

Consent Form

School of Computing and Information Systems
The University of Melbourne



Project: *Creative practices in using digital technologies to maintain the social engagement of older adults living independently: experiences from COVID-19*

Primary Researcher: Wei Zhao Email: wzhao10@student.unimelb.edu.au

Project Supervisors: A/Prof Jenny Waycott, Dr Melissa Rogerson, Dr Ryan Kelly

Name of Participant: _____

1. I consent to participate in this project, the details of which have been explained to me, and I have been provided with a written plain language statement to keep.
2. I understand that this research aims to understand the use of digital technologies to maintain the social engagement of older adults living independently, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. I understand that my participation in this project is for research purposes only.
4. In this project I will be required to answer the questions from the researcher.
5. I understand that my interviews may be audio-recorded by a recorder (in-person) or over videoconferencing tools (online). If it is recorded over Zoom, videos will be recorded, but will be deleted immediately after the interview. Only audio data will be saved for later analysis.
6. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw from this project anytime without explanation or prejudice and to withdraw any unprocessed data that I have provided.
7. I understand that the data from the research will be saved in a secure drive folder affiliated with the University of Melbourne and managed by the responsible researcher.
8. I have been informed that the confidentiality of the information I provide will be safeguarded subject to any legal requirements; my data will be password protected and accessible only by the named researchers.
9. I understand that findings from the research will be presented in publications or conferences with careful protection of participants' personal information.
10. I understand that after I sign and return this consent form, it will be retained by the researcher.

Participant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____