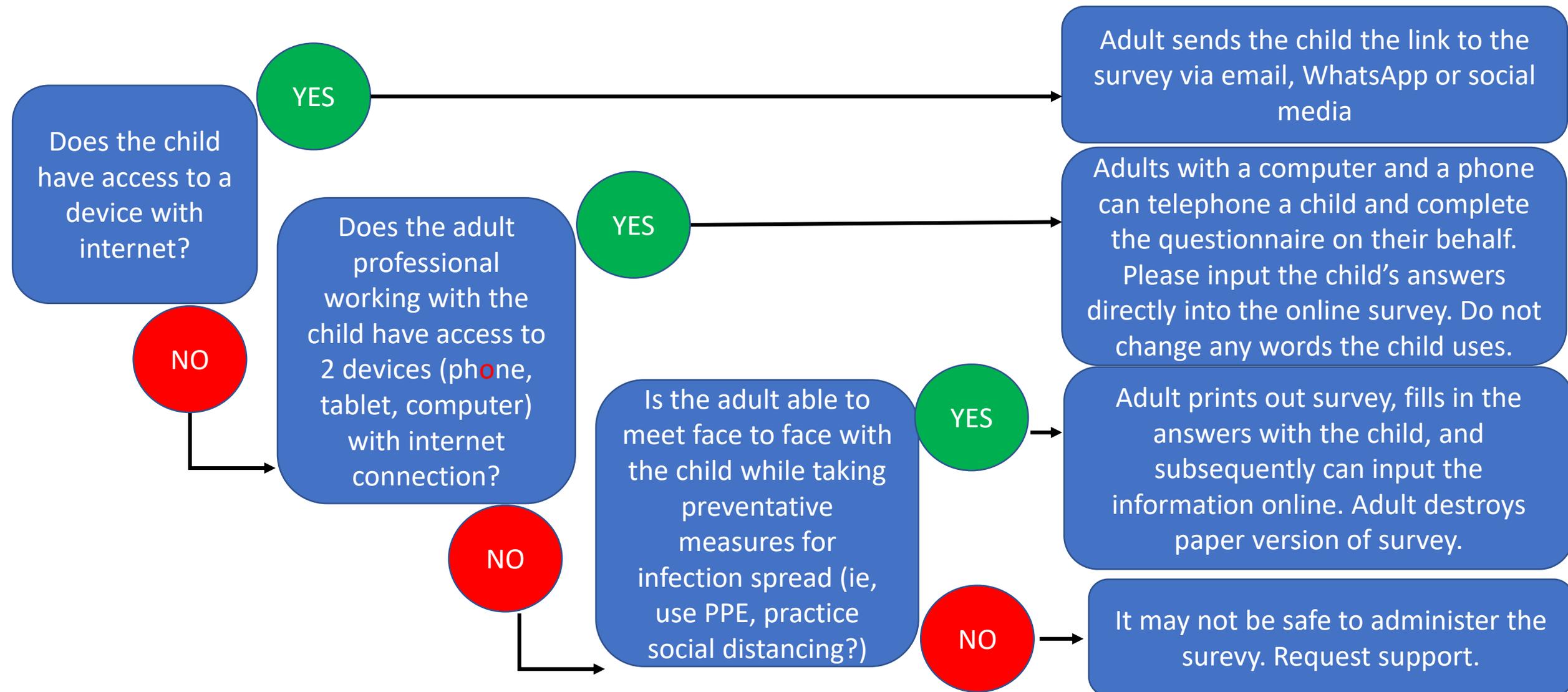


Flowchart: How can adult professionals support children to complete the survey?



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Ethical considerations – Informed consent

- Read the consent statement at the beginning of the questionnaire and ask the child for their consent.
- If needed, you can give more details:
 - Explain why we are asking these questions: *“A group of experts from around the world have worked together with children to form a set of questions about COVID19 to check how children are feeling about this. It would really help us if you could fill this in and let us know your thoughts about this.”*
 - Inform the children that their answers will be added to other children’s and we will use this information to speak to policymakers etc to share the children’s views.
- It is important to note that a child can withdraw their participation and stop completing the questionnaire at any stage without question. This is also clear on the questionnaire.



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Ethical considerations – Upholding the Children’s Confidentiality

- If you are assisting a child to complete the questionnaire, you will be asked at the beginning to confirm that you uphold the respondent’s confidentiality : *“Please read this statement and click on the box - I agree to assist the respondent with completing this questionnaire. I will uphold the respondent’s confidentiality by not discussing their thoughts and answers with anyone else when the questionnaire is complete.”*
- Remind the child that no personal information is required, the children do not need to include their name.
- Inform the child that when the ‘submit’ button is hit on the online system, all the information will go to Queen’s University Belfast and is stored on their password protected and secure servers. This is all explained on the questionnaire and you can tell children this to reassure them that no one else will see their individual responses.



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Ethical considerations – Safeguarding & Referral

- **Do not put any child at risk of harm.**
- If you are supporting the child to complete the questionnaire over the phone or face-to-face:
 - Please be aware of the circumstances and risks here. (Eg: there may still be a risk as a parent or someone else could be listening to the call.)
 - Prepare for the call by making sure that the child has the time needed (approximately 20 minutes) and is in a space where they can speak.
 - Be aware if the child's circumstances change (eg, if you hear additional noise in the background or if the child's tone of voice or language changes)
- If needed, provide follow-up support: the survey provides information for child helplines, but feel free to also make use of your own local resources / referral networks.
- **Safeguarding: If any safeguarding issues arise, follow your organisation's safeguarding protocols.**



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Support and resources

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact:

- Dr Michelle Templeton (QUB) – m.templeton@qub.ac.uk
- Dr Katrina Lloyd (QUB) – k.Lloyd@qub.ac.uk
- Kristen Hope (Terre des hommes) – kristen.hope@tdh.ch

For contact details of child helplines in your country, please see here:

<https://www.childhelplineinternational.org/child-helplines/child-helpline-network/>

For resources for child protection professionals, please see here:

<https://alliancecpha.org/en/COVID19>